



THE LINK

OCT/NOV 2022

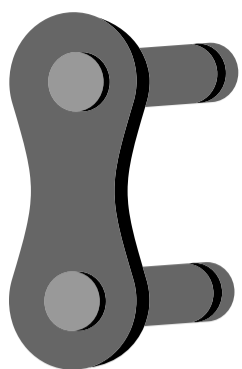
EDITOR

Annya Summers

'JOINING GOOD COMPANIONS IN A SHARED PASTTIME.'

The Official Journal of THE MOTORCYCLE ENTHUSIASTS CLUB INC., GOLD COAST

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www.mecgc.club**



THE MASTER LINK

BAZZ'S BANTER

Hello fellow enthusiasts,
Welcome to the new 'Link'!

Rhonda handed the reins over to Annya after years of good work from her and Wayne! With Annya's resources and expertise the Link has refreshed along with the club's logo and apparel. The one thing that hasn't had to change is the enthusiasm for all things Motorcycle from our members. Our new club banner is looking great too! This has all come to coincide with the Enthusiasts club turning 45 and our Patron (& longest serving/oldest financial member) Don Kibble turning 90. He has been a valuable member from the club's beginnings.

Our Monday (Wayne's Ride), Thursday & Saturday rides have been increasing in numbers, with up to two dozen motorcycles of all makes turning up as the weather has become slightly kinder.

Garage 25 Bikes n Banter has also increased in popularity with motorcycle businesses showing more interest each time the event is run. See Rods article for more info.

And yes Christmas is just round the corner and this year we are holding the Christmas Dinner at the Fox and Hounds on Saturday 12th November. Six years ago we had Christmas Dinner there and I am sure it will be as popular this year too. Details will be posted soon.

Well enough rambling from me. I hope you will enjoy this new edition of The Link. And remember you are all welcome to submit articles and pics of (almost) all things Motorcycle in the next edition of the Link.

Ride safe,
Bazz.



Top: Bazz and Don in front of the new club banner.

Above: Don and club members standing in front of the new club banner.

Left: Don and Jennifer celebrating Don's 90th at the clubhouse.

**'WE RIDE NOT TO ESCAPE LIFE,
BUT FOR LIFE NOT TO ESCAPE US!'**



A NEW CHAPTER



Hi everyone.

You may have noticed a new look and feel for 'The Link'. After recently becoming a fully paid MECGC member, I thought I'd look for another way to help out the club. With a background in comms, Bazz and Rhonda were more than happy to hand over the role of Editor.

Thank you Rhonda for the fantastic handover and everything you've done to keep the newsletter going.

Members, this is your magazine, so please let me know what you'd like to see, and of course your contributions are essential!

As I'm still getting to know you all, I thought I'd included a little about me below.

Looking forward to getting out on some rides!

Cheers

Annya

'I'm a fairly new rider - only 3 years. But boy did I get hooked! So much so that I quickly became a BloodBikes Australia volunteer and just 15 months ago, I founded TribalMoto.'

With a passion for design and motorbikes, my initial focus was on providing local female riders with casual motorbike related tees that tell their story. It wasn't long before the online store increased reach, with clothing now sold nationally. I create my designs based on input and ideas from fellow riders and now provide garments for MECGC members.

Beyond the TribalMoto side-hustle, I work full time in communications, I am a BloodBikes Australia volunteer, a mother, a partner and last but not least, a passionate rider of motorbikes. In what spare time I have, you'll find me riding in our amazing hinterland and surrounds.

Favourite place to ride

In April this year, I rode from Melbourne to the Gold Coast. What an adventure, filled with amazing new roads and scenery.

I've been on a few overnighters too, which have included amazing rides and a chance to get to you my fellow riders. Lots of fun.

But I love the riding just outside my back door the most: Numinbah Valley, Beechmont, Uki, Tweed Valley. These rides have the 'take your breath away' moments as you pass mountains and valleys. You could be mistaken for thinking you were in Jurrassic Park.

Bucket list ride

I'd love to ride through Scotland. We have family there and its a perfect opportunity. The scenery there is just amazing and who wouldn't want to surround themselves with Scottish Coos?

Riding style and with whom

My daughter Hannah is the reason I'm riding. Keen at an early age, as soon as we were able we booked to do our learners together. Our rides are relaxed, full of laughs as we chat through our Sena20's and they always ends in brunch somewhere nice. I'm grateful for this time with her.

As a learner, every weekend in those first 3 months I would head into the beautiful windy roads of the Gold Coast hinterland on my Triumph Street Triple 660 with my partner Andrew. This is my main reason for the love for twisties.

