

2017
February

THE LINK



The Official Journal of

THE MOTORCYCLE ENTHUSIASTS CLUB INC. GOLD COAST

Joining good companions in a shared pastime

www.mecgc.club

PO Box 451 238 Mudgeeraba Road
Mudgeeraba Qld 4213 Mudgeeraba Qld 4



MECGC

Motorcycle Enthusiasts Club Gold Coast

2016-2017 COMMITTEE



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:	NAME:	CONTACT PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS:
President	Wayne Bryan	0400 818 801	<u>president@mecgc.club</u>
Vice President	Graham Ruck	0488 118 561	<u>gruck7@gmail.com</u>
Treasurer	Alex Huybens	0414 811 243	<u>treasurer@mecgc.club</u>
Secretary	Gail Calder	Business: 0418 595 878	<u>secretary@mecgc.club</u>
COMMITTEE MEMBERS:			
Beverage Coordinator	Chris Orton	0417 455 577	<u>chris.orton77@gmail.com</u>
Building & Maintenance	Barry Schreiner	0430 341 795	<u>beemberbazz@gmail.com</u>
Events Coordinator	Wayne Bryan	0400 818 801	<u>president@mecgc.club</u>
Events Coordinator	Murray Speden	0416 511 330	<u>murray@mecgc.club</u>
Memberships	Murray Speden	0416 511 330	<u>murray@mecgc.club</u>
Editor 'The Link' Magazine	Gail Calder	Business: 0418 595 878	<u>editor@mecgc.club</u>
Patron and Grounds Maintenance	Don Kibble	0438 755 742	<u>plans@kibbles.com.au</u>
Email Coordinator	Murray Speden	0416 511 330	<u>murray@mecgc.club</u>
Dating Officer	Gordon Smith	0433 112 190	<u>grsmith747@gmail.com</u>
Committee Member	Wayne Harrison	0402 257 251	<u>wayneharrison63@hotmail.com</u>
Committee Member	Rob Ambrose	0419 240 500	
Adventure Riding Coordinator	Nicholas Tan	0431 039 274	<u>adventuremecgc.club</u>

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238 Mudgeeraba Road
Mudgeeraba Qld 4213

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From the Editor



Yes, the rumours are true the new 765 Triple is about to be released next month. The MotoGP also commences next month with some amazing times being done at the testing by our one and only Casey Stoner. March is a month to look forward to.

February has our first club weekend away, led by Tom. The Superbikes are on in Philip Island, a trip I'd like to be going on next year.

We've had a great start to the year with our organised rides commencing during the week and weekends.

Any adventures or photos you would like to share send them through to my email.

Ride happy and safe

Gail



Waynes Wramble WAYNE'S WRAMBLE

Guess Who

Hi everyone, Australia Day saw us have a great day at the club, very hot but those who braved the heat and came out, enjoyed it. Barry cooked up a great breakfast. We're back to normal, folks. 1st Saturday is Barbeque Brekky and bring your classic bikes if you have one.

We had a few members turn up who we don't see that often. A few came in air conditioned cars, I don't blame them. But a lot of bikes arrived anyway.

So good to see Finn and Jodie again on new Triumph 1200 Bonneville's. Yes. I even thought of selling one of my Commando's. I did! But only for a minute.

It was so nice to see Noel Peck's widow, June turn up to say hello. Thanks to Barry, Kim and Eve for helping again. Kim, we do hope your back gets better quickly.

I got Rhonda to raise the flag and she wasn't expecting the rifles to be so loud and so close and jumped when they went off.

