

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

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Or phone President



**May
2024**

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 14th May 7.30 start at Clunes Hall.

Next Club Ride 19th May—Ride to Burringbar Cheese factory via Bangalow, Mullumbimby

Club Rally Dates Friday 6th, Saturday 7th, Sunday 8th September

*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..*



Alan, Lyn and Jodie at the start of Alans ride from Brisbane to Broom, Jodie wrote a daily diary of this epic ride, it's in 2 parts, Day 1 to 15 is in this Issue And Lyn driving the backup van ..held it all together.
Pages 3 to 6 for the Motorcycle diaries



From the Secretaries Corner...

Unfortunately for this issue there is no Report from Our President, sadly the there was a death in her family. The club sends our deepest sympathies to Mary and family .

Mary has asked me to mention that preparations are well under way in organising this years club, Rally ,to be held At Evans Head 6,7,8th Sept. Hopefully at our June club meeting , we'll have more to update .

Our Club Treasurer Dean , sadly has had to resign from this position, due to his work business commitments and family life. So we're looking for a replacement, contact me or Mary if you'd like to take on this position, Qualifications are minimal .., have some computer skills like able to transfer \$\$ one account to another.

We wish all the riders on "Over the hill Rally" good weather & safe riding , and remember, as Mary says.. Keep upright.

Mary will be on the O.T.H. and away for the May club meeting, Peter Lake will be chairing the meeting.

Cheers David B.M



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

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON: 9th April 2024 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, **8** apologies as per the attendance sheet

+**3** visitors J. Appleby, S. McQueen, C. Launder

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: - Not read to members. The Secretary moved that minutes for March 2024 Club meeting as published in April 2024 newsletter be accepted 2ND Peter Lake - motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE IN Newsletters - Clarence Valley, Newcastle Coffs Harbour MC clubs +

Some Membership renewals for 2024

Shannons Insurance for Club Trailer

CORRESPONDENCE out ,

Club Newsletter posted or emailed to members and other MC clubs

Invitations to attend other Clubs 2024 Rallies and Swap meets

Cane Toad Rally_26-28 April - Inverell Rally 19-21 April - Coffs Harbour 21-26 May

Tamworth 18-19 May - Berry Charity bike Show – 5th May - Frostbite Rally Warwick 6&7 July

Indian Rally

TREASURERS REPORT:- [The Treasurer](#) was unavailable. Secretary gave club account balances

For Social , working and term investments accounts

MEMBERSHIP OFFICER

Some members still to renew currently at 52 members + partners + family

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

* **MW** 2024 Membership fees If you haven't paid , you're bike is not eligible for club registration or covered by insurance.

*MW reported that the Jack Ahearn Trophy Presentation day held in conjunction with the Club memorial Ride , was a great success with over 40 in attendance, M.W. thanked those members who helped to make the great lunch, MW commented on the 3 great entries for the Trophy.

It was noted that Jack Ahearn has now been inducted into "The Motor Sports Hall of Fame"

GENERAL BUSINESS

* MW informed members that the committee has accepted Chris Lauders club membership application, Chris was introduced and given a warm welcome by all members.

*MW gave Club Rally dates being from Friday 6,7,8th September , + early day rides to be held before Rally.

General discussion about where to have Morning tea, Lunch. Coraki for lunch not being considered.

*Terry Savins said he had some spanners etc , suitable for Japanese Bikes

* MW informed members that she'll be unable to chair the May meeting and PL will take over that role.

New Bike Registrations NON

Early Days Bryson showed some Timber motorcycle models, talked about the early days - cricket matches with other clubs ,and more club highlights from 1986, a ride to Pipers Rest being noted.

Ride Reports

<17th **March** Memorial ride was to JA presentation day at Clunes Hall

<1st **Sunday of April** , classic ride was rained out

Next club ride

<14th **April Club ride** is to Woodenbong via Kyogle

MEETING CLOSED at 8:25pm Next meeting 14th May

The Motorcycle diaries— From Brisbane to Broome The diary of a trip by club members Alan , Lyne and daughter Jodie As written by Jodie

July 18, 2022 Day 1 - Caboolture to Yarraman

Today, Mum, Dad & I set off on our adventure across Australia. Travelling from Brisbane to Broome with the Veteran Car Club of Australia & The Heritage Motorcycle Club of Western Australia.

