

# M.R.A.

Motorcycle Riders' Association

M.R.A. Promotions  
184 Brunswick Street,  
Fitzroy, 3065  
(03) 417 2718

2 nd. NATIONAL CONFERENCE.

VICTORIAN PROPOSALS RE M.R.A. AUSTRALIA.

CONTENTS.

PAGE NOS.

SUBJECT

1.	Agenda
2. to 8.	The original Constitution in 2 forms
9. to 15.	Notes from the 1 st. National Conference.
16.	M.R.A. Vic. to all Committees. 26 / 2 / '82.
17. to 18.	INTRODUCTION.
19. to 21.	5 years experience.
22.	The moto. The image.
23. to 24.	Other Branches.
25. to 30.	Proposals for an M.R.A. National Body.
31. to 32.	Finances : 3 Proposals.
33. to 41.	Proposed M.R.A. National Constitution.
42. to 43.	M.R.A. Vic. Tres. Report. July to Dec. '82.
44. to 45.	M.R.A. Promotions.
46. to 51.	M.R.A. Vic. Internal Directives.

FIGURES.

**Let those who ride decide.**

VICTORIA QUEENSLAND SOUTH AUSTRALIA TASMANIA NEW SOUTH WALES WEST AUSTRALIA



MOTORCYCLE RIDERS ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 84, Collins St.,  
Vic. 3000

2 nd. NATIONAL CONFERENCE AGENDA  
PREPARED BY M.R.A. A.C.T. BRANCH.  
JANUARY 29, 30 & 31 st. 1983.

INTRODUCTION : CHAIR, DELEGATES, OBSERVERS.

PROCEDURE & CONDUCT OF MEETING.

VOTING : METHODS AND MAJORITIES. ✓ S ~ 2

M.R.A. AUSTRALIA : M.R.A. STATE BRANCHES. ✓

1. NEED. ✓
2. FORMAT. ✓
3. CONSTITUTION. ✓
4. EXECUTIVE. ✓
5. MEMBERSHIP. ✓
6. FUNDING ✓
7. COMMUNICATION. ✓
8. M.R.A. INCORPORATION. ✓
9. M.R.A. HOUSE. ✓
10. M.R.A. LOGO (S) & COLOURS ✓
11. M.R.A. PROMOTIONS PTY. LTD. ✓
12. M.R.A. INSURANCE. ✓
13. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT CONFERENCE. ✓

CLOSURE.

IF TIME PERMITS, GENERAL BUSINESS COULD BE INTRODUCED BEFORE THE CLOSURE. SHOULD A MAJOR ISSUE HAVE BEEN OMITTED FROM THIS AGENDA, PLEASE CIRCULATE NOW !!

PAGE 1.

CONFERENCE  
DATE 25-26 JUNE 83.  
AT MRA HOUSE  
MELBOURNE

**let those who ride decide.**

## CONSTITUTION.

- NAME.
- (a) The name of the association shall be the Motorcycle Riders Association, herein referred to as the M.R.A.
  - (b) The official colors and logo of the M.R.A. shall be made uniform as to comply with the standards and specifications set by the M.R.A. Victorian Head Office.

DEFINITION.

For the purpose of this constitution the Motorcycle Riders Association shall hereinafter be referred to as the M.R.A.

Office Bearers.... means the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The Committee.... means the elected Committee.

The Secretary.... means the Secretary of the M.R.A.

The Treasurer.... means the Treasurer of the M.R.A.

Membership.... means the Membership of the M.R.A.

Words importing the masculine gender only include the feminine gender also.

OBJECTIVE.

The objectives of the M.R.A. shall be:-

- (a) To provide and promote a link between motorcyclists, the Government, it's instrumentalities, the general public and such body or bodies deemed necessary to serve the best interests of the M.R.A.
- (b) To support and promote other motorcycling bodies for the betterment of motorcycling.
- (c) To promote improved road safety facilities and conditions mainly through road user education, driver awareness and reasonable and practical legislation to protect motorcyclists safety on the road and their rights as first class citizens.
- (d) To promote and improve the public image of motorcyclists.
- (e) To participate in charitable and community services and activities.

- MEMBERSHIP.
- (a) Any person over the age of 17 years and 9 months who has an interest in the aims of the M.R.A. is eligible for membership. There is no requirement for such a person to own a motorcycle. Persons under the abovementioned age are referred to in Clause 23.
  - (b) No member shall use the name of the M.R.A. or any names or titles registered by law to the M.R.A. for the purpose of personal profit or advancement or for the profit of some other company or organization without written permission of the M.R.A. Permission is only to be granted subject to the majority vote of the Committee.
  - (c) Any member who in the opinion of the Committee has, or is acting in a manner detrimental to the M.R.A. shall be expelled from membership of the M.R.A. Such action is to be decided upon by a majority vote of the Committee. The membership fee is to be forfeited to the M.R.A. All ~~membership~~ badges are to be surrendered to the M.R.A.
  - (d) M.R.A. ~~membership~~ badges, although sold to members, shall remain the property of the M.R.A. and shall be returned when a member retires from the M.R.A.

- SUBSCRIPTION.
- (a) All monies collected from memberships, sale of M.R.A. materials, donations etc. will be paid into the account of the main state branch. This money will be used to finance the activities of the M.R.A. main branch and regional sub-branches in that particular state.
  - (b) The main state branch in each state is responsible for providing funds for the functioning of the regional sub-branches in that state.

- (d) Treasurer.
- (e) Committee. This Committee shall comprise of representatives of metropolitan members and one representative from each regional sub-branch. The immediate past President shall be ex-officio member of this Committee with the right of participating fully in the proceedings of meetings of the Committee. ~~EXCEPT FOR ANY PRESIDENT WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN EXPELLED FROM THE COMMITTEE.~~

SECRETARY.

The secretary shall, subject to the provision of this constitution, convene all meetings and M.R.A. conferences, and take proper minutes of the proceedings thereat and shall circulate a copy thereof to the regional sub-branches, the main state branches and the office bearers. The secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the M.R.A. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. He shall maintain contact with the bodies with which the M.R.A. is affiliated and shall inform the M.R.A. of all matters relating to such bodies.

TREASURER.

The treasurer shall keep account of the funds and the properties of the M.R.A. and all receipts and payments on account of the M.R.A. He shall in each year, prepare a balance sheet and statement of accounts, and shall submit the same, duly audited, to the annual general meeting in each year. He shall attend all meetings at which matters of finances are to be discussed.

AUDITOR.

The auditor for the M.R.A. shall be elected at each annual general meeting.

SECTION OF  
OFFICE BEARERS  
OF THE COMMITTEE.

- (a) The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and members of the Committee, except the immediate past President, shall be elected at each annual general meeting.
- (b) Nominations for the Committee shall be made in writing to the Secretary 30 days prior to the annual general meeting.
- (c) Persons nominating and being nominated for the position of Committeeman must be a financial member of the M.R.A.
- (d) Voting for Committeeman shall be done by secret ballot by the members present at the annual general meeting.
- (e) Officers of the M.R.A. shall be elected for a twelve month period at the annual general meeting, which will be held in May of each year, and shall be convened in writing with at least fourteen (14) days notice given to every member.
- (f) Any member absenteeing himself from three consecutive committee meetings without reasonable excuse shall forfeit his seat on the committee.

MANAGEMENT OF THE  
AFFAIRS OF THE  
M.R.A.

The government of the M.R.A. rests in the members in the general meeting. Subject thereto, the management of its affairs shall be vested in the Committee.

POWERS OF THE  
COMMITTEE.

The Committee may exercise all such powers of the M.R.A. as are not by these rules required to be exercised by the members in general meeting, and without derogation from the generality of the foregoing, shall have the following specific powers in addition to such others as are specified elsewhere in these rules:-

- (a) To adopt such measures as from time to time it appears proper for the purposes of giving effect to the purposes, aims or objects of the M.R.A.

- (b) To consider, and where necessary, authorise expenditure and payment of accounts properly incurred by the M.R.A.
- (c) To compromise, settle and resolve claims and demands made on the M.R.A.
- (d) To make, alter, vary or rescind such constitution rules as may be required for the purpose of carrying out these rules and for regulating the conduct and proceedings of meetings of the Committee and of the M.R.A. These changes shall not however be binding unless confirmed by the next general meeting or extraordinary general meeting called for that purpose.
- (e) To have the power to fill a casual vacancy occurring on the Committee during its year of office.
- (f) To have power to create and dissolve sub-committees and power to co-opt members in such sub-committees.

#### MEETINGS.

- (a) The annual general meeting shall be held in May of each year.
- (b) In all meetings the President shall preside; should the President be absent the chair shall be taken by the Vice President, and in the absence of the President and the Vice President the chairman shall be elected from those present.
- (c) General meetings and Committee meetings shall be called at any time by the Secretary, upon authority of the President.
- (d) An extraordinary general meeting shall be called by the Secretary upon the requisition made in writing and signed by not less than 15 members of the M.R.A.
- (e) A Committee meeting shall be called by the Secretary upon the requisition made in writing and signed by not less than 3 members of the Committee.
- (f) The Secretary shall within seven (7) days from a receipt of a requisition call a meeting in accordance therewith, for a date not more than twenty-one (21) days after the receipt of such requisition.
- (g) The Secretary shall give twenty-one (21) days notice in respect of annual general meetings and extraordinary general meetings. Where special emergency circumstances exist the foregoing length of notice may be dispensed with by the President.
- (h) All notices of meetings, or other business in connection with the M.R.A., shall be deemed to be duly sent to the members by the Secretary, posting same by prepaid letter to the members at their last known address.

#### QUORUM.

- (a) A quorum for an annual general meeting, general meeting, and extraordinary general meeting shall be fifty (50).
- (b) For a Committee meeting the quorum shall be seven (7).
- (c) If within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present the meeting, if convened upon the requisition of members, shall be dissolved, in any other case it shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting the members present shall be a quorum.

#### VOTING.

- (a) On a show of hands every member represented in person and entitled to vote shall have one vote.
- (b) Any member has the right to demand a secret ballot of any vote taken at a general meeting.
- (c) At all meetings the chairman shall have a casting vote.
- (d) A member unable to be present and entitled to vote on any matter on the agenda may communicate his vote in writing, such vote to be in the Secretary's hands prior to the starting time of the meeting.
- (e) A member shall appoint another member to act as his proxy

- (b) All accounts shall be presented and passed for payment at a Committee meeting and the minutes in relation thereto shall be included in the minute book.
- (c) The funds of the M.R.A. shall be banked in the name of the M.R.A. in a bank decided upon by the Committee.
- (d) Signatories of the M.R.A. cheques shall be any two (2) of the following:-
- (1) President
  - (2) Vice President
  - (3) Treasurer
  - (4) Secretary
  - (5) Membership Secretary.
- (e) The income and property of the M.R.A. wheresoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the M.R.A. and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the members of the M.R.A. provided that nothing herein shall prevent payment in good faith of remuneration to any officer, MEMBER OR servant of the M.R.A. in reimbursement of monies incurred in good faith and in the interests of the M.R.A.,  
duly authorised by the  
Committee . . . of the M.R.A., in return for services actually rendered to the M.R.A. or reasonable and proper rent for premises let by any member of the M.R.A.