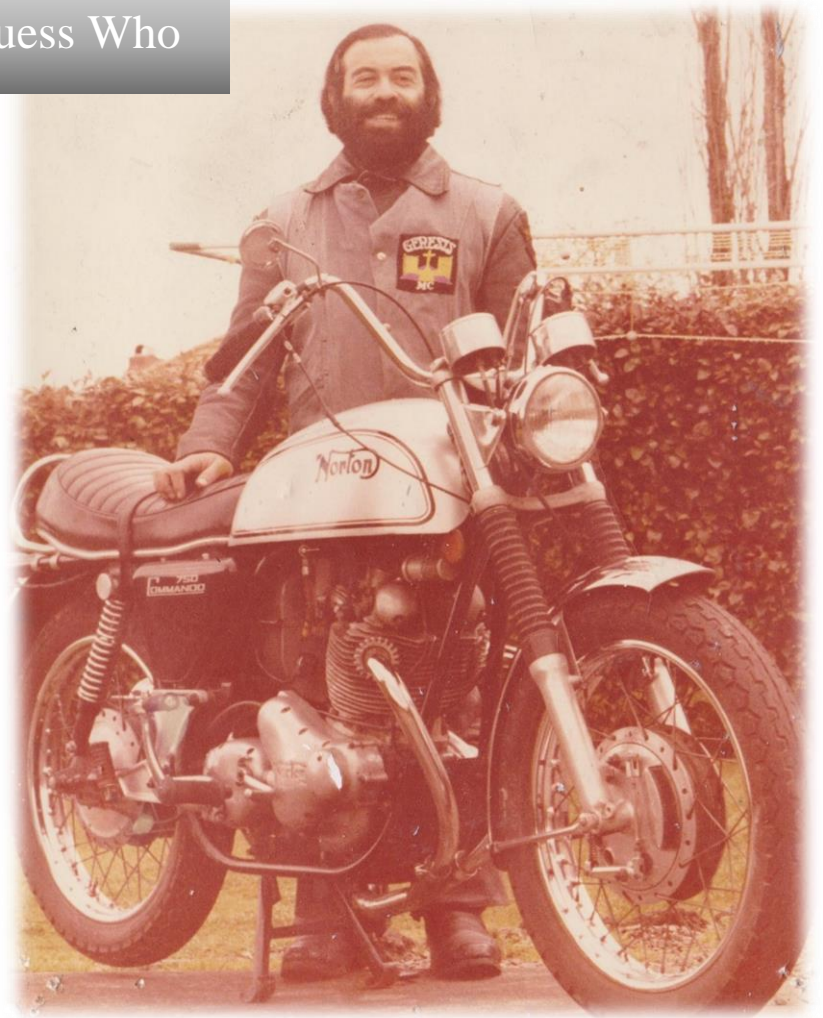
I realise we had the ceremony a bit late and a lot of members took off on a cool down ride. So next year, we'll have an early flag raising, rifle salute and singing the National Anthem. And I promise you, it'll be to the tune of "Working Class Man".

We've started 2017 with 9 new members. We have a lot of WAR rides, ACTION nights and rallies planned for 2017.

We're looking at having a marquee at the Laverda Concours on July 16th so keep it free if you can.

The Link is looking good. Well done, Gail.

See you all out there. By the way, the Norton here is an American Desert Scrambler. It had a one gallon yellow tank, combat engine, high pipes, small headlight and very low gearing. It would only do 80 mph in top gear. I fitted a 1972 long range tank, siamesed the pipes and raised the gearing. Wayne, President.



Shiny Side Up



Have you changed bikes recently? Have you traded in that sports bike for the offerings of style and comfort of a cruiser? How did you go making the transition from one type of bike to the other? I started thinking about how this can affect a rider after I was contacted recently by a client from a previous course asking about this.

The sporty type larger capacity 4 cylinder bike was traded in for the style and beauty of a Triumph Bonneville and with the change in type of bike, came a difference in engine and suspension characteristics and it started to affect their confidence as negotiating curves felt different.

We can quickly get used to how our bike feels, how it starts, how it turns, how it builds power. The relationship you develop with your bike quickly tells you when something isn't right. So if you change style of bike and are having trouble adapting to the feel of the new bike it is important to stop, reset yourself and check a few things before you lose confidence in the bike and confidence in yourself. If this happens you may end up no longer enjoying riding and that is not a good thing.

I suggest first eliminate any simple cause and check the tyre pressures and make sure they're set at the manufacturer's recommended pressures. If the tyre pressures are too low it can cause the front tyre to not hold the correct shape when cornering and you can get a sudden "direct handlebar turning" feeling instead of a nice progressive steering and leaning feeling. I advise this as many times I have had clients on courses who are describing these issues and having difficulty in steering their bike, and it was simply incorrect tyre pressures. I know if my front tyre pressure drops 1 or 2 psi I can feel the difference in how it steers.

The next simple fix is to re-check how you are sitting on the bike. Are your arms relaxed? Have you adjusted all the levers so they are in the right position for you? Can you find them and use them correctly without having to reach too far or strain muscles to move your foot to the lever? Check that your middle knuckle is the highest point on the grip, wrist is low and your hands are resting, lightly gripping the handlebars. Your forearms should be roughly parallel to the ground. This is important especially when riding a sports bike with lower clip on style bars. You have to get down to it and have the arms bent and relaxed.