There are just over 50 vehicles pre 1918 + back up vehicles on this adventure, raising funds and awareness for The Blue Tree Project & The Royal Flying Doctors Service.

Well, today didn't go quite to plan. Dads 1914 Triumph didn't have enough power to go up the first mountain range, so we had to pop the bike in the back of the iLoad Van.

The only positive about that is that Dad was driving the iLoad (instead of me), up the mountain range, towing the Van when it made a huge bang and started blowing black smoke.

We thought that was the end of our adventure before it had begun.

So many wonderful people stopped to help, including a wonderful local Mechanic Knight's Auto Care who helped us get the van going again, Turns out a hose had popped off the Turbo. A huge thanks also to Chris & Di, who wouldn't leave our side until they knew we were ok. Anyway, we are off now to have a red wine with the other entrants and to contemplate what adventures tomorrow will bring.

July 19, 2022 Day 2 - Yarraman to Miles

A very successful day.

After some tinkering, a new magneto & a spray of degreaser the Triumph made it up and over The Great Dividing Range.

It was my first full day of towing the Caravan and I managed to not hit any curbs, I've still got all the mirrors and I even passed several other Vans.

The Caravan Park is so well set up, great bathrooms, awesome Camp Kitchen & a fully stocked fire pit.

We are all looking forward to a good night's sleep.

July 20, 2022 Day 3 - Miles to Mitchell

We were blessed with an uneventful day.

After a chilly start of 6° we set off for Mitchell.

A sprinkling of rain most of the day added extra chill factor for Dad.

I had my first experience of backing the caravan when the diesel pump, we pulled up to was out of order ,please to say the Service Station is still intact.

We finally sighted our first blue tree, there are over 800 in Australia, At our lunch stop we were so preoccupied with trying to work out how to get Dad warm that we forgot to top up his petrol tank. Needless to say we got a phone call 20mins later requesting a pit stop on the side of the road.

Mum attempted to get a video of Dad riding while we were passing, it was hilarious

We had a lovely traditional camp dinner and squeezed inside the Caravan to eat out of the cold.

Day 4—next page



Day 1 the crew



Tinkering with the Triumph



Day 3 - First Sighting of a Blue Tree on the way to Mitchell



Day 4 - Lyn & Alan, Brian & Lesley free camping at Augathella

The Motorcycle diaries—

July 21, 2022 Day 4 - Mitchell to Augathella

With a full day of rain predicted, we made the decision to put the Triumph in the back of the Hyundai. It just wouldn't have been pleasant or safe for Dad to ride in those conditions. Augathella is our first night of free camping as the Caravan Parks were fully booked.

The town is very cute, with a population of just under 500 people. All shops (except the Pub and the Grocery Shop) were closed by Midday. So, Mum & I walked around the town taking photos of the artwork.



Day 5 - Dad's Triumph on the way to Longreach

July 22, 2022 Day 5 - Augathella to Blackall

The sun came out today, so Dad could ride his bike again.

It was a short ride of 211km with a morning tea stop at Tambo.

The bike is running really well so everyone is in good spirits.

Our Camp for the night was in Blackall, home of The Black Stump. It was interesting to learn it sources its water from the Great Artesian Basin, one of the largest Artesian Basins in the world, stretching over 1,700,000 square kilometres.

The water is hot straight out of the ground, so no need for hot water systems. It's also very smelly, which is quite odd when you are showering.

Tonight was relaxing, sitting around the fire pit, drinking some Baileys and listening to a Country & Western singer. Every night the stars seem to get brighter & brighter the further west we go.

Tomorrow we are heading to Longreach for our first two day stop over.

July 23, 2022 Day 6 - Blackall to Longreach

Another Fine Day, as my grandfather would say. Not a cloud in the sky and a perfect 21°.