OPERATIONS TO  
INSTITUTION.

Notice of motion of proposed change of constitution may be given at any general meeting. The proposed change shall be voted on at the next general meeting, and shall become effective after a two-thirds majority vote of those members present at such meeting.

**SOLUTION.**

In the event of the M.R.A. being dissolved, the assets and properties after payment of all just debts and liabilities shall not be distributed to members but shall be distributed to a fund or funds with similar objects and/or to a fund or funds exclusively for charitable purposes.

- (a) On the discretion of the Committee a regional sub-branch can be established if the occasion warrants such action.
- (b) The Committee, by a majority vote, shall appoint two (2) regional representatives whose task will be to organise a register for the local members, and to select a team of helpers to be known as assistant representatives.
- (c) The regional sub-branch shall collect all fees and monies from sale of M.R.A. material and forward such monies as collected to the main state branch of the M.R.A.
- (d) Finance for the operation of the regional sub-branch shall be provided by the main state branch.

FORMATION OF  
INTERSTATE  
BRANCHES.

- (a) The Committee of the founder branch (Victoria) shall by majority vote authorise individuals from interstate capital cities, who have shown an interest, to form a main state branch of the M.R.A. The duties of these individuals shall be similar to the Victorian Committee.
- (b) When the interstate branch has a membership of thirty (30) members, a general meeting will be organised to elect an interim committee for that state main branch.
- (c) The duties of the interim committee shall be the same as the Victorian Committee.
- (d) A copy of the constitution shall be sent to a main state branch as soon as the branch is established.
- (e) When the branch is established, or before the passing of twelve (12) months, the interim committee will arrange an election of a committee in accordance with this constitution.
- (f) When an interstate regional sub-branch is in operation, and there is no main branch in that state, the regional sub-branch will operate directly under the orders of the Victorian main branch until such time as a state main branch is established.

COLLAPSE OF  
STATE BRANCH  
AND /OR REGIONAL  
SUB-BRANCHES.

- (a) If a state branch is dissolved all assets and properties, after payment of all just debts and liabilities, shall be distributed to the regional sub-branches of that state. If there are no such regional sub-branches then all assets and properties shall be distributed to the Victorian state branch.
- (b) If a state regional sub-branch is dissolved all assets and properties, after all just debts and liabilities have been paid, shall be distributed to that state main branch.

JUNIOR M.R.A.

The junior M.R.A. is governed by the M.R.A. Committee and run under the same guidelines in this constitution.

- (a) Any person under the age of 17 years and 9 months is eligible for membership in the junior M.R.A.
- (b) The junior M.R.A. has the same objects as the M.R.A.
- (c) When a member of the junior M.R.A. reaches the age of 17 years and 9 months he will be transferred to the senior M.R.A. automatically.

Membership in the M.R.A. is open to individuals only. Groups or companies and their employees and not eligible to blanket membership.

Any Committee member may resign his position at any time by writing to the Secretary at least fourteen (14) days prior to relinquishing his position.

# MOTORCYCLE RIDERS ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION

## 1. NAME

- (a) The name of the association shall be the **Motorcycle Riders Association**, herein referred to as the M.R.A.
- (b) The official colors and logo of the M.R.A. shall be made uniform as to comply with the standards and specifications set by the M.R.A. Victorian head Office.

## 2. For the purpose of this constitution the **Motorcycle Riders Association** shall hereinafter be referred to as the M.R.A.

**Office Bearers** means the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

**The Committee** means the elected Committee.

**The Secretary** means the Secretary of the M.R.A.

**The Treasurer** means the Treasurer of the M.R.A.

**Membership** means the Membership of the M.R.A.

Words importing the masculine gender only include the feminine gender also.

## 3. OBJECTIVE

The objectives of the M.R.A. shall be:—

- (a) To provide and promote a link between motorcyclists, the Government, its instrumentalities, the general public and such body or bodies deemed necessary to serve the best interests of the M.R.A.
- (b) To support and promote other motorcycling bodies for the betterment of motorcycling.
- (c) To promote improved road safety facilities and conditions, mainly through road user education, driver awareness and reasonable and practical legislation to protect motorcyclists' safety on the road and their rights as first class citizens.
- (d) To promote and improve the public image of motorcyclists.
- (e) To participate in charitable and community services and activities.

## 4. MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Any person over the age of 17 years and 9 months who has an interest in the aims of the M.R.A. is eligible for membership. There is no requirement for such a person to own a motorcycle. Persons under the abovementioned age are referred to in Clause 23.
- (b) No member shall use the name of the M.R.A. or any names or titles registered by law to the M.R.A. for the purpose of personal profit or advancement or for the profit of some other company or organization without written permission of the M.R.A. Permission is only to be granted subject to the majority vote of the Committee.
- (c) Any member who, in the opinion of the Committee, has, or is, acting in a manner detrimental to the M.R.A. shall be expelled from membership of the M.R.A. Such action is to be decided upon by a majority vote of the Committee. The membership fee is to be forfeited to the M.R.A. All membership badges are to be surrendered to the M.R.A.
- (d) M.R.A. membership badges, although sold to members, shall remain the property of the M.R.A. and shall be returned when a member retires from the M.R.A.

## 5. SUBSCRIPTION

- (a) All monies collected from memberships, sale of M.R.A. materials, donations etc. will be paid into the account of the main state branch. This money will be used to finance the activities of the M.R.A. main branch and regional sub-branches in that particular state.
- (b) The main state branch in each state is responsible for providing funds for the functioning of the regional sub-branches in that state.
- (c) All state branches are responsible for their own finances.
- (d) Membership subscriptions are paid for a twelve month period. Such subscriptions are to be determined by the Committee.

## 6. OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE

The office bearers shall be:—

- (a) President.
- (b) Vice President
- (c) Secretary
- (d) Treasurer.
- (e) Committee. This Committee shall comprise of representatives of metropolitan members and one representative from each regional sub-branch. The immediate past President shall be ex-officio member of this Committee with the right of participating fully in the proceedings of meetings of the Committee.

expelled from the Committee.

## 7. SECRETARY

The secretary shall, subject to the provision of this constitution, convene all meetings and M.R.A. conferences, and take proper minutes of the proceedings thereat and shall circulate a copy thereof to the regional sub-branches, the main state branches and the office bearers. The secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the M.R.A. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. He shall maintain contact with the bodies with which the M.R.A. is affiliated and shall inform the M.R.A. of all matters relating to such bodies.

## 8. TREASURER

The treasurer shall keep account of the funds and the properties of the M.R.A. and all receipts and payments on account of the M.R.A. He shall in each year, prepare a balance sheet and statement of accounts, and shall submit the same, duly audited, to the annual general meeting in each year. He shall attend all meetings at which matters of finance are to be discussed.

## 9. AUDITOR

The auditor for the M.R.A. shall be elected at each annual general meeting.

## 10. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE

- (a) The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and members of the Committee, except the immediate past President, shall be elected at each annual general meeting.
- (b) Nominations for the Committee shall be made in writing to the Secretary 30 days prior to the annual general meeting.
- (c) Persons nominating and being nominated for the position of Committeeman must be a financial member of the M.R.A.
- (d) Voting for Committeeman shall be done by secret ballot by the members present at the annual general meeting.
- (e) Officers of the M.R.A. shall be elected for a twelve month period at the annual general meeting, which will be held in May of each year, and shall be convened in writing with at least fourteen (14) days notice given to every member.

- (f) Any member absenteeing himself from three consecutive committee meetings without reasonable excuse shall forfeit his seat on the committee.

## 11. MANAGEMENT OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE M.R.A.

The government of the M.R.A. rests with in the members in the general meeting. Subject thereto, the management of its affairs shall be vested in the Committee.

## 12. POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee may exercise all such powers of the M.R.A. as are not by these rules required to be exercised by the members in general meeting, and without derogation from the generality of the foregoing, shall have the following specific powers in addition to such others as are specified elsewhere in these rules:—

- (a) To adopt such measures as from time to time it appears proper for the purposes of giving effect to the purposes, aims or objects of the M.R.A.
- (b) To consider and, where necessary, authorise expenditure and payment of accounts properly incurred by the M.R.A.
- (c) To compromise, settle and resolve claims and demands made on the M.R.A.
- (d) To make, alter, vary or rescind such constitution rules as may be required for the purpose of carrying out these rules and for regulating the conduct and proceedings of meetings of the Committee and of the M.R.A. These changes shall not however be binding unless confirmed by the next general meeting or extraordinary general meeting called for that purpose.
- (e) To have the power to fill a casual vacancy occurring on the Committee during its year of office.
- (f) To have power to create and dissolve sub-committees and power to co-opt members in such sub-committees.

## 13. MEETINGS

- (a) The annual general meeting shall be held in May of each year.
- (b) In all meetings the President shall preside; should the President be absent the chair shall be taken by the Vice President, and in the absence of the President and the Vice President the chairman shall be elected from those present.



