

The Monthly Journal of the  
**Northern Rivers Classic Motorcycle Club Inc.**

PO Box 7058, Lismore  
 Heights, NSW 2480

[www.nrcmcc.org](http://www.nrcmcc.org)

Email: [president@nrcmcc.org](mailto:president@nrcmcc.org)  
 Or phone President



**OCTOBER**  
**2023**

# Classic Torque

## ***Our Club:-***

The objectives of the NRCMC are to encourage the restoration, preservation, and riding of older motorcycles. Through its various activities, the club promotes classic motorcycling and the links to a bygone era with several organised monthly rides as well as our involvement in displaying our bikes at charity functions etc.

The club endeavors to cater for families and all members partners and children are most welcome to attend any meetings or outings. Membership of the club is for those who have an interest in restoring and riding classic motorcycles.

### ***Some special dates , coming up soon.***

**Next club meeting \*** —Tuesday 10th October 7.30 start at Clunes Hall.

**Next Club Ride** 15th October, Ride to Rathloggan Olive Groove and Shed  
 “Jack McIntosh Ride” via Kyogle

**Next Rego Day** 19th Nov.at Clunes Hall 9.00 to noon ,  
 no BBQ lunch but morning tea, bring a plate of food.

**NRCMCC Christmas Party** 26th November at Goonellabah Soccer Club

**NRCMCC 2023 AGM** 12th December 2023, held after Dec club meeting

**Note :** if you receive this Newsletter by post, check/confirm that any activities listed here are STILL on..  
 Emails will be sent out advising the status of events prior to the date advertised, check your inbox..



**2023 Rally Saturday morning start at Evans Head Bowlo with Pat leading the way**

## From the Chair

It is amazing how quickly the year is drawing in with our Rego and Christmas Party dates set.

**RALLY-** Our successful rally over with no problems with next year's date being Friday 6<sup>th</sup>, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup>, Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> it is hoped that as with the last few years we will be holding rides on the Wednesday – Thursday & Friday mornings. It was lovely to see earlier friend and to meet and get to know new friends. The Sunday morning ride was well received and a good ride was had by all who were able to attend. The final goodbyes were at the Illawong Hotel on Sunday with 10 people sharing a meal with the talk around the great rides around our area. if you missed out on purchasing a rally badge I have some for sale.

**REGO DAY Sunday 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER** at *Clunes Hall 9am – noon* there will be NO BBQ but the kettle will be on for morning tea, members are asked to bring a plate of food to share.

**CHRISTMAS PARTY Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November at Goonellabah Soccer Club \$30 per person.**

There will be a refund for members from the social fund on the day. Members need to pay their money for a seat. We need to have numbers by November meeting as the club needs numbers after the meeting.

**SHOW N SHINE 2024** – I'm in contact with Lismore City Council at the next meeting we will be discussing what we want, when we want it, at in what form it will take. The area we are thinking about is the grassed area beside the art gallery there are trees for shade so if you are unsure what this area looks like have a look so you will be able assist with your thoughts for this event. Keep upright Mary Walker

## The Clubs 2023 AGM

The Annual General Meeting of The Northern Rivers Classic Motor

Cycle Club Inc. (Hereafter referred to as NRCMCC or the Club) is planned for Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023, at Clunes Hall. The AGM is planned to be commencing immediately after the regular NRCMCC monthly meeting.

Please note the following dates concerning the AGM

**21.11.2023** is 21 days before AGM and last date for notices to be accepted from members for AGM ie any special resolutions for the AGM Agenda,

**28.11.2023** is 14 days before, and last date for notice to members of the AGM.

**05.12.2023** is 7 days before last date for Committee Member Nominations Close.

### Nominating for 2024 Committee position ?

start thinking about nominating for the various Executive, Committee & other Official positions, Nomination forms are printed below.

Nominations can be posted to the clubs postal address and all nominations, will be passed **unopened** to Returning Officer at AGM {just mark your letter, "Committee nominee", top left hand corner of envelope.

**Note** If at the AGM there have been no postal nominations received for a certain Committee position, Then Nominations for that position can be taken from the floor..

If at the AGM, postal nominations have been received by Secretary for a certain committee position and passed to Returning Officer then no nominations for that position will be taken from the floor.

## Northern Rivers Classic Motorcycle Club Inc Election of 2024 Club Officials

Date.....

I ..... , being a current financial member of the club

Nominate ..... for the position of .....

I ..... , being a current member of the club

Second the nomination of ..... For the position of .....

.....