The bike is travelling extremely well, so is Dad. We try not to talk about it in case we jinx ourselves.

We stopped at Barcaldine, and saw the Tree of Knowledge, which is where The Australian Labor Party was founded. We also had a quick stop at Ilfracombe, where there was a large static display of Machinery on the side of the road.

We checked in to Longreach Tourist Park, the largest Caravan Park I have ever seen. We even got lost trying to find our site.

I had my first experience of backing the Caravan into its site. Let's just say, I'm a work in progress.

It's heating up now, and there are lots and lots of flies.

We are here for two days, tomorrow will be catching up on the washing, bike maintenance and a River Cruise with Dinner & Show.

July 24, 2022 Day 7 - Longreach

Our first lay day since leaving on Monday.

Mum & I caught up on all the washing and Dad cleaned the bike. Tonight we did the tourist thing and went on a cruise followed by dinner and a show. The sunset was absolutely stunning, the colours were amazing, the photos don't do it justice. The dinner and entertainment was great and I got my Border Collie fix, please don't tell Bowie.

July 25, 2022 Day 8 - Longreach to Winton

Another dream run today. The Triumph is loving the flat roads and comfortably cruising along at 60km/h. I managed to get a photo of our good friends Brian & Lesley with their 1913 Chater-Lea J.A.P.

Winton is adorable, with more old pubs than corners. There are beautiful gardens in full bloom with metal sculptures of sheep and cattle lining the Main Street.

Our Caravan Park is about 2km out of town, probably my favourite so far. The drive through sites means no backing the Caravan for me today. At 5.30 the whole park goes out into the paddock to watch the sun go down.

The flies are getting worse but the sunsets are getting more spectacular.

Day 9 next page

One of the Veteran Cars on the Rally



July 26, 2022 Day 9 - Winton to Julia Creek

Being up at 5.45 has its benefits, like the beautiful sunrise this morning.

The Triumph had another trouble free day, except when Dad ran out of petrol. Oops, he forgot to top it up the night before. Lucky the trusty back up team was not far away.

We took a quick detour to Kynuna to see the Blue Heeler Pub. After the bikes sets off the girls ducked in for a cheeky beer and a souvenir stubby holder.

The road from there to Julia Creek was much narrower than we had been used to. We got off the road several times for vehicles approaching us, as there wasn't room for us both.

Tonight we ate at the Top Pub, I ordered the crocodile, it wasn't what I expected, it tasted like chicken.

We are heading to Mount Isa tomorrow for a two day stop over.

July 27 & 28, 2022 Day 10 & 11- Julia Creek to Mount Isa

The Triumph continued to impress us as the terrain changed from long straight roads to climbing ranges.

The country side changed so quickly over the 252km. The sparse country side soon turned to rocky formations scattered with little red ants hills, some of which were even clothed.

Then after Cloncurry the climb began and the road trains increased in volume and size.

I would be lying if I didn't say I was a little worried for Dad, it's scary enough for us in the Van with a road train in your mirror as your heading down a mountain with no overtaking lane in sight, imagine what it would be like on the bike.

We videoed the drive into Mount Isa, it was a sight to see the Mine.

We arrived at our Caravan Park and were immediately informed of the increase in local crime. We were warned to lock everything at all times. Even when we were in the Van.

I was very lucky to run into my friends from the Gold Coast who have be travelling around Australia for 6 months, they booked into the same park so we could catch up.

Brian lent us a chain, so we chained the bike to the Caravan for the night and Dad slept with a spray can of degreaser ready to spray on any intruders. We certainly didn't slept well last night.

Today we braved leaving the Triumph & Caravan to do some sight seeing and grocery shopping.

The way the town is built right next to the mine is an incredible sight.

Here's to hoping the security guards keep us safe tonight.

We are up early tomorrow morning for a photo shoot with the ABC then it's off the Camooweal.

July 29, 2022 Day 12 - Mount Isa to Camooweal

We all survived the night, there was trouble in the Caravan Park again but everyone was ready for them.

An extra early start this morning for an interview with the ABC then on the road for Camooweal.