- (c) General meetings and Committee meetings shall be called at any time by the Secretary, upon authority of the President.
  - (d) An extraordinary general meeting shall be called by the Secretary upon the requisition made in writing and signed by not less than 15 members of the M.R.A.
  - (e) A Committee meeting shall be called by the Secretary upon the requisition made in writing and signed by not less than 3 members of the Committee.
  - (f) The Secretary shall within seven (7) days from a receipt of a requisition call a meeting in accordance therewith, for a date not more than twenty-one (21) days after the receipt of such requisition.
  - (g) The Secretary shall give twenty-one (21) days notice in respect of annual general meetings and extraordinary general meetings. Where special emergency circumstances exist, the foregoing length of notice may be dispensed with by the President.
  - (h) All notices of meetings, or other business in connection with the M.R.A., shall be deemed to be duly sent to the members by the Secretary, posting same by prepaid letter to the members at their last known address.
- 14. QUORUM**
- (a) A quorum for an annual general meeting, general meeting, and extraordinary general meeting shall be fifty (50).
  - (b) For a Committee meeting the quorum shall be seven (7).
  - (c) If, within half an hour of the time appointed for the meeting, a quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened upon the requisition of members, shall be dissolved, in any other case it shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the members present shall be a quorum.
- 15. VOTING**
- (a) On a show of hands every member represented in person and entitled to vote shall have one vote.
  - (b) Any member has the right to demand a secret ballot of any vote taken at a general meeting.
  - (c) At all meetings the chairman shall have a casting vote.
  - (d) A member unable to be present and entitled to vote on any matter on the agenda may communicate his vote in writing, such vote to be in the Secretary's hands prior to the starting time of the meeting.
  - (e) A member shall appoint another member to act as his proxy provided notice in writing is given to the Secretary at the commencement of the meeting.
  - (f) Election of office bearers and Committee shall be by secret ballot.
  - (g) At a secret ballot vote any member being voted upon shall have the right to call a recount if the votes differ by a margin of 5% or less.
- 16. FINANCE**
- (a) The financial year shall terminate on the 30th June each year.
  - (b) All accounts shall be presented and passed for payment at a Committee meeting and the minutes in relation thereto shall be included in the minute book.
  - (c) The funds of the M.R.A. shall be banked in the name of the M.R.A. in a bank decided upon by the Committee.
  - (d) Signatories of the M.R.A. cheques shall be any two (2) of the following:—
    - (1) President
    - (2) Vice President
    - (3) Treasurer
    - (4) Secretary
    - (5) Membership Secretary.
  - (e) The income and property of the M.R.A. wheresoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the M.R.A. and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the members of the M.R.A. provided that nothing herein shall prevent payment in good faith of remuneration to any officer, member or servant of the M.R.A., duly authorised by the Committee of the M.R.A., in return for services actually rendered to the M.R.A. or reasonable and proper rent for premises let by any member of the M.R.A.
- 17. ALTERATIONS TO CONSTITUTION**  
Notice of motion of proposed change of constitution shall be voted on at the next general meeting, and shall become effective after a two-thirds majority vote of those members present at such meeting.
- 18. BOOK INSPECTION**  
All books of the M.R.A., and the names of members, shall be open for inspection at the time and place of meeting of the M.R.A. by any member, on such member giving three (3) days previous notice in writing to the Secretary, requiring their production.
- 19. DISSOLUTION**  
In the event of the M.R.A. being dissolved, the assets and properties after payment of all just debts and liabilities shall not be distributed to members but shall be distributed to a fund or funds with similar objects and/or to a fund or funds exclusively for charitable purposes.
- 20. FORMATION OF REGIONAL SUB-BRANCHES**
- (a) On the discretion of the Committee a regional sub-branch can be established if the occasion warrants such action.
  - (b) The Committee, by a majority vote, shall appoint two (2) regional representatives whose task will be to organise a register for the local members, and to select a team of helpers to be known as assistant representatives.
  - (c) The regional sub-branch shall collect all fees and monies from sale of M.R.A. material and forward monies as collected to the main state branch of the M.R.A.
  - (d) Finance for the operation of the regional sub-branch shall be provided by the main state branch.
- 21. FORMATION OF INTERSTATE BRANCHES**
- (a) The Committee of the founder branch (Victoria) shall, by majority vote, authorise individuals from interstate capital cities, who have shown interest, to form a main state branch of the M.R.A. The duties of these individuals shall be similar to the Victorian Committee.
  - (b) When the interstate branch has a membership of thirty (30) members, a general meeting will be organised to elect an interim committee for that state main branch.
  - (c) The duties of the interim committee shall be the same as the Victorian Committee.
  - (d) A copy of the constitution shall be sent to a main state branch as soon as the branch is established.
  - (e) When the branch is established, or before the passing of twelve (12) months, the interim committee will arrange an election of a committee in accordance with this constitution.
  - (f) When an interstate regional sub-branch is in operation, and there is no main branch in that state, the regional sub-branch will operate directly under the orders of the Victorian main branch until such time as a state main branch is established.
- 22. COLLAPSE OF STATE BRANCH AND/OR REGIONAL SUB-BRANCHES**
- (a) If a state branch is dissolved, all assets and properties, after payment of just debts and liabilities, shall be distributed to the regional sub-branches of that state. If there are no such regional sub-branches, then all assets and properties shall be distributed to the Victorian state branch.
  - (b) If a state regional sub-branch is dissolved, all assets and properties, after all just debts and liabilities have been paid, shall be distributed to that state main branch.
- 23. JUNIOR M.R.A.**  
The junior M.R.A. is governed by the M.R.A. Committee and run under the same guidelines in this constitution.
- (a) Any person under the age of 17 years and 9 months is eligible for membership in the junior M.R.A.
  - (b) The junior M.R.A. has the same objects as the M.R.A.
  - (c) When a member of the junior M.R.A. reaches the age of 17 years and 9 months he will be transferred to the senior M.R.A. automatically.
- 24. Membership in the M.R.A. is open to individuals only. Groups or companies and their employees are not eligible to blanket membership.**
- 25. Any Committee member may resign his position at any time by writing to the Secretary at least fourteen (14) days prior to relinquishing his position.**

delegate,  
the A.M.C. Conference scheduled for November 28 and 29  
been deferred. Since many of you have already made plans  
vel to Victoria it has been decided to hold our M.R.A. Na-  
Conference on this weekend. Melbourne, the branch that  
d the M.R.A., will host a two day event aimed at promoting  
.R.A. as a truly democratic and National organization work-  
r Australian motorcyclists.

We are hoping that all branches will be able to send at least  
member. If not, a delegate empowered to vote on behalf of  
committee, or an observer to report on proceedings so that  
branch, with the aid of taped minutes, can take part in deci-  
effecting Australia's 280,000 riders.

A mini bus will be hired so we can travel together allowing  
efficient use of the time available. The bus will also be used  
k up and drop off members at the airport, railway stations

The aims; to learn from each other the problems and ad-  
ges of the different branches methods of operations; to  
ote better communication and greater National unity and  
rmity; to work towards a National body.

Melbourne intends to give you a truly enjoyable and informa-  
weekend.

## GRAM

mber 28

Mini bus to M.R.A. House via City Square 15 min tour  
and explanation of the TOY RUN, 15 min in Elizabeth  
Street at the PR stand.

1 Guided tour of M.R.A. House.

am Conference. Each delegate to report on number of  
members and registers. Blythe Osbourne's report on  
Vic Registers Conference. Linda's report on member-  
ships and computer. Wombat - Stock Newsletters -  
Simon Perry use of the media - guest speaker (15 min)  
Protests - Tony Scicluna. Dave guest speaker from  
Gippsland register - organization and result of their  
recent protest run.

Refreshment break.

m Incorporation - Jim Gurry  
Constitution  
Logo and colours  
Stationary including stickers etc.

MINI BUS TO PRAHRAN FESTIVAL to see Frank  
Sutherland at work in the Community and discuss  
Community Service and involvement.

Dinner - cost aprox. \$20

m Entertainment.

nber 29 Sunday

Conference continues at Tooronga Road, covering  
points from Saturday not fully discussed and other  
business.

BBQ lunch at Tooronga Road.

send details of your requirements as soon as possible.  
ok forward to a profitable and pleasant weekend for all  
rned.

## HOW IT MAY CONCERN

believe the tapes and notes from the M.R.A. National Con-  
e should be heard and seen by as many M.R.A. members  
ssible. I have gone through the 4½ hours of tapes meticul-  
and, after spending some 40 hours on them, have come up  
ese notes. They are not a verbatim account but I think, from  
n point of view at least, they cover the major points.

owever, because they are necessarily one view I believe it  
th the time for every M.R.A. committee member to go  
h the tapes with the notes.

fter hearing what was said at the conference I and the other  
ian comitee members believe that the original logo is the  
A.R.A. logo, and as in SA that only the black t-shirts are valid.  
likely that Victoria will produce white shirts again similarly it  
that letter-heads, membership cards etc should be pro-  
d to a national standard and be uniform.

fragmentation as with F.A.M., A.C.U., etc., we must look to a  
National Image, Constitution and Body.

I think the following is of paramount importance to the future  
of the M.R.A. nationally and I hope you will read it with care and as  
objectively as possible. If you have not heard the tapes please ask  
your branch committee to make them available. It is important.  
Because of the availability of copiers and postage costs I have  
sent this paperwork directly to as many registers as possible. I  
sincerely hope all branches find this acceptable.

This conference may be a turning point in what can be a great  
National Motorcycle Organization.

**RIDE SAFE**  
**DAMIEN CODOGNOTTO**  
President M.R.A. Victoria

## 1ST M.R.A. NATIONAL CONFERENCE

M.R.A. House. 184 Brunswick St., Fitzroy, Victoria, 3065.

Saturday and Sunday, November 28 & 29 1981

Notes from tape recordings of proceedings taken by Damien  
Codognotto, President M.R.A. Victoria.

The Australian Motorcycle Council meeting was to have  
been held on this date at this venue but was postponed until early  
1982. Because M.R.A. Branches should have had Delegates  
coming to Melbourne for the A.M.C. meeting, and because all  
Branches have expressed the desire to hold an M.R.A. National  
Conference, the Conference was organized at short notice.

From Victoria's point of view the aim was primarily to work  
towards a National Body and Constitution and to promote a  
uniform National Image with better communication between the  
Branches.

A secondary aim was to show the other Committees how and  
why the M.R.A. Vic. operates. We hoped that we could learn ways  
to improve our operation from the comments of the other Dele-  
gates and that they would take back ideas to their various Com-  
mittees. The M.R.A. Victoria feels that the Conference was a  
success in every regard.

To allow for maximum exchange of ideas a mini bus was  
hired and all Delegates stayed at the one house. Although some  
discussion, including membership fees, was held on the Sunday  
morning only the work at M.R.A. House was taped.

The enclosed tapes are minutes of those talks, (tapes sent to  
branches only).

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28TH

At about 9 a.m. some delegates were taken by bus to the city  
square and it was explained how the Toy Run would work. They  
then went to Elizabeth St, to see the P.R. stand at work.

The conference started at M.R.A. House about 10.30 a.m.  
23 people were present.

## START TAPE SIDE 1 & 2.

## DELEGATES

Kevin TREVARATHAN - QUEENSLAND.  
APOLOGY - NEW SOUTH WALES.  
Hal CASTON & Pete WALSH - A.C.T.  
Damien CODOGNOTTO & Steve BOND - VICTORIA  
Phil NORTHEAST - TASMANIA.  
Bob COCKER - SOUTH AUSTRALIA.  
Tony REAGAN - WESTERN AUSTRALIA.  
Dave - President Gippsland Register, M.R.A. VICTORIA.

Blyth OSBORNE - M.R.A. VIC Registers Co-ordinator.  
Minutes of the Registers Conference were supplied to each Dele-  
gate and Blythe discussed the proceedings and benefits from the  
conference.

Linda PEDDERSON - Membership Secretary VICTORIA.  
Linda spoke on the computer system and renewals. There was  
some discussion on the N.S.W. computer brought up by Hal  
Caston.