I ..... , being a current financial member of the club

Accept the nomination

Northern Rivers Classic Motorcycle Club Inc <http://nrcmcc.org/index.php>

**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON:** 12<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023, start: 7.30pm at Clunes Memorial Hall  
Abbreviations used in Minutes MW - Mary Walker, DBM - David Bonhote-mead PL Peter Lake

**WELCOME** to all by President MW,

Special welcome to the life members present at this meeting.

Meeting attended by 19 members, 3 apologies as per the attendance sheet with 2 visitors – D. Codd + R. Hurley

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:** - Not read to members. The Secretary moved that minutes of Aug 2023 Club meeting as published in Sept 2023 newsletter be accepted 2<sup>ND</sup> Tony Kempnich motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE IN Newsletters-** , Club trailer rego renewal , Clarence Valley, Newcastle, Tamworth MC clubs

**CORRESPONDENCE out** , Club Newsletter posted or emailed to members + other clubs + Sponsors

**Currant Invitations to attend other Clubs Rallies and Swap meets**

**<Invitation from Natureland CMCC {Kempsey} Rally3,4,5<sup>th</sup> Nov new listing, DBM has details**

>Invitation from Wagga Wagga Classic MC club to attend their Rally on 7&8<sup>th</sup> OCT

>Invitation from HMCC of QLD, Mount Tamborine Area, 'Boonah or Bust Rally' 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> September

<invitation from HMCC of QLD, Laidley MC only "Swap meet" Laidley Showgrounds Sat 21<sup>st</sup> October

**TREASURERS REPORT:-** [The Treasurers](#) was absent

**MEMBERSHIP OFFICER** The M'ship Office was absent

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

>MW gave update on Rally just held, MW thanked our sponsors and all those members who'd helped make it possible. For the Rally there were 31 visitors, 22 members, 80 at Sat night dinner, 74 for lunch at Coraki.

Thanks to Pat Holt for contacting/liasing with our sponsors, who are always most generous.

MW noted there was an email from Toowoomba MC club QLD, they had held their 2023 Rally on the same dates as ours, & are planning to hold their 2024 rally on 6-8<sup>th</sup> Sept , they had asked what dates we were planning our 2024 Rally , so maybe not to clash again, MW said our rally dates were set to avoid the school holidays {and Evans Head Camping bookings } At this stage our Rally will be held 6-8<sup>th</sup> Sept 2024, there was general discussion and Alstonville was suggested as an alternative base location.

**GENERAL BUSINESS.**

< MW noted that for 2024 Membership renewal, you will have had to attended 3 NRCMCC events , this rule had been relaxed during the Covid19 Restrictions, more details to come.

< MW & DBM gave 3 months notice to members that the clubs 2023 AGM will be held 12<sup>th</sup> Dec. 2023

<2023 Christmas party – At this stage , same as last year, Goonellabah Soccer club, Date – 26<sup>th</sup> Nov . price probably Around \$30. {final price not finalized with Soccer club} but there will be a cash refund to members attending.

<MW gave an update on another crack down by Motor Transport RMS in Tweed Heads on vehicles { Car & 4wd} with Classic Rego, 37 vehicles had been called in for inspection, only 4 had passed , 33 defect notices were given. Some general discussion followed.

<MW advised that the next Rego day will be 19<sup>th</sup> Nov at the Walkers' Residence, Clunes, 9am to noon, no BBQ , byo refreshments.

**New Bike Registrations** –Bryson noted one BMW

**Early Days** – Bryson spoke on the 100 year anniversary of BMWs release of the R32 in 1923, was a 486cc flat twin And was the origin of the Boxer twins which are still going today.

**Ride Reports**

<1<sup>st</sup> Sunday {Sept} Classic Ride -no report given

<Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> Aug 4<sup>th</sup> ride became 5<sup>th</sup> -ride to Rappville pub , got wet towards end of ride.

<MW gave report on National Veterans Rally just held at Bundaberg. 5 members in total attended, Lots of wonderful bikes and sidecars, Next Veterans Rally will be at Ballarat Vic in 2 years time.

<Next club ride 17<sup>th</sup>Sept yet to be determined, .PL will be away so turn up on day ,

**MEETING CLOSED at 8.45 pm**



# NRCMCC CLUB RALLY— 2023 EVANS HEAD



Making it all happen.  
Lyn , Mary & Alan  
The start at Evans.  
Lunch at Coraki.