The bike and Dad are still travelling well.

Camooweal is a small town of just over 300 people.

There are two caravan parks one pub and a Post Office/General Store. Our Caravan Park is behind the Post Office Pub. We had a lovely meal and the Pub.

Tomorrow we will be finally crossing the border into the Northern Territory.

Day 10 & 11 Mount Isa - Some of the bikes waiting to be interview by the ABC



Day 9 - Some of the Bikes at the Blue Heeler Pub in Kynuna on the way to Julia Creek



July 30, 2022 Day 13 - Camooweal to Barkly Homestead

Today officially marks halfway of our adventure. And what an eventful day it was.

We set off bright and early, 12km later we were in the Northern Territory.

Unfortunately Dad was ahead of us and missed the photo opportunity at the Border.

The speed limit increased to 130km, Mum immediately looked at me and said "I don't think so"

Mum mastered the video out the window and hopes she will get some nice comments about her videoing prowess. Although the country side had turned quite sparse it was still beautiful with gorgeous colours. I managed to get a photo out the front window of the Barkly Highway.

One of the back up crews had a shredded tyre on her Caravan today. I was so impressed, she changed the tyre, set up camp and even saved and paid for our site before we got there.

Unfortunately one of our veteran motor cycle riders came off today, he is going to be ok but had to be Air-lifted back to Mount Isa for X-rays & Scans. A timely reminder of the dangers of riding a motorbike. Our campsite at Barkley Homestead is lovely, we are camped under a beautiful big tree with stunning sunset views. Tomorrow is our biggest day, 323km to Renner Springs.

July 31, 2022 Day 14 - Barkly Homestead to Renner Springs

After a bit of a sleep in we set off for our longest day so far.

We left the Barkly Highway at 'The Three Ways' and started our climb north on the Stuart Highway.

Geoff & Barbara, driving a 1917 Saxon gave us an ice cream, Geoff needed to make room in his freezer and we were happy to help out.

We received promising news regarding Colin after his accident yesterday. He has three cracked ribs, is very battered & bruised but should be out tomorrow. We are all relieved as it could have been way worse.

We arrived at Renner Spring around 4pm to pandemonium. The owners had gone away and left one poor bugger running the place. Booking in 40+ people from our group + a Tour Bus full of people. He also had to serve the fuel purchases, pull the beers in the pub & run the restaurant. All on his own.

They had no space left for our van even though he had a booking for us. Our fellow adventurers squeezed us in between their sites and shared their power with us.

Definitely the worse campsite so far. The springs look like a swamp and a busted water pipe has us camped in red mud. Oh and I forgot to mention the midges.

We had cup a soup for dinner.

Despite all this, the sunset did not disappoint. We are all keen to get to bed and welcome a new day.

August 1st, 2022 Day 15 - Renner Springs to Daly Waters

The days are heating up now, and riding in 30° heat can be hard on the old bikes but the Triumph keeps plugging along. Dad is holding up well.

We came across a wonderful little general store in Elliot. From the outside it look abandoned. Inside it was a different story. It was the cleanest store I had seen in a while. They sold everything, mattresses, washing machines, air fryers, stereos, milk, fresh produce, you name it. He sold it.

We checked in to Daly Waters around 2pm, quickly set up and then headed for a cold beer.

It's definitely a sight to see, people are encouraged to leave something behind with their name on it. So there are Bra's, Hat's, T-Shirts & Shoes hanging everywhere.

There is a pub horse called Polly, she walks in through the bar following the publican.

There are also two cows, a goat and plenty of chicks running free in the Caravan Park.

Across from the pub is a museum. Check out the videos, just incredible. I finally got around to getting a photo with a Spotlight Theatre Director's husband Peter, who is also on this adventure with his brother, they are driving a 1914 Model T Ford & a 1917 La France.

We booked in for the famous Beef & Barra and we weren't disappointed.

My favourite place so far.

Day 16 & more —

to be continued in the June Newsletter....

Day 13 - The NT
Border Crossing - The
Vintage Steel Boys



10th Queensland British Rally



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RSVP required by 7th May 2024.

