



July News

Another busy month for the MCC of NSW, with volunteers working hard on a range of projects. Continue reading for all the latest news.

CTP Discussions

At a recent meeting with the MAA discussions were had once again about CTP costs to motorcyclists in NSW.

The MAA have engaged Finity once again to review the relativities for Motorcycles in the CTP scheme in NSW.

It would appear that the latest set of claims statistics indicate we should see a reduction in CTP costs in NSW.

When this will happen and how much is yet to be determined but my advice is to register your bike on a 6 monthly basis until the reductions do come through.

Motorcycle Awareness Week (MAW)

High level planning has been carried out and we are into the detailed planning of events etc for Motorcycle Awareness Week (MAW). It is planned to launch MAW in Martin Place this year and we have indicative support from Sydney City Council. Janelle is beavering away detailing the needs for Breakfast Torque and the regional MAW Launches as well.

The MAW is looking for expressions of interest from riders that can assist in any way shape or form. We will need everything from Marketing people, sticker manufacturers to volunteers to carry out traffic management on the day of the launch etc.

If you can offer any sort of assistance please contact me, Christopher Burns on 0418-486-660 or email at cjburns@ihug.com.au

Motorcycle returning rider and fatigue study

The MCCofNSW recently attended the launch of a study by Professor Narelle Howarth into returning riders accident figures and fatigue and how it affects riders.

Narelle is a well respected researcher based at QUT and has been carrying out reputable studies on Motorcycling issues for a lot of years. Narelle outlined the basis of the study and how she wished to carry it out. The ideas were reviewed by all in attendance and Narelle was quite open to constructive criticism and suggestions from all. I feel that Craig and I provided some valuable feed back to Narelle and particularly to the RTA staffers in attendance.

The initial results showed that the accident rate for returning riders is not as high as first thought but there had been no differentiation between continuing riders and Sunday riders. It was proposed that a survey of riders to estimate ownership, riding and kilometres travelled would be the only way to approach and differentiate between riders and owners.

The initial results for the fatigue study gave new insight into the Sunday afternoon crash phenomenon and basically blew away the RTA conviction that all Sunday afternoon motorcycle crashes are related to alcohol and alcohol alone.

More work will be carried out particularly in relation to static fatigue due to a rider sitting in the one position for too long and this may well result in grounds to have the law about standing on the pegs repealed.

Motorcycle First Aid kit and courses

Guy Stanford has been working closely with the St John's Ambulance service to develop motorcycle specific first aid kits and further develop a training package and opportunities for riders to attend M/C specific first aid courses. Please see Guy or your club delegate for further details.

RTA Strategy Meeting

The third motorcycle strategy meeting was held on Saturday the 2nd July at Ryde Ex-Servicemen's Club and was hosted by the RTA. This workshop was arranged by the RTA in direct response to MCCofNSW Committee members attending the RTA's Motorcycle Strategy working group a month previously and the constructive input we had on your behalf. Our queries and input brought about the realisation that the RTA needed more information and knowledge and that the MCCofNSW are the "go to" group for that information.

Approximately 25 riders of both sexes and all motorcycling persuasions attended the workshop along with representatives of MNSW and Liz De Rome. The RTA had various members attend including Margaret Prendergast, General Manager, Business Strategy and Strategic Projects RTA.

The purpose of this workshop was to discuss three main subjects, Safe Roads, Safe People, Safe Vehicles in relation to motorcycles, and motorcycle riders had the opportunity to present and discuss the issues from a riders perspective directly with RTA policy makers. This was an opportunity to enlighten the RTA and it was taken up with gusto.

The RTA conceded at the end of the day that the MCCofNSW are in fact the Subject Matter Experts and we need to be consulted earlier in relation to all things motorcycling. We also brought home the message that a great part of the research the RTA are attempting has also been carried out previously by the MCCofNSW.

The attitude of the RTA representatives showed substantial change by the end of proceedings and they now realise we are not a bunch of hairy arsed hoodlums, but are in fact a group of intelligent people from various backgrounds that are a value add to what they wish to achieve.

Helmets and AS/NZS Standards stickers

Guy Stanford is continuing his work on the AS/NZS helmet standard debacle and is starting to make good progress.

Guy met with the Minister David Bradbury, responsible for the ACCC and David has accepted that we have a valid complaint in relation to AS/NZS compliance stickers/issues on helmets and the Standards and Conformance process.

The Minister is facilitating meetings with the ACCC, AMC and MCCofNSW to resolve this issue. Please see Guy for further details.

Standing Committee on Law and Justice, Submission to investigate the MAA and MAC in NSW

The MCCofNSW has been invited to provide a submission to the inquiry into the Motor Accidents Authority (MAA) and the Motor Accidents Council (MAC).

The inquiry will also look into the Lifetime Care and Support scheme. This is the component of your CTP Greenslip that is around about %49 of the cost of the CTP Premium. The information was sent out to delegates some time ago and no response was received. If you require further information on this subject or copies of the terms of reference please contact the MCC Secretary.

Tugalong Station Development application submission

The MCCofNSW has been alerted to the fact that local council are taking submissions in support or against the development of an off road riding facility known as Tugalong Station.

The MCCofNSW will be providing a submission in favour of the Development. DSMRA have also been advised of the DA.

Stop Box and Lane Filtering trial

The Minister has asked the MCCofNSW to recommend 5 intersections for a trial of "Motorcycle Stop Boxes" to be placed at the stop line at traffic light controlled intersections.

Car traffic will be stopped further back to make room for the Motorcycle stop boxes.

There needs to be wide lanes to allow motorcycles to filter to the front of the pack and manoeuvre into the stop boxes.

The initial feedback was lacklustre to say the least but we now have a decent amount of input to put together a realistic submission.

We will map the proposed intersections shortly and will need the assistance of volunteers to take a happy snap of the intersection to add to the submission. Please contact Christopher Burns on 0418-486-660 or email at cjburns@ihug.com.au if you are able to help.

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MOTORCYCLE COUNCIL
OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.