Then go for a ride and concentrate on your HEAD, BODY, BIKE sequence for steering. First turn your head and start looking through the corner and identify your 6 seconds of vision ahead. Then lean your upper body across slightly through the bend, like you are trying to smell the exit of the corner, and when you see your exit, steer the bike with an input through the bars. Your inside arm should be bent at the elbow and you are able to push forward on the inside bar. The outside arm should be relaxed. Remember, you are not holding onto the bike with your arms, rather you are holding on with your feet and knees.

Not everyone trades the sport bike away for the cruiser / commuter style of bike. A client on my last course traded in his cruiser for a scalpel sharp mid capacity sports bike and this required him to become more active in his general riding posture to achieve the best body position for taking corners with better feel and control. With getting all these things right, the confidence can return and so will the enjoyment of the new bike.

The best place to acquaint yourself with a new bike is on our level 1 course. It is a fantastic opportunity to re-visit the posture and general riding skills on your new bike, in a controlled environment free from other road users and distractions. It is a great opportunity to adjust your expectations of the bike's capabilities and re-align your skills with your expectations by practicing normal stopping, emergency stops and riding through curves.

If you are still having troubles with confidence in your new bike and you can eliminate tyre pressure and your posture and use of controls as being the cause, it would be worth investing the time to make adjustments to your suspension and set the free and rider sag. There could be a mechanical reason for the different or disconnected feeling causing the loss of confidence. Suspension is set for a general weight and size of rider, so in some cases it may be the case that you need a firmer or softer spring setting just for you.

Give the office a call on 55965440 or visit www.stayupright.com to see when our next Level 1 course is on. There is a level 2 course coming in April. Although there are no level 3 suspension and performance courses planned, if there are enough interested people we can plan and run one. We also offer a slow speed course so enquire with Tony if you're keen to develop your slow speed and U-turn skills.

Ray van den Bosch

Senior Trainer

Stay Upright

STAY UPRIGHT
R I D E R T R A I N I N G



What's News

Great turn out for Australia Day at the club house. New and old bikes as we filled the car park.

Some new faces at the club house and some we hadn't seen in a while.

Bikes were themed. Think Rod should get the prize.



BBQ breakfast, big thanks to Barry. The club house was open with tea coffee and cake.

As the Battery arms marched to our club house for the flag raising and salute, other clubs joined in as we sang our national anthem.









Obituary

Hi Members, some of you know Jim and Janice Finch, members who have been coming to our meetings and rallies for a number of years. When they came on a bike, it was a Honda Valkrie which is now owned by member, Gary Ford.

I was speaking to Gary about making trophies for our club activities and he informed me that Janice passed away suddenly on January, 27th from a heart attack. I know I can speak for those members who knew Janice that she was a very sweet lady. I'll be sending a letter of condolences to Jim and his family on behalf of the MECGC. Wayne Bryan, President.

Events

Weekly Rides

Members are reminded that they can use their SIV registered bikes on these and any club activity.

Monday ride meeting at Oxenford, Luv a coffee opposite Woolworths at 8am to leave 8.30am.

Thursday ride meeting at our clubhouse 8.30am leave at 9am

Saturday morning ride meeting at clubhouse 8am leave 8.30am

Club Rooms open every Saturday from 7am rain or shine for coffee before we head out.

1st Saturday is a Barbeque Breakfast

Last Saturday is a long ride.

Look at our website for all activities.

Adventure Ride



Join us for the first ARM for 2017, put the date in your diary now so you don't miss out. Visit the MECGC Website for more details.

<http://mecgc.club/arm-adventure-riding-magic-sunday-26th-february/>

Weekend Rides



Weekend Away Ride - Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th February

First 2017 WAR will take place 18th & 19th February & is being planned & will be lead by Tom McCutcheon.

Ride will leave on the Saturday from the MECGC Clubrooms at 8am.

Place these dates in your diary now-:)

See the MECGC Website link below for more details -:)

<http://mecgc.club/war-weekend-away-ride-saturday-18th-sunday-19th-february/>

If you can 't make it it the next weekend ride is on April the 8th & 9th. Lock in the dates as we are riding into northern NSW. Details will be posted soon.

JOIN THE RIDE CHASING CHARLIES' CURE

⊙ 26-FEB-2017 ⊙



Please join our ride to help Charlie Shirran, an 18 month old Gold Coast boy with an unstoppable will, **beat Neuroblastoma Cancer** – for which he needs life saving vaccine treatment available only in New York.