Simon PERRY - M.R.A. Vic. Newsletter Ed.  
Simon spoke on our Newsletter which is sent 4 times per year.

Tony REAGAN said M.R.A. W.A. was having some problems with  
Cat. B. Postage. W.A. Has to send 12 newsletters per year.

Wayne GREGSON - M.R.A. Member and Journalist.

Wayne spoke on M.R.A. and the Media, High public profile, Bathurst, M.R.A. Vic newsletter. To get good press you must rise above bad press. Be positive. Cultivate contacts. Being pushy sometimes creates backlash. Be impressive e.g. accurate figures, put the name of the M.R.A. in everywhere possible. Choose your market, methods of contact, time, press releases, attitudes to media. P.R. Officers should hear this part of the tape.

Tony SCICLUNA - M.R.A. VIC Research.

Tony commented on Mildura sensationalism in the media, Easter 31. The media won't change overnight the M.R.A. has to work at it. Comments by Snake (M.R.A. Bus driver) on Bathurst and media. N.S.W. Police P.R. officer DET SGT (?) Bottom. Press conference at Bathurst, M.R.A. N.S.W. should cultivate media contacts for Bathurst.

Tony Reagan. commented on Bathurst, Should M.R.A. disassociate itself from trouble makers.

Bob Crocker. S.A. aims at Bathurst, accurate media cover, responsibility (?).

Tony Reagan. W.A. Media Cover.

Damien Codognotto. VIC. The problem at Bathurst is complex, possible suggestion, opinions.

### START TAPE SIDE 3.

Tony Reagan. M.R.A. seen by media to support anti-social types (?).

Tony Scicluna. 2 police killed in Melbourne - media response.

Wayne Gregson. M.R.A. was catalyst.

Kevin Trevarthan. M.R.A. associated with an offence. Would we be foolish to do it.

Damien Codognotto. It is covered by the constitution.

Bob Cocker. On bad publicity the example given should never happen, use spokesman, Bathurst busts, sensible alternatives. "BIKIES" should we use the word?

Trevor Kane. 4B's (BENT & BUCKLED BIKIES BUREAU) M.R.A. VIC Define word Bokie.

Bob Cocker. Commented on the word Bokie.

Damien Codognotto. Melbourne has a different meaning for this word Surfie, Truckie, etc. Use a single word for a National Image (?).

Kevin Trevarthan. Word Motorcyclist is long for press.

Davo. (Gippsland Reg). We may never get away from "BIKIE", Bikes and motorcyclists use the Blood Bank.

Bob Cocker. National organization, each state uses the word "Motorcyclist".

Damien Codognotto. The word Bokie still exists.

Wayne Gregson. "Gynecologists Riot".

Peter Walsh. Approach press. Re use of words. Put the discussion in newsletter for members to decide.

Kevin Trevarthan. Press may use word in innocence.

Bob Cocker. "Teddy Boys".

Steve Bond. (M.R.A. Vic. Vice President). Media cover on 2 police killed. Use contact with media.

Phil. North east (M.R.A. Tasmania).

Wayne Gregson. Legitimise the word.

Hal Caston. Class actions.

Damien Codognotto. B grade films. Pacers committee. Out of 7 hours was given 8 minutes at end.

Simon Perry. We all call ourselves motorcyclists until we can take it to our 10,000 or so members. Carried unanimously. "Teddy Boys sounds alright to me."

### START TAPE SIDE 4

Motorcycle safety week October '80 and '81 Victoria.

State of Wisconsin - U.S.A.

Victorian Radio Safety Jingle - Copies Available to M.R.A. Branches and Registers.

Quality down on conference tape because it was recorded on 2 small decks.

Tony Scicluna. (M.R.A. Research Vic.) on research on laws. National state levels working together. Victoria & A.C.T. last ones to repeal front plates. Feedback from research officers A.M.C. Vic safety council M.R.A. submission Tasmania wants copy. Registers conference reports handed out. Road hazard letter. Hurstbridge - Dangerous bridge. Rider Killed. Traffic data form used by Vic., "Pinched" from Qld. Road grooving, Parking, Tram track dividers.

Damien Codognotto. Other capitals worse than Melb. for rumble strips.

Bob Cocker. Rumble strips, Main South Road, Adelaide.

Damien Codognotto. Melb Traffic forces riders onto rumble strips. They are very dangerous.

Bob Cocker. No complaints in Adelaide

Damien Codognotto. Letters back, it got to people we didn't expect. Derryn Hinch & Dennis Scanlon, Radio announcers. From that we got air time.

Tony Scicluna. Read out a letter from a driver who was given a leaflet.

Bob Cocker. On the driver awareness slide.

Tony Scicluna. How the slides were made and put on. Design of slide given out. Finance. Rosta pissed us off, we told Rosta we would not alter campaign for sponsorship. Embarrass them. Members want issues. National campaign. Credibility. Show the Government what we are doing. Use road safety on other campaigns.

Tony Reagan. Details on actual ride. Copies of back patch handed out. (Be Motorcycle Aware.)

### START TAPE SIDE 5

Back after lunch. Some taping missed due to faulty tape.

Trevor Kane. On 4B's. Handed out get well card. 4B kit. Western districts hospital day. Letter read out. Recognition. Its working. Response fantastic. Interstate patients.

Jim Gurry. (M.R.A. Victoria Legal Adviser). Misleading reporting Toy Run '80 report from Melb, Herald. Press Council of Australia governing body of all Aust. papers. 'Santa's Angels'. Constitution and incorporation, ideas from 2 members. Each Rep to return to members to discuss the proposal.

Jim Gurry. Proposals explained. Laws differ from state to state. Australia wide M.R.A. would not be incorporated but individual states may be. What we are looking at is not dissimilar to what happened in the 1880's and '90's with Aust Federation format of proposed National Body.

Bob Cocker. Comments on use of national body.

Kevin Trevarthan. Charter.

Damien Codognotto. Control means States control. National Body. Not on local politics rather gives more equality to each state and protects the national image and aims.

Bob Cocker. Control means on constitutional matters not on laws politics etc.

Jim Gurry. Structure of national body as proposed. Three Regional Reps. Southern - Vic., Tas. Northern - A.C.T., N.S.W., Qld. Western - S.A., W.A., N.T. Each member elected for 3 years. Meet at least once per year. Veto power on issues funded on pro rata basis from the states. Each state committee supplied with balance sheet. Each state would have Rep to liaise with co-ordinator for their area. States have equal vote on national issues. State level committee, Register level committee, questions.

Kevin Trevarthan. What do area co-ordinators do?

Steve Bond. Comments on duties of area co-ordinators and state reps.

Bob Cocker. What is the job of the hierarchy of national body.

Steve Bond. Replies. The power of the national body still rests with the members and all states are assured of a vote on all national, constitutional issues.

Tony Reagan. Sound very much like glorified, over complicated version of what we already have.

Bob Cocker. Bureaucratic crap - No Offence.

Steve Bond. Victoria wants to spend more time working on our own business but at present it seems to be running around doing stock etc. and a national body would take a lot of that work out of their hands.

Hal Caston. You don't think it could be done informally?

### START TAPE SIDE 6.

Damien Codognotto. National direction of Australian communication, road safety, road law. The M.R.A. will continue in years to come. Structures must be set up to cater for the kind of organization we are growing into, in the kind of country Australia will become. M.R.A. Vic is being recognised as a similar (not the same) body for bikers as the R.A.C.V. is for cars. The M.R.A. was born in Melbourne and we are very proud of the aims, constitution and the way it is going. Yet we have been involved in interstate disputes (to protect the image and constitution) that we don't want, we want to work for Victoria. Confident that the national aims and image are safe as they were conceived. Also, we don't want Vic, by virtue of its location and influence to have more say on a national issue than any other state. Each state should be bound by the wishes of the bulk of the national membership. National co-ordinator should be A.C.T. (opinion). We want to take some of the things we are messing about with out of our hands. Modifications will be needed but Vic does not want to be watching. National direction via the national membership.

Jim Gurry. Original constitution. Nothing to stop one state going alone and destroying the national image etc. All the other states could do would be to nihilistically disassociate

relative to have a national body to prevent fragmentation.  
**Bob Cocker.** We see the problems (e.g. Qld dispute) grow-  
is the organization grows. S.A.'s members looked for means  
op problems. The national body proposal was in line with  
t S.A. wanted but for 2 points. Three national co-ordinators  
the word veto. No way will S.A. go along with the power of

**Jim Gurry.** Explains the use of the word NO VETO on power  
ates.

**Bob Cocker.** The bureaucracy is growing. There should be  
eed for any veto at national body level. S.A. must be utopia,  
et along with other groups. S.A. M.R.A. sees a need for some  
of national body but it does not believe it should be political.  
M.R.A. believes that to be the work of the A.M.C.

**Damien Codognotto.** We all agree that the A.M.C. should be  
political body nationally. I would not want to be on a national  
y as I have too much work to do in Vic. However, I would like to  
ble to put problems to a national co-ordinator.

**Kevin Trevarthan.** Qld. Does not think the M.R.A. can support  
a beaurocracy.

**Damien Codognotto.** This is a proposal for the future taking  
account the trends in M.R.A. and the nation. We need a  
rly defined national constitution.

**Kevin Trevarthan.** Personal ideas on national body. Prob-  
s have come from lack of communication and an inadequate  
ition of powers in the constitution. Exchange of detailed  
utes, details of what should be in minutes read out. Phone  
munications should be treated with care. It is convenient but  
problems. (No record/emotion). There is no need for a na-  
al body, only a national conference. The chairman of that  
ference would be spokesman for M.R.A. Australia for the

**Phil Northeast.** What Tas would like to see is a full time  
onal co-ordinator. Finance from things like stock?

**Tony Reagan.** The business side of the M.R.A. is important.  
out it we don't have things like M.R.A. House.

**Phil Northeast.** We could not afford to hire someone. We  
e 500 members, a good % for our state, our maximum would  
000 members. If we signed every rider.

**Bob Cocker.** How would the national co-ordinator make  
ey for M.R.A.?

**Phil Northeast.** Stock Etc.

**Bob Cocker.** I can't see that we need a pro to run a stock  
1.

**Phil Northeast.** Further comments on benefits to the nation to  
fy the employment of a co-ordinator.

**Damien Codognotto.** The stock room downstairs takes 3  
le to run properly. There is a lot of work in it.

**Linda Pedderson.** Most of the stock work has to be done in  
ness hours.

**Bob Cocker.** Bitch on stock. Last shipment of stock went to  
among other places. S.A. has now to pay more for badges  
ly to ensure supply to members.

**Damien Codognotto.** Vic has a bitch too. We were trying to  
re a good service to the entire country, get good accounts  
g and bulk orders cheaper. It worked for a little while but when  
ad things happen e.g. Without informing Vic some states  
ed producing various items and we got stuck with surplus

**Jim Gurry.** Going back to the national body and constitution.  
will the M.R.A. cope with the situation where on a state  
Jes to go it alone on an issue?