## FROM THE CLUBs FACEBOOK PAGE

Wednesday 30th August ride to Rappville pub, has to be the nicest old pub in district, ride home got somewhat interesting, thru the trees east of Mummulgum was thick green ice (leaves and ice) instantly coldest n scariest ride in a long time, ended up hiding out in Mummulgum hall. *Douglas Norton*



## NRCMCC CLUB RALLY— 2023 EVANS HEAD—MORE PHOTOS





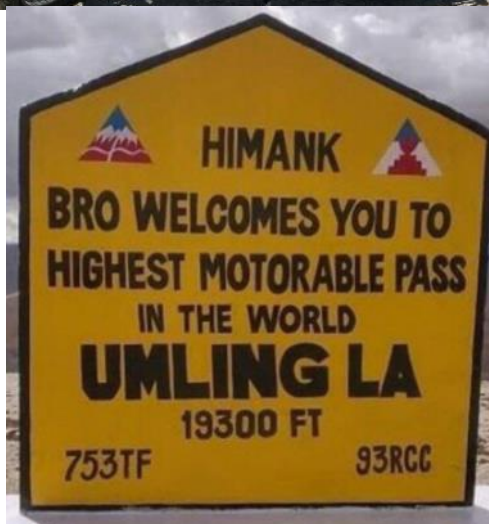
## Umling La pass, the true highest motorable pass in the world done and dusted.

Back in 2019 and just before COVID changed the world, my daughter Lucy and a group of mates and myself went to India to ride Royal Enfield motorcycles to and over the highest motorable pass in the world. This was Khardung La Pass and pretty high at 17,982 foot above sea level or 5,480 meters. Great, we did it and were happy but we started to hear that Khardung La wasn't the highest or even second highest, it was in fact about the 6th highest in the world (despite the signs) and the Umling La Pass was in fact the true highest motorable pass in the world so we started looking into and planning a return trip to India and to conquer this road. There were a few obstacles, the main one was Umling La's location which is very near the border of Tibet and so China. India and China don't get on that well and there is constant friction on the borders, even finding Umling La on a map was difficult and there would need to be quite a few police and military passes required to get there and the risk of them being quickly revoked was always real. As it turned out, foreigners are not allowed within 50kms of Umling La but we made it, more of how later. Anyway, our contact in India was great and we went ahead and planned our return trip to India for the same time as we went in 2019. August is summer in India and as these roads are high up in the Himalayan mountains, they are only accessible and open for a few months of the year and as anyone who has been to India would know, summer in the rest of India is hellishly hot.

We also heard about the Spitti valley which was included in the list of one of the ten most dangerous and difficult roads in the world, so yes, why not include that in this trip as well?

So with the help of our India tour leader Suraj, a custom designed 15 day ride was put together and almost 4 years to the day, we returned to India to ride over 1,000 foot higher than last time and not only conquer the Spitti Valley but to ride to the true highest mountain pass in the world, the Umling La pass.

We had riders from our local area (this ride was Phil and my concept) and some from Sydney, Canberra and Brisbane, including my daughter Lucy and this time, her flat mate and work colleague Eliza. Eliza doesn't ride but asked me if I'd take her on the back of my bike as she would never get the opportunity to do this sort of trip ever in her life. As Julia wasn't coming and after discussion I agreed and off we all went, all flying in on different days and meeting up at Delhi airport. This group was a group of people that someone knew someone but I only knew half on day one.



So logistically the best and quickest way to get from Delhi to Manali where the ride started is to fly. Our flight was via Chandigarh BUT there was a limit on luggage, just 10kgs. As part of the planning was to take over extra gear to donate to Suraj, I bought an extra 10kgs of luggage but had to wear most of my bike gear onto the aircraft to get in under weight and that flight was “exciting”! The flight to Chandigarh was ok but the connecting flight to Kullu was delayed due to weather and after a few hours the pilot said that they “would have a go”. Well, we landed in Kullu first attempt but OMG never have I experienced such harsh braking and we turned off the runway into the terminal (just before the fence) at about 80km/hr. Anyway, we got there in one piece and then the back road 3 hour road trip to Manali started. It was on back roads as the recent flooding had taken out huge chunks of the main roads so the hectic roads were even more hectic than usual. Trucks, busses, taxis, bikes, cows, goats, dogs and more use these roads, they stop anywhere, drive on whatever side they want, pass on whatever side they wish and the main no. 1 rule in India is to toot (or keep your hand on) the horn every few seconds.

Manali is a beautiful area and town, it's at the foothills of the Himalayan mountains and sort of like the Gold Coast of India without a beach. It snows there and many Indians come there to ski and honeymoon. This is where we started our trip and the bikes were assembled. We started with 3 Royal Enfield classics and 9 Royal Enfield Himalayans but on day one, one Classic wouldn't run properly so it was replaced with another Himalayan. The plan was that those who were two up would be on the 500cc classics and those singles would be on the 411cc Himalayan but by the time the ride was almost over, all were on Himalayans as these roads were punishing. Eliza and I were the last to still be on a classic until about two thirds of the way through when I crashed in a creek crossing and broke a rear brake lever and exhaust bolt so swapped to a Himalayan. Although only 411cc the Himalayans have a 21" front wheel and some suspension travel, unlike the 1950's designed Classics. The other classic dropped a valve so it ended up in the back of the back-up ute.