- Departing from the Bearded Dragon, Mt Tamborine;
- Registration from 8am, coffee available;
- Registration closes 9.30am, for a departure shortly after;
- **Tex and Bundy**, Guinness World Record for the fastest dog on a motorbike, will be leading the ride!
- Donations \$20/rider + \$10/pillion. For an extra \$5 donation receive an embroidered patch.

Finish line at Eagle heights 12.00 mid-day where you will be welcomed with live music from The Wayward Boys, World Superbikes on large screen, raffle with **awesome prizes** plus reduced priced meals and stunning views of The Gold Coast!

Mat's Sic Pic's will be our event photographer on the day, get some great shots of you and your bike!!



If you wish to find out more or you are unable to attend this event but still wish to help please visit:
www.gofundme.com/supermancharlie



Black Dog Ride

“we need to talk”

1 DAYER 2017

Black Dog Ride's iconic annual 1 Dayer aims to start a **national conversation about depression and suicide prevention.**

Get the country talking and ride with your local 1 Dayer at:

GOLD COAST QLD

Sunday 19th March

Meet: 8.00am Check in & breakfast at Shark Leathers, Helensvale

Contact: Kylie Sage 0408 751 433 or goldcoast@blackdogride.com.au

.....

Register Online and WIN!

Register as a rider for Black Dog Ride's 1 Dayer by midnight AEST

6th March and be in the draw to WIN the all new

Indian Scout valued at \$19,995! Raffle drawn

19th March 2017. Prize generously donated by

Indian Motorcycle Australia. Don't miss out!