**Tony Reagan.** Three co-ordinators not acceptable since  
e states would have to rely on representation by someone in  
ner state. W.A. wants a representative from each state.

**Kevin Trevarthan.** You can't run a democratic association  
out comprising efficiency. You must trust the elected commit-  
to function properly. If the members see their committee  
g outside the constitution then there is something rotten in  
whole state branch. They (the members) should move a vote  
confidence in their committee. But you have got to leave a  
in amount of credibility with the states.

**Damien Codognotto.** I can't see that that has not been done.  
are jumping on each others backs and saying that there are  
uidelines laid down for us to operate within our own state.  
one of us knows how we must operate at this level (national  
y). We are just 6 or 8 reps who can walk out at any time. In  
re we must establish guidelines for operation at this level. It  
ures the rights of each state.

**Bob Cocker.** I don't think there is any one here who wants to  
ute the need for a national constitution if there is please speak

**Steve Bond.** You have to have a formally constituted na-  
al body.

tion draft) will go out?"

**Jim Gurry.** "It's being typed now."

**Hal Caston.** A.C.T. has a meeting second Tuesday each  
month but none in January. So if it misses December nothing will  
be done till February '82.

**Bob Cocker.** What will happen is Jim will send out the prop-  
osal to modify and suggest what they want.

**Jim Gurry.** General proposal. 1. Each state rep goes back to  
their committees and discusses the national body and related  
matters. 2. Discuss same with legal advisors to ensure it fits in  
with local laws. 3. Each state committee takes it back to the  
members. 4. We meet again with each states proposals to map  
out the form of a national body and constitution.

**Bob Cocker.** To save a little bit of time haven't the other  
delegates, that are sitting here, had some sort of discussion at  
length, with their members before they come here today.

**Hal Caston.** No, because we were only told about it 2 weeks  
ago. That's why N.S.W. aren't here. They had their AGM last  
night. So how could they have been here they only found out  
about it 2 weeks ago to.

**Bob Cocker.** No, No. Maybe your story I believe, but N.S.W.  
knew a bloody sight more than 2 weeks ago.

**Hal Caston.** No they didn't actually.

**Bob Cocker.** In the exact words of Kevin that's for their own  
members to decide if their committee is giving them information  
and its them to have no confidence votes in their committee or  
what ever.

**Hal Caston.** Apart from that, it was their AGM last night so  
they didn't know who they could send.

**Bob Cocker.** Oh we're running one of the biggest shows  
we've ever run and I'm here. If there's a national meeting you're  
here. That's it. We need a national constitution that is binding on  
the states. That it is mapped out. Everybody knows right from the  
word go what the aims and objectives of the M.R.A., throughout  
Australia are, so that we don't have controversy over T-shirts,  
patches and all the rest of it. Politically, I can't see that the national  
body has to do anything. State problems, that's for the state  
committee. Now the suggestion that the Qld. rep put forward that  
the way to form a national body was to have each and every state  
represented by one delegate you have a bi annual meeting and  
you nominate a national spokesman who can voice an opinion on  
that, and you've done it all. Bob made further comments related to  
the discussing these matters with members and wasting time.  
The major things in the constitution (Nat.), that you have to work  
out are your aims and objectives and your national image of the  
M.R.A. which is, when we get down to badges, t-shirts and all the  
rest, I hope everybody here wants to portray the M.R.A. as it is,  
and that's just like that there (points to a black shirt with the  
original M.R.A. logo on it) that's what it was, that's what it is. Now,  
if the national body wants to change it, and we all agree, by all  
means. In ten years time if we say black is unfashionable we'll all  
change to blue, if the national committee says yes, bang we go  
along with it. I just don't see why we are messing about.

**Steve Bond.** Re veto it was only mean't to stop petty local  
issue taking up time at National Level.

**Bob Cocker.** I'm very sceptical of giving people powers. You  
don't need this power. All good intentions go forth giving these  
people powers. You give them trust. I don't trust any bastard  
including any of you sitting around here. I want my say. My  
members don't trust me any further than they can see me and  
that's the way it should be. It's up to them to watch me, to make  
sure I do their job, and that's the way things work. If everybody  
had a bit more self interest it would work. You'd be looking out for  
your own arse, instead of worrying about giving power to some-  
body else. You've got to be careful. You'd be amazed how many  
painter/decorators turn into hitlers. They will very easily do it if  
you're not very careful.

**Hal Caston.** Back to the original proposal Steve, how many  
reps does each branch have.

**Steve Bond.** In terms of geography and population numbers,  
it was sound to have three regional reps on the national body  
permanently. Next level below that was one member from each  
state committee to attend national conferences like this one. If  
problems developed between conferences they go to the regional  
rep. It was mainly done because the Vic committee has thirteen  
members and the amount that has to be got through is tedious  
and boring, people bring up irrelevancies. It (the proposal) is  
mainly to streamline things and get the M.R.A. running as one  
body, with each state consistant with the others.

**Kevin Trevarthan.** You're saying that the regional rep is not a  
delegate?

**Steve Bond.** He is not a delegate, no.

**Damien Codognotto.** There is a paralell in the secretariate of  
the AMC.

**Kevin Trevarthan.** What powers do the regional reps have? What do you mean by co-ordinate?

**Steve Bond.** With the suggestion on sending minutes to each other you tie up the different committees. You have 3 people to go through all minutes and bring up problems etc. to the National Body.

**Damien Codognotto.** For example instead of me having to copy these tapes and make notes and post them all over Australia, I give the originals to the National Body regional rep so I can get on with my Toy Run work. That way we all get the minutes with less interruption to our state work.

**Steve Bond.** All we intended was a paper for discussion to be taken back to your members. Later we will pick out the bad points and work on the good. The way it is at present, with Vic as a clearing house, it is an unfair financial burden on one state and we can't last much longer.

**Kevin Trevarthan.** I take it we can change your proposal?

**Jim Gurry.** Yes

**Steve Bond.** It should be circulated throughout registers and put in newsletters so each financial member has the chance of input.

**Jim Gurry.** Is Qld going ahead with Incorporation?

**Kevin Trevarthan.** Yes. The members voted that it should but we have slowed it down.

**Bob Cocker.** I have some questions I have been directed by my members to ask. One question from the meeting where the Vic tape was played. At the top it said 150 members present but the tape was played to 50. Where were the other 100.

**Kevin Trevarthan.** Meeting played tape after general business at 9 p.m. By the end of the tape it was 11.30 p.m., then the general discussion started. The meeting ended at 12.40 a.m. It was the middle of the night. We tried to get them to stay.

**Bob Cocker.** There was a letter a week later from Qld that said the reply tape would not be circulated because of the dissension it may cause. It said in there that the reason different patches were made was that there was nothing to copy.

**Kevin Trevarthan.** That's the circular T-shirt logo. It was originally designed because there was nothing to copy. The design proved popular and since we had no complaints we kept it.

**Bob Cocker.** The other point was the blue T-shirts. Some felt it was inappropriate. We (S.A.) have always known that there's black shirts with white printing or white with black. You could get nothing less offensive than a white T-shirt.

**Kevin Trevarthan.** The members did not like white shirts.

**Bob Cocker.** Well why did they just not buy them?

**Kevin Trevarthan.** Somebody suggested we look into an alternative color. The black ones, some people felt that they were not appropriate. That's their personal opinion. A lot won't wear them because in summer it's ridiculously hot, and white is not popular. They don't look good but that's personal opinion. So we thought it's a legitimate suggestion so we took it to a meeting and they voted 95 to 5 for blue.

**Bob Cocker.** The reason it was brought up so strongly with our members was that right from the word go M.R.A. S.A. has been conscious of a national image. It needs to retain a recognisable national image. That's when you roll into a different state the patch, T-shirt etc. is exactly the same. If a guy rides into Adelaide we know automatically that it's the same thing. We don't have to and check out what's the round thing he's wearing. We know it's one of us.

**Phil Northeast.** I'll give you an example. When I arrived at the airport last night I wore my T-shirt (black with original logo in white) and as soon as I saw white on black, I did not even recognise him. I saw the black T-shirt then I saw it was Damien.

**Bob Cocker.** We've always been extremely conscious of retaining that national image. As I said later, if the majority decide it's the wrong image, we'll change, but it's the one we've got for now. Until nationally we decide it's wrong and change it. Like you (Qld) we had some members who were vocal and we did not want to circulate our ideas other than a telegram saying please hold off on incorporation, just like Vic. We had members saying if they don't like the M.R.A. as it is, let them join F.A.M. or start something else. Here's the basis, these are the aims of the M.R.A. constitution. OK change small things like how many form a quorum. But if you need something large to be changed, even if there is no legal binding, hold on you, there must be some ethical binding hold to say we're in with you guys, we've always been in with you guys, is that OK? At least do that because there is no way S.A. would do it. The printing of goods in S.A. will match the national image. I can't see why the other states are not aware of that national image and don't change it.

**Tony Reagan.** From W.A. point of view we awaited 12 months for stock after 5 orders and got 4 T-shirts, we made our own. The members wanted them and we did not care if they were polka dot.

**Damien Codognotto.** Because the orders are so large and because the money has not been coming back from registers and branches, as soon as it should, our suppliers have said you are a good account but no money no supply. Bear in mind that last year Vic spent \$87,000 and this year will top \$100,000. At the end of the year we were \$6,000 in the red.

**Tony Reagan.** Two points. You could not supply stock because you could not get money to buy you could not tell us how much you wanted for stock already sent.

**Damien Codognotto.** That is in the past. We have had problems in the treasury, dealing with large amounts has been a problem.

**Steve Flaven.** (Treasurer Vic). The stock room may be small but the volume thru it and associated problems are unbelievable.

**Tony Reagan.** Is it safe to say those problems are sorted out now?

**Steve Flaven.** We know what the problems are and are working on it.

**Linda Pedderson.** What we want is stock controllers to give us warning well in advance of events where quantity of stock is required.

**Tony Reagan.** Communication is a problem, but I have members who have pre paid for stock but can't get it. What do we do?

**Bob Cocker.** The smaller member states can't afford to place small orders at high cost so we prefer to get it cheaper through Vic. Why not demand prepayment for goods?

**Steve Flahaven.** We don't know that you have the money.

**Bob Cocker.** If we don't have money don't send stock. S.A. has to organize to run the business side of the M.R.A., S.A. makes little from stock. We organize raffles, shows etc. "Has every one bought Harley tickets?" If you go to a shop you have to pay. S.A. is prepared to pay and we can't see why other states can't pay.