Riding with my ECFR tribe is always full of laughs, love and inspiration. Usually a more relaxed ride depending on the group experience. It's so empowering riding with other women and listening to their stories. I now have my unrestricted licence and bought my second bike a Triumph Speedmaster 1200, which I love taking on these rides.

I am part of a small group of lovely ladies who like to ride in a little more of a 'spirited' fashion. Riding within my limits, but pushing past that 80% comfort zone gives me a chance to really hone my skills. Next step... the track!!!

BloodBikes Australia rides always give me a sense of pride. I'm generally riding alone and carrying very- important cargo. Of course, we must abide my the same road rules as everyone else, but some of these rides require fairly immediate delivery, so I'll lane filter if I can to make good time.

Involvement in the world of motorcycles

It all started when I became an East Coast Female Riders member in January 2021. I remember my first group ride with ECFR Gold Coast like it was yesterday. Like everyone, I was nervous. Not only as a new rider, but meeting new people can be hard!

It was the best decision, that changed my life!

The ladies I met on day one, and every ride since, have been amazing. I've made new friendships, eaten, drank, laughed, danced and cried—oh and ridden of course! The support is priceless – whether bike related, emotionally or spiritually.

I've learnt so much about riding and the bikes, about myself and about the importance of having a tribe.

Enter TribalMoto!!!! Riding with the amazing members of ECFR Gold Coast was my inspiration for creating this new small business in July 2021. I wanted to help empower women, by providing casual clothing they would feel great in, and that told your story both on and off the bike.

There is a little piece of every member I've met in my designs. From classic and classy, to sassy and sexy. The support I've received from members has been fantastic. Not just in purchases, but ideas for new designs or garment styles. Many you see are ideas that have come to life.

For anyone considering joining a ride, don't wait. Put on your big girl pants and go and say hi. Like me, you won't regret it! I am so grateful for my ECFR tribe.

While I was still on my restricted licence, I was diagnosed with a rare autoimmune disorder. Having monthly transfusions for life, my first thought was around how I could 'give back.' At that very time, BloodBikes Australia had launched. I jumped at the change to become a volunteer, and try to do a run for each transfusion I have.

What do i love about being involved in the above

As a lady rider, being part of BloodBikes is extremely rewarding and empowering. Plus you get to ride to interesting places like the movie set of the Elvis movie to collect Covid samples, to delivering precious cargo such as biopsies to health providers and products to patients who can't travel. Being able to pay it forward is the best feeling. I would encourage everyone to consider being a volunteer.

THE MOTORCYCLE ENTHUSIASTS CLUB INC. GOLD COAST

'JOINING GOOD COMPANIONS IN A SHARED PASTIME'

WHO ARE WE?

The Motorcycle Enthusiasts Club has been around for 30+ years. As the name suggests, we are enthusiasts of all forms of motorcycles, including classic, modern, sidecars and trikes. We cater to all ages and styles.

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

WHERE ARE WE?

Heritage Centre, 238 Mudgeeraba Road, Mudgeeraba. Entrance to Heritage Village is opposite Milky Way.

WHAT'S THE LINK?

The Link is our Club magazine, emailed bi-monthly and includes information on Club runs, activities and rallies held by other clubs, club events, ride reports, photos, videos and articles contributed by our club members.

HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE?

Email articles, photos, items for sale to editor@mecgc.club by the 25th of the preceding month.

MEMBERSHIP PAYMENTS

MECGC Club
Bank of Queensland
BSB: 124 387
Account Number: 2247 6848

CLUB GARMENTS AND MERCH

TribalMoto provide great quality and price on all MECGC garments and decals.

Access the collection using member code MECGC.
<https://tribalmoto.com.au/collections/mecgc>



Caps, decals, snoods, and men's/women's tops available.



To access the collection, use member code **MECGC**.
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EVENTS

COME AND JOIN US AT ONE OF THE EVENTS BELOW!

BIKERS BREAKFAST

The First Saturday every month. Open at 7am. Please bring your SIV rego bikes, you can share a BBQ breakfast with us at the clubhouse then head out for a ride. Leave at 9am.

WEEKLY RIDES

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

- Monday: Wayne's ride. Meet at Tahbella Cafe, 3 Cottonwood Place, Oxenford at 8am to leave 8.30am.
- Thursday ride meeting at our clubhouse 8.30am leave at 9am.
- Saturday morning ride meeting at clubhouse 7.30am for a cuppa, stands up at 8.00am.
- Last Saturday is a long ride.
- Club Rooms open every Saturday from 7am rain or shine for coffee before we head out.