Ok, day one: Day one was an around the local area ride and through the relatively newly opened Rotang tunnel. Last time in 2019 we rode the Rotang Pass and were held up each way for hours with mud slides and a petrol tanker that had a huge rock fall onto its roof. The Rotang tunnel replaced the Pass and is sold as the longest tunnel in the world but when questioned (and with the help of Mr Google), it's claim was revised to the longest tunnel in the world that's over 10,000 foot above sea level. Anyway, at just over 9 kms long it was still a pretty long and impressive tunnel. We also rode up and through some mountain side roads that we did in 2019 when we were cut off for two days by a massive mud slide and were looking for a way through. It was funny how we remembered them after 4 years. So that was our shakedown ride and day two was the first real day of the 15 day ride.

So stay tuned for the next instalment of our trip in next months magazine but now for some interesting facts about India: Fuel is much the same price as here at around A\$2 a litre and they only have one grade, just petrol, most but not all airfares are also similar prices (a few were cheaper) and beer is also a similar price but almost everything else is far cheaper. You can eat including a soft drink for less than A\$5 a meal, Uber is dirt cheap and the only way to get around, almost everyone wants to rip you off, tourists or foreigners pay 10 times the price to get into tourist attractions like temples, the Taj and alike, taxis won't take you where you ask, especially from the airport, they all suggest they don't have change so you end up paying more as a “tip”. Oh, and everyone wants a tip, even after you negotiate a price. Beggars target white tourists but then walk around the corner to get free food at the Sheikh temples who feed hundreds for free every day. Street sellers ask ridiculous prices to start with but drop quickly to far more realistic amounts. Oh, and hand washing (despite post COVID) is rare, street food is fantastic and there are lots of choices everywhere. And cows are sacred so walk the streets, sleep anywhere and have right of way. Did I mention horns, you don't need lights, you certainly don't need blinkers but your horn has to work and you have to blast it every few seconds. You can drive up the wrong way on a one way street or even travel the wrong way on the freeway, yep, that's all acceptable, stop anywhere, park anywhere, pull out anywhere without looking, yep, that's all normal. It's mad. M A D, mad but it sort of works.

So next month, the Spitti Valley and being cut off for two days after massive landslides from the heavy rains. We slept in a villages house, 9 in one room and 6 in another and had several goes to get out, only to find another landslide a few kms down the road. Stay tuned for next months instalment. Cheers. Michael Smith








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**NRCMCC CLUB RALLY— 2023 EVANS HEAD—MORE PHOTOS**



**Morning tea at Casino**



Best handle bars award.



Doug, Mary + Dieter winning the Best Club Bike



## 2023 committee and office holders

**President:** Mary Walker P: 0429662915 E: [president@nrcmcc.org](mailto:president@nrcmcc.org)  
**Vice President:** position is Vacant  
**Secretary:** David Bonhote-mead 0447900848 E: [secretary@nrcmcc.org](mailto:secretary@nrcmcc.org)  
**Treasurer:** Dean Marsh P: 0428381711 E: [treasurer@nrcmcc.org](mailto:treasurer@nrcmcc.org)

### Committee members:

Peter Lake P: 0459285872  
 Andrew Evans P: 0418280246  
 Alan Stratton P: 0428294652

### Registration Officers:

Bryson Walker P: 02 66291509  
 Pat Holt P: 0435475784  
 John Cafe P: 0427252081

Brian Riordan P: 02 66215535

Ray Fisher P: 02 66293250 Preferred or Mob 0427293250

**Classic Torque Editor:** David Bonhote-mead E: [editor@nrcmcc.org](mailto:editor@nrcmcc.org)

**Membership Officer:** Marc Jennison E: [members@nrcmcc.org](mailto:members@nrcmcc.org)

**Public Officer:** Bryson Walker E: [publicofficer@nrcmcc.org](mailto:publicofficer@nrcmcc.org)

**Web Master:** Dieter Opfer E: [webmaster@nrcmcc.org](mailto:webmaster@nrcmcc.org)

**Club Librarians:** Peter Lake

**Ride Coordinator (Sundays):** Peter Lake P: 0459285872

**Ride Coordinator (Wednesdays):** Ian McCormack P: 0431924268

**Event List Support:** Frank Widdows P: 02 66860771

**Catering:** Glen Flint P: 0423265294

**Raffles:** Ian & Lois Gibbs

**Jack Ahearn Restoration Trophy**—Judges John Cafe P: 0427252081

Brian Riordan P: 02 66215535 Doug Hampson 0490 012 245

**Our Club Rides:-** Some information on coming NRCMCC club rides.

### **Sunday & Wednesday Rides - All going ahead**

Please note that all attendees will need to sign on and BYO mask {optional }

Sunday runs are starting from the Norco Car Park—leave 9.00am

Wednesday rides starting from Lismore Railway Station—leave 9.00 am

For further information go to the clubs web site , advisable to read before going on any rides,