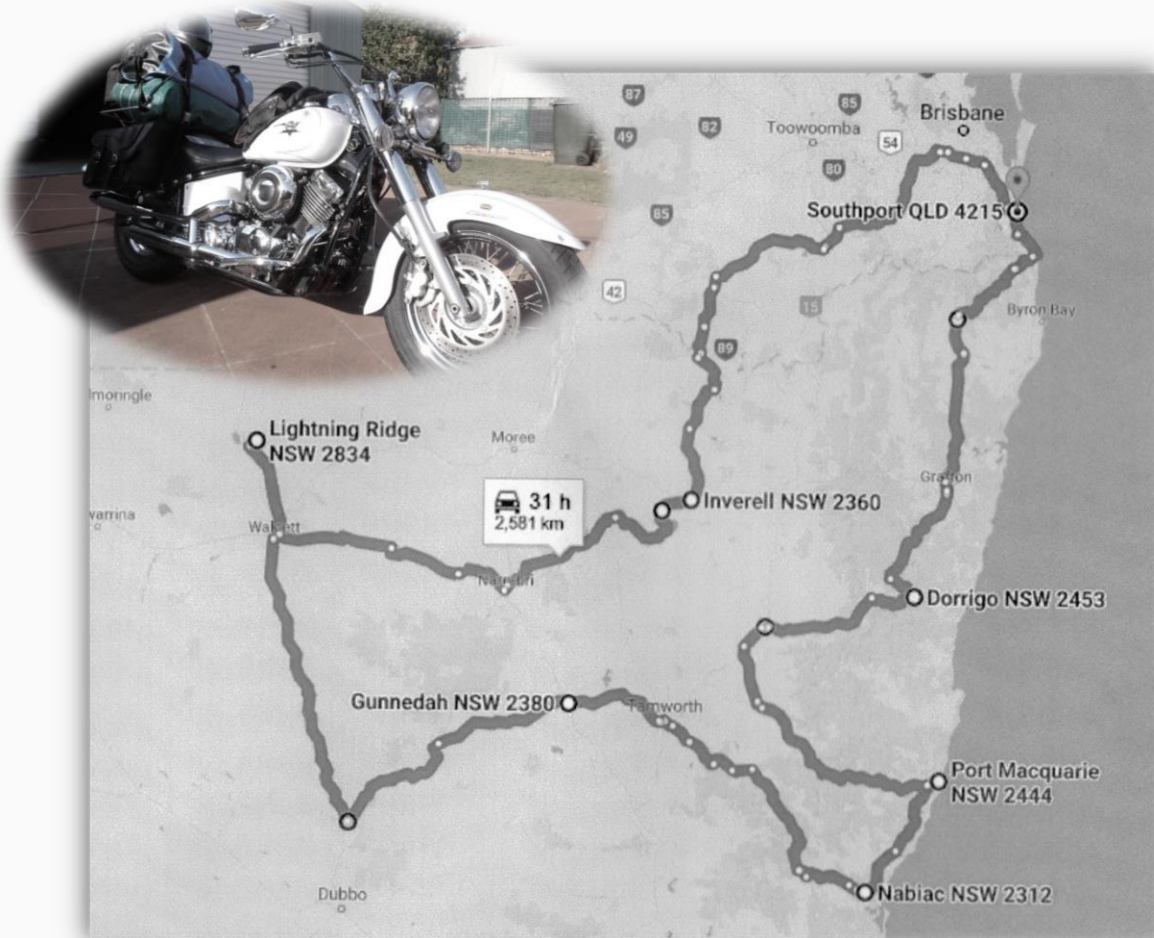
Register Today: blackdogride.com.au

8 Day Ride to Lightning Ridge August 2017

8 Day Ride to Lightning Ridge August 2017

Departing Saturday the 19th August – Returning home the following Saturday
26th August

- Saturday 19/8/17 Gold Coast to Inverell 463k
- Sunday 20/8/17 Inverell to Lightning Ridge 406k
- Monday 21/8/17 “Free Day” - Lightning Ridge -
- Tuesday 22/8/17 Lightning Ridge to Gunnedah or Tamworth 349 / 421k
- Wednesday 23/8/17 “Free Day” – Gunnedah or Tamworth -
- Thursday 24/8/17 Gunnedah to Port Macquarie (Via Nabiac) 413k
- Friday 25/8/17 Port Macquarie to Dorrigo (Via Armidale) 374k
- Saturday 26/8/17 Dorrigo to Gold Coast (Via Kyogle) 375k



For full details on the tour and accommodation contact:

Rod Moorcroft

Mobile: 0411 127 017

Work: 0448 727 427

Email: rgmoorcroft@bigpond.com

Calendar - February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wed 1	Thursday 2	Friday 3	Saturday 4
				9am Club Ride		Bazza's Breakfast
Sunday 5	Monday 6	Tuesday 7	Wed 8	Thursday 9	Friday 10	Saturday 11
	9am - Club Ride Oxenford @ Luv-A Coffee			9am Club Ride		8am - Club House Ride
Sunday 12	Monday 13	Tuesday 14	Wed 15	Thursday 16	Friday 17	Saturday 18
	9am - Club Ride Oxenford @ Luv-A Coffee			9am Club Ride		8am - Club House Ride
Sunday 19	Monday 20	Tuesday 21	Wed 22	Thursday 23	Friday 24	Saturday 25
	9am - Club Ride Oxenford @ Luv-A Coffee		6pm Committee meeting 7pm General meeting	9am Club Ride		8am - Club House Ride
Sunday 26	Monday 27	Tuesday 28	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
7am Adventure Ride 8am Chasing Charlies Cure	9am - Club Ride Oxenford @ Luv-A Coffee					

For up to date information on all events log on to www.mecgc.club

MECGC Annual Ride Calendar - <http://mecgc.club/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/2016-MECGC-Ride-Calendar-U>



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THE MOTORCYCLE ENTHUSIASTS CLUB INC.
GOLD COAST

'Joining good companions in a shared pastime'

The Motorcycle Enthusiasts Club has been around for over 30 years. As the name suggests, we are enthusiasts of all forms of motorcycles. In particular, our interest is in classic bikes. Our Club also includes modern bikes, sidecars and trikes. We cater to all ages and forms of motorcycle riding. There is a monthly meeting held on the last Wednesday of each month at our Club rooms:

Heritage Centre, 238 Mudgeeraba Road, Mudgeeraba.

(Entrance to Heritage Village is opposite Milky Way)

Come along and enjoy a cup of tea, coffee or a beer and have a chat with our many experienced riders before the meeting commences at 8.00pm.

We also have guest speakers each month, when available, and these talks are always very interesting and informative.

Enjoy weekly, monthly, weekend and week-long Club runs, as well as other casual rides organised to similar rallies and motorcycle events held by other clubs.

The Link, our Club magazine, is emailed to you monthly. The magazine has information on our Club runs and activities and rallies held by other clubs. There are event and ride reports, photos and articles contributed by our club members.

Articles, photos, items for sale etc. can be emailed to editor@mecgc.club or posted to MECGC Attn: G Calder, Editor, P.O. Box 451, Mudgeeraba, 4213.

Articles need to be received by the 25th of each month for publication in the next month.

WWW.MECGC.CLUB.

*P.O. Box 451
Mudgeeraba QLD 4213*

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