ADVENTURE RIDE

Join us for the Adventure Ride (ARM). Visit the MECGC Website for more details.

CLUB COMMITTEE MEETING

Third Wednesday of each month.

All members of the club are welcome to attend the committee Meeting. Club General Meeting— are no longer held each month. There will be meetings called from time to time. Next one is August for the annual AGM.

MOVIE NIGHT

2nd Wednesday of each month.

Open from 6.30pm. Movie starts at 7pm.

For more information, contact Mark 0438 000 3224

FOR A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF ACTIVITIES
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MECGC SALE

20% OFF EVERYTHING

Until 31 October '22

At checkout, use code MECGC20
Minimum spend \$45 (free delivery).



CAFFINE, BANTER AND BIKES

Saturday 29th October

'Garage 25'

1 Boatworks Dv, Coomera

7.00am to 11.00am



Well guys and gals, it's happening again on Saturday 29th October at 'Garage 25' from 7.00am to 11.00am. Caffeine, Banter and Bikes is a motorcycle meet founded by our club early this year, and this will be the 4th meet held in conjunction with Espresso Twenty5. This is a great opportunity to meet other bikers and motorcycle clubs, and get our club's name out in the wider biker community.

This month we will be setting up an area to highlight our club with a tent and new banner, so the more members we have show up with their bikes, the more impressive it will look for our club.

It would also be great if members could (if possible) wear club name badges & shirts.

In partnership with Espresso Twenty5, we have also added a charity aspect to this day asking people to bring along food donations for an organisation called "Helping the Homeless". They are asking for food to create Christmas hampers for the homeless they assist. At the last meet we had in August, myself and John McNair from the Honda 750 Four club met up with Sandy Sneddon from Helping the Homeless, and we discussed how we may be able to assist. She had some very sad cases of women in their 70's who are now living on the streets. See the flyer for details of foods required.

A collection bin will be placed near the cafe on the day.



**We really need
that new banner**

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CAFFINE, BANTER AND BIKES



All bikes & clubs welcome!

We welcome you to bring your machine down and join the display and banter with like-minded people and their bikes.

Don't forget, cars are also most welcome to join the party.

We will be kicking off at 7.00am going through to 11.00am, however you are welcome to come & go as you please.

The bacon & egg rolls will be rolling out as of 7.00am, along with your morning hit of caffeine by the friendly staff of Espresso Twenty5.

<https://www.facebook.com/esptwenty5/>

For more information, contact Rod Moorcroft.
Mobile: 0411 127 017
Email: rgmoorcroft@bigpond.com



Helping the Homeless

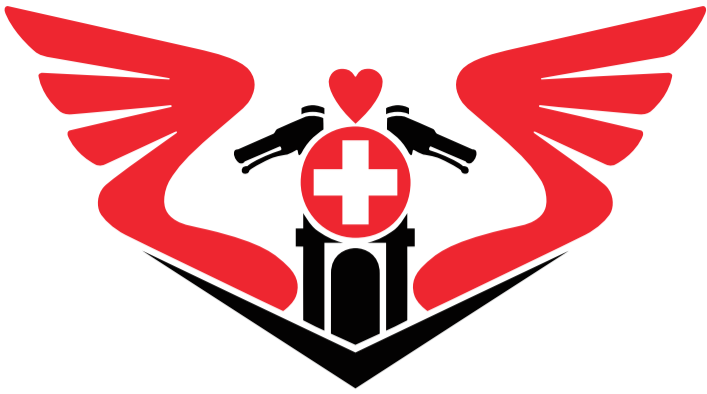
"Helping the Homeless" is an organisation that assists with the clothing and feeding of the homeless around the Gold Coast. With Christmas just around the corner, they are looking for support to put food hampers together to help the homeless get through the Christmas break. "Caffeine, Banter & Bikes" would like to support this cause, and would appreciate any food donations on the day. See list below for the type of items required:

- Small ring pull cans of food.
- Spaghetti
- Canned or dried fruit
- Muesli / health bars
- Lollies
- Drinks
- Baked Beans
- Tuna
- Small long life milk
- Chips
- Noodles / soup in a cup
- Biscuits

Any assistance would be greatly appreciated!

This month's guest Dealership: **Ultimate MOTORBIKES**





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LIFE OF A BLOOD BIKER

EVERY DAY, HUNDREDS OF MOTORBIKE RIDERS TAKE TO THE ROADS, PICKING UP AND DELIVERING BLOOD AND OTHER ESSENTIAL ITEMS TO AND FROM HOSPITALS, HEALTH PROVIDERS AND HOMES.