**Tony Reagan.** I presume Vic runs on 60 days tick. But they could not tell us how much we owed.

**Linda Pedderson.** We had a treasurer that was trying to do stock and be treasurer. We have no secretary. Now we have different set up.

**Phil Northeast.** We have volunteers and it's hard to make volunteers do the jobs.

**Damien Codognotto.** I reckon you can. They accept the responsibility and that's their job. They owe it to members whether they are volunteers or not.

**Phil Northeast.** But a paid person is something we must look at at some stage. Question about paid members being resented by long working volunteers.

**Bob Cocker.** I will be first on line for paid job but . . .

**Damien Codognotto.** Comments on Frank & Linda having expenses paid. Frank pulled us out of finance trouble. We were at a stage 2 months ago we were down \$12,000 and at that stage I was more or less responsible for the debts of the association and I looked like losing my house. I was seriously concerned. Frank brought in \$2100 in 2 weeks and 394 members in 3. He was paid \$100 per week expenses and so was Linda because without Linda processing the new members we would not have kept them. Linda offered to return her expenses. That really is buying a service like buying a badge. But it points out the need for paid members and running as a business.

**Tony Reagan.** I can see that situation and I can't see anything against it, but is stock now sorted out? If not, we make our own.

**Damien Codognotto.** That has to be a value judgement of your own.

**Kevin Trevarthan.** What Vic must decide is if it wants to continue being the bank for Australia.

**Damien Codognotto.** I can give you this straight out. With the States that need to economize. We will still offer the service. When it comes to a situation W.A. is in where a service must be supplied to members then the committee must make a value judgement re supply. But please inform Vic. We are in the fortunate position of a big enough membership to operate just within Vic, so states like Qld that has always made it's own shirts and so on, should go ahead. But the thing that worried me at both the Brisbane Uni and Qld general meeting, was that an elected committee member could stand up and say he was going to change the national image (it is on the Brisbane Uni meeting tape held by Kevin Trevarthen) because he felt that black was a negative colour. He put it in writing that Roget's Thesaurus said that black was a negative colour associated with negative things etc. Bad cowboys with big hats, and I will reply but the point is, the way he acted as a committee person. At a meeting he stood up and put forward his own views which were unconstitutional and nothing happened about it. That is why we have a prof. (Luke Bryant) from Monash Uni calling for his resignation. We had to tell him (Luke) that that was a Qld State matter. That is why we need a



stood up at a meeting as a committee member.

*Geraldine Qld.* But you also saw those members howl him in.

*Damien Codognotto.* Not on the coloured t-shirt issue.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* Not on coloured t-shirts because they did 95/5.

*Bob Cocker.* Before we go any further, getting back to opinions and what have you in a committee man. I'm president S.A. if I want to say I voice my opinion, saying this is my opinion and I want my say. Any of my committee members who don't have the right to stand up and say what they think are not worth having.

*Damien Codognotto.* You both miss the point. When you say something you are the first one to take it back to the members, you say it's your opinion. That did not happen with me.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* No. No. Check the by laws of a meeting a general meeting is a consensus of opinion and all people have an opinion. A motion is moved and then voted on by the members then that is binding.

*Damien Codognotto.* If that's the case how come the blue shirts were made and ordered before there was a vote on it?

*Geraldine Qld.* Very easily.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* It was in the letter.

*Damien Codognotto.* The reason I bought it up was not to rehold old ground, that's past history. The reason I bought it up was we were talking about the states that can afford to run their own work, like Qld, and relating that back to Bob (S.A.) said and we're talking about a national image are we going to control on it? What's happening? I mean, are we, as a national body, going to have controls?

*Hal Caston.* What might be a better solution may be to mine which state produces the best of each item, quality as well as price is important. N.S.W. supplied A.C.T. with t-shirts \$1 each expensive but of much better quality.

*Damien Codognotto.* A.C.T. received a bad batch, but shirts purchased by Vic, are usually of good quality.

*Hal Caston.* How about shopping round the country for the quality goods.

*Damien Codognotto.* Vic agrees that is one of the points of meeting.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* The catch 22 there is that unless there is an advance system, which I don't agree with, then the branch best supplier is loaded with the responsibility of financing other branches.

*Damien Codognotto.* Exactly, Vic. has been doing it for 4 years. Discussion of copyright on Artwork/Badges.

*Linda Pedderson.* Everyone takes back items of stock and look around your state for better quality/priced stock and Vic will go through that branch.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* Qld. can afford that now but can other states afford it?

*Damien Codognotto.* If its better value Vic. can still pay the until items are sold by the various branches and registers.

*Tony Reagan.* Prompted more discussion on the reliability of supplies. Vic would have to look into "Stokes" operation as a good supplier.

*Steve Bond.* Vic. puts many large orders through Stokes. One of our problems is that this years Toy Run badges were just not produced because another interstate order had not been paid for. At one stage we owed Stokes \$4,000 with no chance of recovering the money until after the Tasmania Rally. Putting out jobs can help to spread the debts.

*Linda Pedderson.* Vic. placed the order for Aust. badges 2 months ago (Sept) but will not get badges till January because the rally was held until a payment was made.

After discussion on copyright. It does not seem to be a great problem according to Jim Gurry Vic. legal adviser.

*Bob Cocker.* and Kevin Trevarthan Qld commented that in fact it is extremely important that the M.R.A. hold copyrights on designs.

*Steve Bond.* Each state must have graphic artists among members.

*Linda Pedderson.* Each state must let the others know it's happening re designs.

*Bob Cocker.* Designs must remain uniform.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* That's a problem with the constitution not mechanics.

*Bob Cocker.* Ok on the mechanics. What needs to be done is to take the weight off any one state financially. There will have to be a fund established.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* The mechanics of the situation are o.k. we've improved the system. The economics of bulk ordering are there to utilize if we have the mechanics to use them. S.A. is a state controller satisfactory?

through work to copying, etc. He is in a good position to liaise with states.

*Bob Cocker.* What if he gets hit by a truck?

*Steve Bond.* The M.R.A. has something like 14,000 members and as it grows we will need someone permanent.

*Bob Cocker.* The major stock supplier, at present, is Vic. Do you feel that, at present, the volunteer system is working? What about the small mark up to ensure the system is working? What about the small mark up to ensure the system continues. We would all need a financial statement re mark up.

*Tony Reagan.* If the system is set up properly anyone can pick up the system.

Discussion on the mechanics of the system and how much work is involved.

*Tony Reagan.* Advance order stock in anticipation of demand.

*Damien Codognotto.* We did not know that Qld had started to produce cloth badges with another Vic. company. So our Qld stock just sat on the shelf costing Vic money, stock on the shelf is no good to any M.R.A. member.

Store cleared of interstate stock and given to delegates.

*Bob Cocker.* Brought up problems with volunteer not working to good systems e.g. memberships.

*Phil Northeast.* We had the same problems with one of our registers.

*Bob Cocker.* On the surface a volunteer seems to be working very well but without a good system it can be a nightmare for the next person.

Further discussion on stock, volunteers and systems. Most valuable.

## START TAPE SIDE 9

*Steve Bond.* Next points Logo, colours and stationary. From what I can see in the constitution there is no argument that the colours are Black and White. Unless at a national level an exception is made. The style of lettering has to be "pump". The 3 initials. The M.R.A. started here (Vic.). Those were the colours and style we chose. It went to other states and they agreed to adopt the principles of the M.R.A. so the colours remain Black and White the style remains "pump" and that's really all you've got to talk about under Logo's and colours.

*Pete Walsh.* A.C.T. I was not sure what would come of today so I checked a Canberra t-shirt place for designs. If you look at an M.R.A. shirt what stands out is the 3 letters (points to the original black and white logo).

*Damien Codognotto.* There was very good reason for the way the original logo was laid out and for the colours. A lot of time was spent by the original members, including a qualified Graphic Artist to find the right design. Visibility e.g. Phil (Tas) at the airport was seen from a long distance, that is we want people to know those 3 letters.

*Hal Caston.* The logo (original) is fine but is it time to review colours?

*Damien Codognotto.* The point of colours was debated by Qld. Vic, and N.S.W., at Brisbane Uni. Black can get hot. White can get grubby, there may be call for other colours but we would like to see the original concept of black on white or white on black retained e.g. Black on Pale Yellow shirt or White on Dark Blue shirt. Personally I wear the black shirts.

*Hal Caston.* Recently we spoke to 40,000 people in a week (bike show) and there was an undercurrent of feeling against the black. They thought we might be fascists.

*Damien Codognotto.* We railroaded that and said don't be ridiculous.

*Bob Cocker.* Discuss this survey. What are you talking about?

*Hal Caston.* We had a Bike Show in the largest shopping centre in the A.C.T. A half million people go through per week. The centre wants us to organize another show. They estimate we spoke to 40,000 people. There was this large undercurrent of reaction against all of us wearing black t-shirts.

*Bob Cocker.* Did you have a prepared list of questions?

*Hal Caston.* No. These were people who came to us. Older people have a bad image of black (W.W.2 etc.). These people are very powerful people. They are career public servants or what ever you like. They have been living in their own little niche all their lives. Very well off. But we discovered this terrible undercurrent against black t-shirts. We told people we had white t-shirts but old ladies were saying that white was not practical. I asked people to suggest colours and, as it turned out, blue was most popular.

Blue is the most popular situation again. I as, S.A. & Vic hold very dear the black and white. In A.C.T. you have a different type of people, the ones we mostly fight and in Qld. another type. Different thinking and so on. That's what Gramps and I were talking about (at Brisbane Uni) when we said there may be a call for colours but we must standardize whether we have a white or black logo on a colour. But I only see that happening if 1. The original black and white was still available and 2. there was a consensus of opinion on it. I am sure guys in Maryborough don't think the same as Brisbane.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* Yes, I have a rather strongly worded resolution from Maryborough but I won't read it.

*Damien Codognotto.* I did not go up there while I was in Qld. I may be wrong. Personally, I think, wear the black and tell them. . .

*Steve Bond.* Every organization has recognizable colours eg. Australia is green and gold. It was suggested the M.R.A. adopt these colors but the way I see it the black and white expound philosophy. Something is right or wrong. No grey areas. There are ways around it, e.g. t-shirts with coloured sleeves so long as the logo remains black on white or white on black. There is really no alternative (under the present constitution).

*Bob Cocker.* So the surrounding background is in the opposite colour.

*Hal Caston.* It is something that has to go to the members on a national basis. it is time to look at it.

*Davo.* (Gippsland Reg Vic). There is no way I can see 40,000 people who would come to you to complain about black shirts.

*Hal Caston.* No. I said in a week we talked to 40,000 on many topics, but there was an undercurrent.

*Davo.* You said you did not have a list of questions and that the people enjoyed the show and suggested you come back.