2024 committee and office holders

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Vice President: Glenn Flint P: 0423265294 vicepresident@nrcmcc.org

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Treasurer: treasurer@nrcmcc.org

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Tony Kempnich P. 0428285776

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Pat Holt P: 0435475784

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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

Raffles: Ian & Lois Gibbs

Jack Ahearn Restoration Trophy —Judges John Cafe P: 0427252081

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

Sunday & Wednesday Rides

Please note that all attendees will need to sign on .

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 Sunday Club Rides for 2024 as supplied by Peter Lake

19th May—Ride to Burringbar Cheese factory via Bangalow Mullumbimby etc..

16th June—Join Italian day festival and / or Ride to New Italy Café for coffee

14th July North Arm via Billnudge

18th August , The Circle Event for small Bikes **6-8th Sept** Club Rally

13th Oct. Chillingham General Store **Nov & Dec** To be advised

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.

5th May Berry Charity Bike Show

Refer to the March Edition of this Newsletter for more details on above events

Coffs Harbour 21-26 May Rally—. If interested contact NRCMCC Secretary or CH&DMCRC

Tamworth 18-19 May Rally . If interested contact NRCMCC Secretary

HMCCQ Gold Coast Area 8+9th June , Show +Shine Goodwin Park Coolangatta

Tel Secretary 0401 363 900 for more details

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.

For Sale

1972 CZ175 trail with 2nd bike for spares if anyone is interested. tel Ray 66293250 preferred or mobile 0427293250.



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.



FOR SALE AJS 16mcs 350cc all alloy scrambler 1958, restored 1993 , everything works, original all over , Lismore bike Workshop manual parts lists, AJS tools, Whitworth tools , club rego ride it home. \$6000 needs a little TLC by a club member Lionel 0408825036



“For Sale \$9500 ONO **1978 Triumph T140E.** Motor has been rebuilt approximately 3k miles ago by Geoff Martin Motorcycle Repairs. Receipt supplied. Speedo indicates 11k + miles. Bike originally imported from USA by others. Some spare parts and tools included. “ Contact Chris Wakely 0427 911716.