Founded by Peter Davis in October 2019 and inspired by BloodBikes UK and Ireland, [BloodBikes Australia](#) (BBA) has taken off and now boasts more than 479 volunteers nation-wide, who deliver urgent products to an ever-growing number of healthcare providers.

Since commencing operations 3 years ago, BBA volunteers have made 3800 runs, for 49 healthcare providers nationally, including those in the Brisbane and Gold Coast areas.

BBA delivers not only blood, but COVID-19, clinical trial program tests, samples for initiatives like the Cell Bank Initiative, cornea for transplant, medical consumables to patients, and paperwork.

BloodBikes Australia is independent and not-for-profit, providing a last resort service at no charge.

One of us is already a volunteer!

Annya is one of a few female volunteers here in Aus.

'I take on runs when I can, in my own time and at my own cost. It's my way of paying it forward, and I get to ride too. Winning!' said Annya.

'I've delivered on my trusty Triumph Street Triple and on my Triumph Speedmaster 1200. It doesn't matter what you ride or whether you do a weekly or monthly run. Just do what we can,' said Annya.

'We are certified to transport blood and are called on only when all regular services are unavailable, to deliver products from one location to another.'

Deliveries can be varied. I've rubbed shoulders with the famous, picking up covid-19 swabs from the Elvis set at Movie World and delivering infusion products to those who are immuno-compromised and infuse at home. It's so varied and people are always so thankful, even offering to shoud a cuppa and a chat!

'I have to say there is no better feeling than having helped someone at such a critical time in their life.'

I encourage anyone who rides, to consider becoming a BloodBikes Australia volunteer,' said Annya.

How do I become a volunteer?

If you're a keen, experienced motorcyclist, contact the Gold Coast Co-ordinator, John Eacott via email at bloodbikes.goldcoast@gmail.com.

Check out the [BloodBikes Australia](#) website.

You can also follow Bloodbikes Australia on [Facebook](#).



Annya doing a double run in late September.

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MOTORCYCLE LICENCE TRAINING EASTERN SEABOARD

THERE IS A SAYING "YOU CAN'T GAIN ALTITUDE WITHOUT THE CORRECT ATTITUDE".

WHILST THIS HAS ITS ORIGINS IN AERONAUTICS IT'S ALSO BEEN USED IN LARGE COMPANIES AS A PATH FOR PROMOTION. SO, WHEN IT'S USED IN QLD MOTORCYCLE LICENCING THERE'S AN IMMEDIATE MISUNDERSTANDING THAT IT MEANS COMPLIANCE.

- In Vic they consider if good observation, speed management and road positioning can reduce riding risk, then what might contribute to poor observation, speed management and road positioning.
- In Qld they use the same considerations as Vic, but discuss it under the title of ATTITUDE.
- In NSW consideration is given to the possible outcomes of two THINKING STYLES which are described as "externalising" and "internalising".

There are generally 2 ways of thinking about an incident that has happened to us, or someone else.

The first way of thinking is called Externalising. This way of thinking says things like: "I had a crash but it wasn't my fault".

Externalising is:

- learned from childhood
- a human self-defence characteristic
- not useful as it does not offer any learning opportunities.

Generally, riders externalise because

- it's easier
- protects our self esteem
- is what we are used to doing.

The second way of thinking is called Internalising.

This way of thinking says things like: "There was probably something I could have done differently to change the outcome". (It is not saying "It was my fault", rather a thought process that tries to come up with solutions to problems).

Internalising is:

- necessary for avoiding crashes in the future
- not admitting blame or liability
- taking some responsibility for events

Generally, riders don't internalise because

- it requires effort
- we don't like to admit our mistakes
- we're not used to doing it.

The externalising rider makes excuses like, 'there was nothing I could do!'

The internalising rider thinks, 'there was probably something I could do - I've just got to do it first.'



MOTORCYCLE LICENCE TRAINING

EASTERN SEABOARD CONT.

DEVELOPING INTERNALISING BEHAVIOURS

One strategy that can help to develop internalising thinking styles is to use a commentary ride.

An effective commentary style is to say:

- I can see.
- It might.
- I will.

Whilst the content varies slightly between jurisdictions the context is the same in that they all reinforce choices that result in low-risk riding decisions. Both Qld & Vic are more recent to the adoption of government owned curricula and it is not an exaggeration to say the adoption hasn't been smooth sailing. To be fair on all parties both the government and industry were confronted with enormous change and as the saying goes "wherever there is change there is conflict".