*Hal Caston.* The undercurrent of feeling against t-shirts may only have been 1 in 10, but it was a definite percent who said "why wear black and white?"

*Davo.* Did you say "because this is our national logo and colours."

*Hal Caston.* Yes.

*Davo.* What was their reaction?

*Hal Caston.* Are you facists? Why not introduce colours. Some said we could not wear that up home (Tourists).

*Davo.* Does M.R.A. A.C.T. have high public visibility?

*Hal Caston.* DEFINITELY. Which is why we have 400 members out of 2800 riders in the A.C.T. in 6 months since we started. This show was our first really big public exposure. You are all welcome to come to the next one next April, the week before Bathurst. We will need 2 to 3 hundred bikes to fill the space. Anyone who comes along will presumably get the same reaction re colours.

*Davo.* Will your branch be applying to change the colours.

*Hal Caston.* We will see what the members want. Black t-shirts, White t-shirts or the option of colours so long as they keep the logo. That's the way we understand it. We will see what the members want. We get 100 to 150 members out of 400 at a meeting so it's a pretty good representation.

*Davo.* OK so you say they called you facists, what if you adopt nice yellow t-shirts with M.R.A. logo's and the public says "they're all pansies they've all got acne" What will you do then?

*Damien Codognotto.* Give them clearasil.

*Davo.* You've got to be M.R.A. or you're not.

*Pete Walsh.* A.C.T. Look we will put this to the national body.

*Bob Cocker.* If it gets squashed you abide by it?

*Pete Walsh.* That's exactly right.

*Bob Cocker.* Back to the impromptu survey at the A.C.T. bike show. To get any reaction from the public you must ask specific questions. People that come up to you to complain are not a cross section. The ones that like the Black t-shirts will not come up and say "like your shirt, really ace." The image part of the black t-shirts is really nothing because you have not got a real survey to go on.

*Hal Caston.* But the reaction was there.

*Bob Cocker.* You are not going to get the public reaction of the vote of confidence. It's the same as the bikie image. Nobody rushes up and says what a fantastic bikie, it's always, there goes a ratbag.

*Hal Caston.* But the negative ones are the ones that will approach the media.

*Bob Cocker.* Alright, the next point is that one of the reasons the logo is Black and White, is you've got 2 opposite colours - contrast - Blue and white won't work and so on. We already have 2 t-shirts. I believe there should be only one, black that's my personal opinion. If you get one more colour you have 3 possibilities. If you get 2 more you have 4. Imagine a protest run where you are trying to present a public relations image. BOOM M.R.A. here they come. We tell our members on each run to wear the black shirts and you can see that is all the M.R.A. BOOM, BOOM, BOOM, there they go. Now if you're coming along (all colours) you look like a bunch of "fags".

Personal opinion not on tape - Melbourne summers have days over 40 degrees celsius which are not considered unusual, yet we still wear black and our leathers. There are less thong nongs about. I don't believe the climate question is valid. Gramps and I wore full leathers and black gear while riding in Queensland admittedly it was cold and wet for part of our stay but we had some warm sunny days too. We did not feel the leather or the colour was a problem in Brisbane, or during the hottest Melbourne summer, Damien.

*Bob Cocker.* The top of Australia may have a legitimate argument re colours and climate. I've been to Darwin and worn black and I can't see what's wrong with white. I lived in Darwin and wore white and you wash, just like everybody else.

*Geraldine.* Qld. But if they don't like it, what are you going to do?

*Bob Cocker.* Alright, are you going to have it out in pink polka dots so they will buy it? If they don't like it they don't wear it. Somebody isn't going to like it no matter what you do.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* But if 95% don't like it what do you do?

*Davo.* If 95% want a change then you (Qld Committee) have coerced them.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* No. We just put it to a meeting, I don't like the blue t-shirt and I am forced to stand up for Blue t-shirts and I don't want them.

*Tony Reagan.* In the West we had a screen made up and if they want it in another colour, it's a one off. Easy.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* do you stop members sewing patches onto a blue leather jacket?

*Bob Cocker.* No because the jacket has nothing to do with the M.R.A. That is the M.R.A. (patch) and if they want to sew it on their forehead it's their business. The M.R.A. is the patch or the t-shirt, you see a black and white patch or t-shirt and that's the M.R.A. That's what it's about. There is a lot more than pleasing members involved here. We must have a national image and somebody is going to loose (for the good of the majority). If it comes to a democratic situation then you have to abide by it. There are lots of things that we're (S.A.) going to have to abide by, especially when it comes to the constitution. As I said at the last A.M.C. meeting M.R.A. S.A. does not slam down books and walk out the door. We take our lumps like everybody else. *It is an extremely important issue.* One thing we do as a P.R. exercise in S.A., is take kids from a boy's home to Adelaide International Raceway and pillion them around the track in the lunch break. We have 15 to 20 minutes responsible riders and they wear 15 to 20 black t-shirts. They do not get the choice they wear black M.R.A. shirts and that's it. On an occasion like that, that's what it's about, creating an image for people to look at. Coloured t-shirts break up that image. I don't like the conception of people wearing uniforms but when you are on a P.R. exercise it is important to portray that image. Why can't the guys in Qld buy a Black of a White t-shirt to wear once a month? They don't have to wear it till it goes green under the arm pits. They wear their t-shirts on the Toy Run for example.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* But they don't.

*Bob Cocker.* Has the concept of the M.R.A. national image ever been discussed.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* Yes, at huge lengths.

*Bob Cocker.* Do they understand what it means?

*Geraldine.* Qld. Yes, they looked at the black and white and at the blue and that's (blue) is what they wanted.

*Damien Codognotto.* I feel strongly about this. I know you did not have a model to work from, but your (Qld) members are far more isolated in thinking that those in any other state in Australia. You go into Brisbane and it's a different attitude, it's like going to another country. Kevin (Qld) you must be able to see them down here (Melb) it's totally different thinking to Brisbane.

*Geraldine.* Qld. Very much so.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* Very much so yes.

*Damien Codognotto.* If they (Qld Members) are getting a different logo and colours it is separating them further from the rest of Australia, and breaking up the national image. We want to think of M.R.A. as Australian, not as Victorians and Queenslanders and so on. We're Australian. It's a thing to take back to your members and discuss, if it comes to a consensus, *it should be this group of people (the national conference) that decides on the national image of the M.R.A.*

*Bob Cocker.* I can see that there is need for special consideration. I'd rather see just one state, if the others are willing to go along, to keep especially within the state. If you had an overwhelming vote, which you claim you've had for a blue t-shirt, the logo we have already stays exactly as it is. You say right, in Qld there are no Black and white t-shirts, either way. There is blue and white not white and blue, it's one. Say right that's it, what ever is decided on. It would be extremely unfortunate, and I'd hate to see

350 bikes on show in the Mall and everybody walked  
ugh, there was no question, they could see the M.R.A. from  
ards away. Everyone in S.A. knows, you see black and white  
a round M (pump) and that's the M.R.A. It stands out a mile  
y.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* But does that produce any real  
antage?

*Damien Codognotto.* Bloody Oath.

*Bob Cocker.* If you want an organization that is going to work  
have public recognition you've got to put them all in the same  
it.

*Pete Walsh.* What about the Gippsland registers blue and  
e newsletter.

*Bob Cocker.* Let's not get too carried away. Ours has col-  
d pictures in it. You are not against that are you?

*Davo.* We are a part of M.R.A. Vic and the Vic newsletter is  
k and white. Our newsletter does not go to all members. It was  
le at low cost locally. We got them printed with 2 shops  
ertising we added blue because it was better on paper.

*Bob Cocker.* Right. Let's not get carried away. The Toy Run  
ges change colour each year. There is a reason. You don't  
it every newsletter or badge to be identical, you want to be  
to say that's the one from March or June or what ever. Your  
t want badges to look like you went to Toy Run 81 ten times.

*Steve Bond.* With the logo and round design (Qld) would it be  
sible to take back to your committee the standard logo (Orig)  
when you get the next order of t-shirts put it to your members  
the logo revert bAck to the original loop, recognisable  
ghout the country?

*Kevin Trevarthan.* Well yes. I will make a couple of personal  
ments on that. I don't see that the members will like that one  
) before this one (round Qld design).

*Damien Codognotto.* That's only because the round one is  
only one most of them have seen.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* I think it's aesthetically better myself.

*Bob Cocker.* It makes a bloody good target.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* As far as blue t-shirts go, whether they will  
dered again will be put to the members again because when  
id the blue shirts we did not realize that the shirt would hit the  
re way it did.

*Damien Codognotto.* That's what I mean Qld is really  
ted.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* The other think that I thought of recently  
have not spoken to the committee about is that if we can  
n the blue t-shirt and put a white round background behind  
ack logo, or the reverse.

*Damien Codognotto.* To me, rather than change the colours  
ld), since it appears that colours may be introduced in some  
s, to me that (orig) is the M.R.A. logo. *It should be universal.*

*Steve Bond.* Printing the word Queensland in the round logo  
er isolates your members from the rest of Australia. Every-  
from Qld knows they are Queenslanders so there is little  
on to have it there in the first place and when they go inter-  
they are not representing the M.R.A. of Australia they repre-  
the M.R.A. of Qld. Sort of "I'm M.R.A. Qld."

*Pete Walsh.* If they see you are M.R.A. Qld they might not talk  
u.

*Damien Codognotto.* Another point about the original logo is  
t matches the stationary. These are rough (handed out letter  
ls). Consider this idea. It is a Qld idea of printing the states  
es across the bottom. It gives us national impact. We will

to look at uniform stationary eventually and it could be  
d in huge numbers, cheap (individual state addresses  
d be over printed). Anyway consider uniform letterheads,  
slopes, membership cards etc.

*Tony Reagan.* Memberships \$10.00 per year?

*Damien Codognotto.* Vic's have gone to \$8.00 from January.

*Tony Reagan.* W.A. is \$10.00 from December.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* And you're getting on us about blue t-  
s.

*Damien Codognotto.* There is a big difference between rais-  
membership fees because you are in financial difficulty and  
public image, I was against a rise personally. Some registers  
ted fees to go to \$10.00. \$8.00 was decided on because, as  
is possible, we did not want to alienate people who could not  
rd higher fees. I was against higher fees for that reason.  
rbers count and we have to represent every rider, including  
income earners. I was out voted and that's that.

*Kevin Trevarthan.* Surely if we are looking for all states  
tioning together then fees must be uniform.

*Bob Cocker.* What's wrong with \$5.00.

meeting closed at 4.30 p.m. Further discussion was held on  
day morning about fees. It was not recorded.



# M.R.A.

MOTORCYCLE RIDERS ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 64, Collins St.,  
Vic. 3000

26 th. February 1982

To all M.R.A. Committees

Re M.R.A. NATIONAL BODY.