**Provisional Schedule of Sunday Club Rides for 2023** as supplied by Peter Lake  
**15th October**—Ride to Rathlogan Olive Groove and Shed “Jack McIntosh Ride” via Kyogle  
**19th November Ride to Mooball** via Pottsville, Cabarita, Murwillumbah  
**17th Dec** — Ride around the area ending up at Federal for Coffee

In addition to the primary club ride after the monthly meeting, we also have a CLASSICS ride on the 1st Sunday of every month. . Members with older bikes { H, G and J plated motorcycles} are encouraged to attend this ride. {*Open to all riders no matter what bike you ride*}

## **Motorcycle Events and Rallies organized by other Motorcycle Clubs or Groups**

**Other Club events** Please note That the NRCMCC is not responsible for The events & Rallies as organised by other clubs or groups . And dates {and events} given to us and shown here may change without notice. So if you are attending another club event just check you have their Up to date info.

### **Invitations to attend other Clubs Rallies and Swap meets**

<invitation from HMCC of QLD, Laidley MC only “Swap meet” Laidley Showgrounds Sat 21<sup>st</sup> October

<Invitation from Natureland CMCC {Kempsey} Rally3,4,5<sup>th</sup> Nov tel Kim 0417894775 or Tony 0487202171

≥Invitation from Wagga Wagga Classic MC club to attend their Rally on7&8<sup>th</sup> OCT



**NRCMCC Market:** You can advertise here 'For Sale', 'Wanted', 'Swap', 'Advice needed', 'to Give away', etc - ie, any deal you can imagine to do with motorcycles.

**Please contact the editor** - details on the 'Club officials' list somewhere in this newsletter. Unless otherwise arranged, advertisements will be maintained for two issues.

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**For Sale 2012 Ducati Streetfighter 848** in Fighter (Lamborghini) Yellow for \$12,500 Ono. NSW Rego till Sep 23, 45000km's, Owned since new, Immaculate condition, Always maintained by Arthur Davis Desmo Headquarters, Tonnes of extras including Akrapovic exhaust, flash tune, Gel touring seat, tidy tail and lots of Genuine Ducati Carbon bits. Call Abe 0400463716 for more info.



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**FOR SALE.....** ,Nolan full-face, latest design helmet in 'classic white' : model N60/6 - RRP= \$333.00 brand new, with all tags/papers/box etc. SIZE = 'LARGE' [Nolan head measurement on eyebrow; 59-60cm diameter]. sale to club member \$250.00. Italian Made Phone: Rob Andrews 66214083.



**More Bike sales on next page**

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### **Jack Ahern Restoration Trophy Entries for 2023**

To NRCMCC members, The entries for this years {2023} Jack Ahern Restoration Trophy are now open, your entry must be :

- \*At least 30 years old,
- \*Be registered either on H-Plate or full road rego,
- \*Running and Ridable
- \*Notified to one of the group - All by 31 st December 2023

Your entry will then be inspected and judged by the group at a date and time at your place, Suitable to all during January 2024.

For queries and further information contact one of the Trophy Group listed below, John Café, Brian Riordan, Doug Hampson ,



**For Sale 2001  
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Contact Chris 0427911716



For Sale  
1972 CZ175 trail with 2nd bike for spares if anyone is interested. tel Ray  
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**Our sponsors** have continued to support the club after most were devastated themselves by the February/March floods so club members should try to support these local businesses whenever possible.. Most will offer a discount to club members and all will offer great service and their continuing support for our club.



Else where in the world  
Life goes on as normal.....





If undelivered return to,  
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On the Rally

**Last word from the Editor** Many thanks to Mary for Presidents Chair, Michael for his ride thru Umling Pass Article, Dieter for Rally photos . .Terry for all the Old photos {found on the web} & every one else who've sent in items & Jokes .. also Thanks to Facebook Page Contributors . where you can also see more of Dieters Rally photos  
 Cheers David BM



Still there with us in spirit .....