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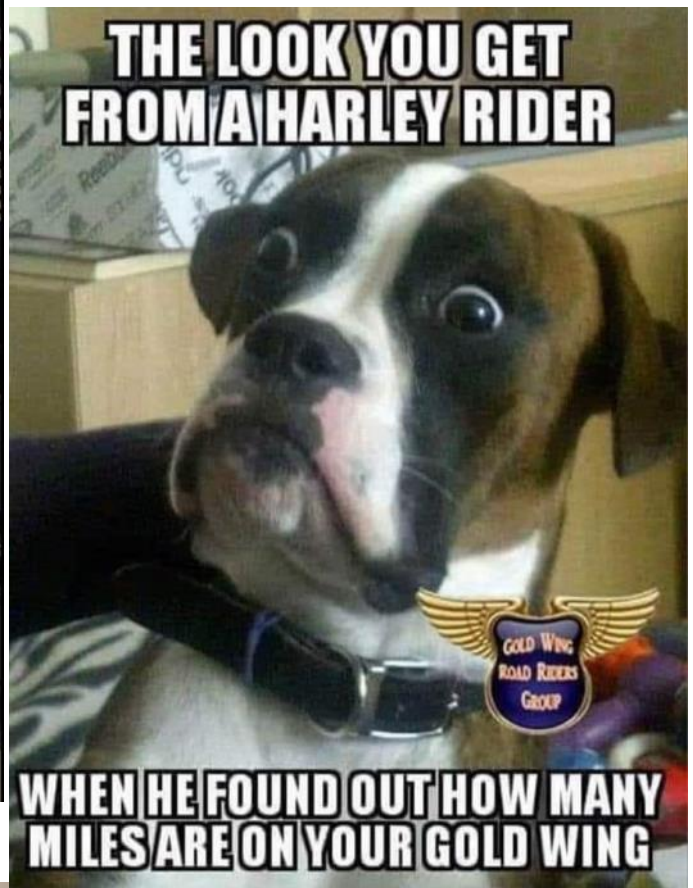
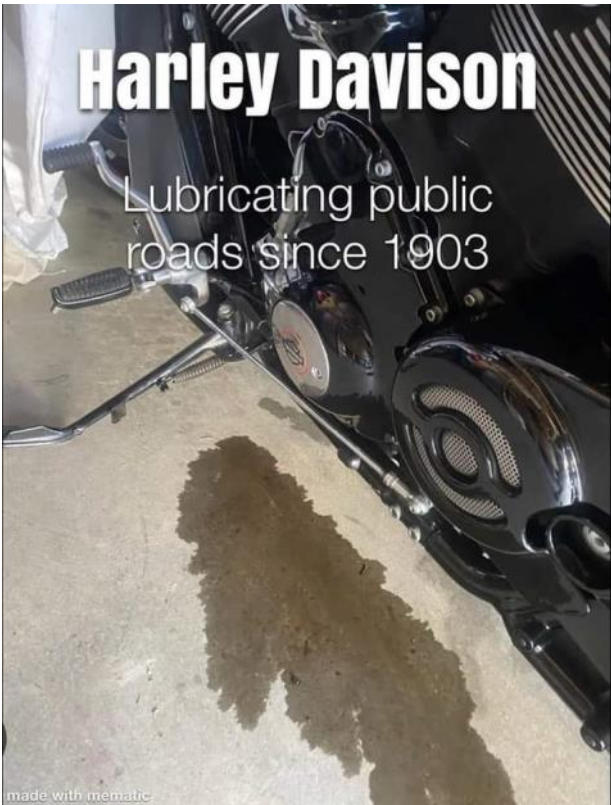
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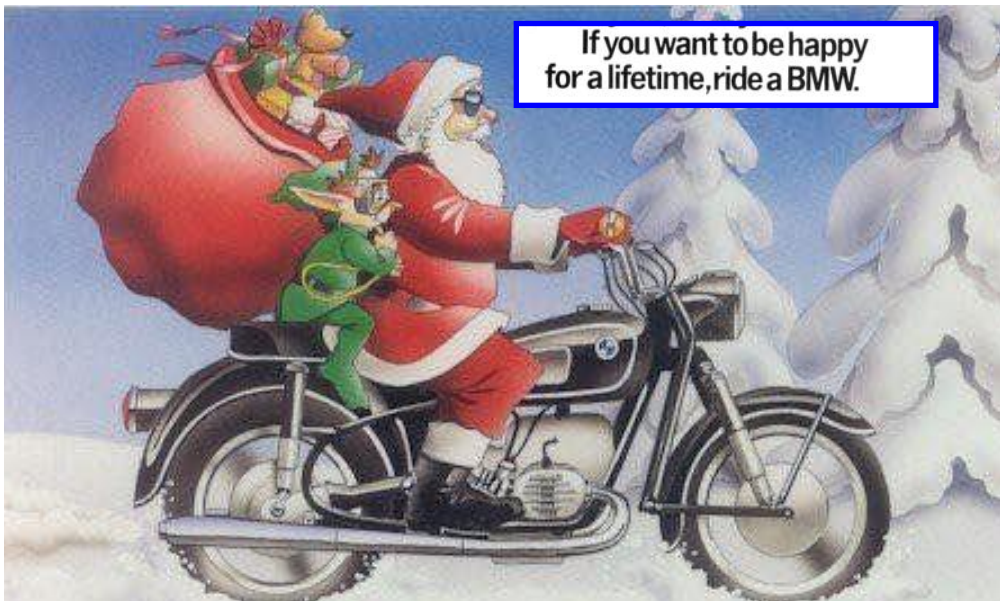
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Last word from the Editor Many thanks to Alan , Lyn and Jodie for the Motorcycle Diaries, their trip Brisbane to Broom, more to come in the June Newsletter, Mary will be back for the June Edition, but as always Many thanks to her for all the great work she does for the club and members .

And Terry for all the Old photos and jokes {found on the web} Cheers David BM