So, the question is, why did they in Qld decide to drop the Consistent

Assessment Process (CAP) in late 2016 even though it encompassed elements of defensive riding principles? Prior to 2016 each Registered Service Provider (RSP) developed their own version of riding strategies and tactics. Now whilst each was approved by Transport and Main Roads (TMR) and vigorously defended by the authors as "better than everybody else" the variations were never explained objectively.

Accordingly, TMR chose to adopt controlled curricula designed by motorcycling experts and educational professionals in an attempt to achieve the objective of developing low-risk riders. Not only would riders be able to recognise and control their own actions to maximise their safety but also to observe and predict the actions of others in order to avoid harm.

It's the second objective that causes the most angst among riders. This is because it is misunderstood and wrongly interpreted as each and every crash can be avoided. That's just fantasy land because there can be circumstances that just can not be avoided. Consider a truck crashing through the wire rope barriers on the M1 and add to that all vision of the opposite traffic blocked by vegetation in the median strip.

I had a client who was taken out by a car changing lanes and the Police report had the car driver 100% at fault. So, I told them that was great for insurance purposes then asked them to describe what happened. They said they had observed the vehicle in the distance chopping and changing lanes multiple times and not always indicating and when they proceeded to pass the car it suddenly swerved into their path. My question to them was "What made you think their behaviour would change when you were passing"? The question was met with "deafening silence".

Just remember that no matter how skilled you become at predicting what is about to unfold you are NOT clairvoyant and always being on your guard is NOT demonising the rider.

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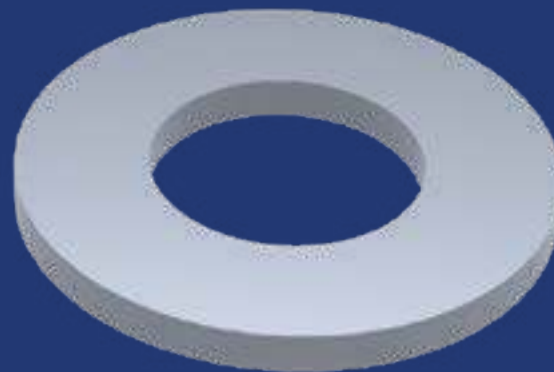
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POEM PITSTOP

ODE TO A WASHER



"Oops!" I said, or something like that, with a mournful strangled gasp.
 It fell into the engine, despite my desperate grasp.
 It seems that patience and dexterity, are two things I don't possess,
 Though from the size of the hammer that I wield, it might be hard to guess.
 Now I'm sitting here quite angry, and also a bit bemused,
 It burrows deep into the engine, just to keep itself amused.
 I poke and I prod and rattle and shake, to discover its location,
 I should have employed a mechanic, who'd surpass me in this vocation.
 I flush the engine with kerosene and some other useful stuff,
 But none avail me of the washer, and it seems I'll do it tough.
 I turn the engine upside down. Now do I hear a rattle?
 It's the washer, he's just having a laugh, a chuckle and a cackle.
 I'm sure that he is hiding and is deliberate in his actions.
 Any patience that I do possess, is now falling away in fractions.
 I decide I'll get more clever, and engage some means scientific,
 And search deep within in my toolbox, for something more specific.
 Surely I've found the right thing now, a magnet on a flexible rod,
 With which to locate that bastard washer, as I jiggle, poke and prod.
 The hours pass and patience gone, and I scream in desperation,
 Do I persist or do I just give up, or take a very brief vacation?

Which would involve consumption of alcohol, to quell my shattered nerves,
 And maybe recharge my batteries and give me something in reserve.
 My renewed efforts are just fruitless, and I am such a stupid arse,
 As I realise the washer isn't made of steel, but rather made of brass.
 I fling the magnet at the garage door, where it sticks. It doesn't fall.
 When I see my neighbour on her mobile phone, and she's making a
 desperate call.
 I can see the fear and the panic, which is written all over her face,
 And it seems to be, that just once more, I have fallen from her grace.
 Two men arrive in a large white van, and roughly drag me out.
 It seems there's no negotiation, no matter how loud I shout.
 Will I be locked in an asylum, from the sanity that I lack,
 And wear a canvas sports coat, that buckles at the back?
 But I'm sure in time I'll be released, and whilst I'm running free,
 I'll renew the battle with that brassy fiend. He'll never get the better of me!

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EMAIL: EDITOR@MECGC.CLUB

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