The minutes of the First M.R.A. National Conference have been delayed by a number of things and for that I apologise. In order to get things moving I have copied the typesetting prior to printing so that comments and so on, can be made without having to wait for the full size copies and the tapes.

On Tuesday, February 23 rd. I was at a meeting with the N.S.W. Branch in Sydney. They are anxious to hold the Second M.R.A. National Conference as soon as possible. I agree and feel that Sydney or Perth would be the most suitable venues from my own point of view. Please contact Ross Goodman, President M.R.A. N.S.W. 02) 938 5496 on this matter.

Recently Victoria sent out a questionnaire for a map that would show M.R.A. travellers where, when and how to contact members in other areas. We arranged some sponsorship from the new bike mag "BIKE AUSTRALIA". The map will be a service to members nationally and it is hoped to produce it in poster size as well as A4 to be included in newsletters. However, returns have been dismal.

Also on a National level, Victoria will not be producing anything, except the newsletter and the cloth badge, that has the State's name on it. This is to promote a unified National image. Where possible we plan to use a map of Australia in black with the white, pump letters M.R.A. as per the metal Oz badges.

Finally, S.A., Tasy and Vic. are going to support each other politically as much as possible. A strong Vic and S.A. contingent will be on the Tasy protest run next week. Heather Malpas S.A. was at a meeting recently with the M.R.A. Vic. and the Vic. Minister for Transport. The added leverage we gained when the Minister realised he was dealing with a well organized, National organization was obvious.

Because we have seen this method work we urge all States, Branches and Registers, to adopt this attitude. The first place we can have a real show of strength will be the Adelaide 3 rd Party Protest Run at 1 pm on Saturday, May 1 st. Please ask members at meetings, socials and in newsletters to try to make it to Adelaide for the run. It will have real impact when the cameras see whole blocks of interstate number plates, with B&W M.R.A. T-shirts supporting the S.A.'s. Ride safe,

Let the people who ride decide. Damien

SA. PROTEST RUN ENQUIRIES  
BOB COCKER 08) 384 4904.  
HEATHER MALPAS. 08) 44 7294.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE MOTORCYCLE RIDERS' ASSOCIATION  
A PAPER FOR DISCUSSION AT THE M.R.A. NATIONAL CONFERENCE 1983  
INTRODUCTION.

This folder contains proposals for the establishment of an M.R.A. National Body-M.R.A. Australia.

M.R.A. Victoria, the founding and largest branch, believes that M.R.A. Australia is necessary. Such a body would ensure that the M.R.A. becomes an even more powerful force to protect the future of motorcycling in this country. It would also protect the spirit of the Constitution and National Image of the Association. Australia, in spite of its massive area, is shrinking. Communications, in terms of telephones and computers, travel and the media, are improving daily.

Government Departments are slowly beginning to think Nationally. Transport, Education and Police Departments are gradually moving in the direction of National Organisations. They are a long way behind businesses and unions. Most important organisations in this country are making use of modern technology and looking to the future of Australia rather than individual locations. Failing to recognise these trends has led to the fragmentation and/or collapse of several bodies. For example, the Federation of Australian Motorcyclists was the major force in motorcycle lobbying. It is now virtually non-existent. The Auto Cycle Union has a peak council but it is weak and as a result that organisation is fragmented. A result is that motorcycle sport in this country is not promoted as a National Sport but as individual club activities. Motorcycle sport has not yet reached the '80's. The car clubs, (N.R.M.A., R.A.C.V.,) etc., likewise are fragmented and their future Nationally is limited. However, it appears that they may be making moves towards greater National unity, albeit slowly. They have recognised the value of business interests and modern technology. It is NOT suggested that the M.R.A. adopt similar techniques to the car clubs. The M.R.A. must remain a grass roots organisation, protecting members safety and rights and supplying services to motorcycling.

However, to do that the M.R.A. must prepare for the future and recognise the trends and directions of our Nation. It must take full advantage of the facilities Australia has to offer and be prepared to maximise the benefits of future facilities as they become available.

The ground work must be done in 1983 to ensure that this Association is united and flexible enough to use such facilities for the good of motorcycling.

The M.R.A. has demonstrated the worth of its Constitution through its growth and achievements over the last 5 years. But, it is not time to relax and fall into the trap which caught F.A.M. and the A.C.U. The M.R.A. must think in terms of the '80's and '90's and work to ensure a strong future.

The following proposals are just that, proposals. They are based on 5 years experience and expertise which has made M.R.A. Victoria a successful, growing and professional organisation. Also, by travelling to, and in some cases working with other States M.R.A.'s, Victoria has learned a great deal about the operation of the Association on a National level.

The recent visit of the President of M.R.A. Great Britain, Paul Hillock, indicated the future value of an International M.R.A.. These proposals are designed to decrease the work loads of the various M.R.A. Committees and increase their profitability to allow them to better serve their members, while promoting a strong National image.

These proposals will not:

1. Lessen the power or effectiveness of M.R.A. Committees
2. Take funds or gains already won by M.R.A. Committees.
3. Intefere with the work of individual Committees.

These proposals will:

1. Increase the earning capacity of the Branches & Registers.
2. Improve the facalities available to make work in various areas and locations more effective.
3. Ensure a strong National image and promote unity.
4. Give the M.R.A. a system of Federal representation should the A.M.C. fail.
5. Increase the M.R.A. services and goods available to ALL M.R.A. members.

M.R.A. Victoria was misrepresented in the M.R.A. N.S.W. Newsletter when this document, which was more than a year in preparation and which called on all our resources, expertise and 5 years experience, was condensed into 7 lines.

The following proposals will benefit all members of the M.R.A. and it is hoped that the Delegates and Observers present at the M.R.A. National Conference (not forum), January '83, in Canberra, will consider them seriously. As Delegates and Observers you have a responsibility to members in your area to represent them and make decisions in their best interests. You also have a responsibility to ALL M.R.A. members, so the welfare of members throughout the Association must be taken into account.

## 5 YEARS EXPERIENCE

The Motorcycle Riders' Association began in Victoria. The 3 founding members were introduced to each other at Broadford in 1977.

The first official meeting of the M.R.A. was held in a hotel in St.Kilda in May 1978. That night the first 16 members of the Association formed the Melbourne Branch.

The idea was to build an organisation that was universally acceptable, yet strong enough to fight for motorcyclists' safety & rights. This organisation had to be public to fill the gap in motorcyclists' defences left by the soft sell Federation of Australian Motorcyclists. The 2 organisations were to compliment each other. They were to work together.

The form, operation and image of the new organisation was extensively discussed that night in May. Even the name was a long time in coming.

The name had to be universally acceptable. It had to say who and what we were. We were not to be a club. Discussion of the situation led us to the conclusion that what was needed was an organisation that was a union and a service group. A group that worked with other lobby groups to fight for a better deal for motorcyclists.

It was M.R.A. Victoria that put forward the concept of a National Run to Canberra. It was M.R.A. Victoria that worked with F.A.M. A.C.T. to hold the 12,000 bike run on the Nations' Capital on the Australia Day Long Weekend in January 1980.

M.R.A. Victoria has been involved with the establishment of, and supports the Australian Motorcycle Council. We were at the first Narrandera Conference in September 1978.

We had a name and a basic concept. Further discussion led us to the conclusion that the M.R.A. should have a constitution to ensure that future members and committees understood what the M.R.A. was for and how it should look and why it should operate in a certain way.

Part of the Constitution was to ensure that all motorcyclists, members or not, could have input to committee policy making decisions. Public monthly meetings should be held as forums to receive and distribute information and opinions.

Since the work of the M.R.A. would effect ALL riders it was felt that 2 way communication with the motorcycle community was most important. This could be achieved by public meetings, by mail and through the media. Public activities would also play a major role in this communication.

Offices were not available at that time and it was necessary to have a mailing address. It was decided that a post office box was the best way to ensure that the committee was kept in touch with people who could not attend meetings.

It was also decided that records of finances and meetings should be kept and be available to be seen by anyone who had an interest. It was to be an open and democratic organisation.

The aims of the Association had to be universally acceptable too. They had to be easily understood and benign. They had to be aims that you could quote to the media and they could find nothing negative in them.

The aims of the M.R.A. are:-

1. ROAD SAFETY.
2. A BETTER IMAGE FOR MOTORCYCLISTS.
3. FAIR AND SENSIBLE LEGISLATION.

Policies were developed with those aims in mind.

#### THE FIRST AIM

The most important and most neglected area of ROAD SAFETY was ROAD USER EDUCATION. It still is.

#### THE SECOND AIM

A better image did not mean that the motorcycle community was going to change. It meant that by using the media, especially at well run public activities, the motorcycle community would be seen by the general public to be a caring and intelligent section of our society. Motorcycles would be seen as a legitimate and contributing part of our transport system.

#### THE THIRD AIM

The aim of achieving fair and sensible legislation meant that good legislation regarding motorcycling would be supported. For example we would help develop and support the introduction of a skill test for learner permit applicants. We have done this. However, it also meant that we would fight bad laws. For example, front number plates, excessive insurance premiums, no mods laws, differential speed limits, the 250cc restriction etc. We are doing this.

Many laws were being made by Authorities who had no practical knowledge of motorcycling. They did not see the motorcycle community as having anything constructive to say. They do not say it openly but many feel that we are of sub normal intelligence and a negative influence in the community as a whole.

They are still making ill-informed and unjust decisions concerning motorcyclists. They are still discriminating against us and treating us as second class citizens in many cases. They reflect the feelings of some members of the general public.

The M.R.A. was formed as a union to fight injustice and discrimination against motorcyclists.

#### THE STRUGGLE TO ACHIEVE THE FIRST AIM

Riders die and are maimed at a rate greater than the tolls for the Vietnam or Korean wars. In the same length of time more of our people become casualties than Australian Servicemen became casualties in those wars. We have nothing to lose by fighting for our rights. More than 20,000 Australian riders were killed or injured by other Australians in cars between 1975 and 1980.

Think of that. 20,000 casualties caused by car drivers.

More than 75% of all multi vehicle accidents involving a motorcycle, are found to be the fault of a car driver. We are involved in a Civil War. A hidden war.

The Federal Government was made aware of the statistics in a speech to Federal Parliament by the Labour Shadow Minister for Transport in September 1980. He was the Honourable Peter Morris. He had been to the rally site and attended the 12,000 bike run to Canberra in January 1980.

The Federal Government ignored his plea on our behalf. The Federal Transport Minister ignored the 12,000 bike run. His representative turned up late. He was at the cricket.

Peter Morris' statistics were frightening. He said this:

More than 40,000 motorcyclists have been either killed or injured on Australia's roads since 1975. The majority were young and inexperienced riders who, through lack of proper rider training or driver awareness schemes, had little chance in an accident situation. In 1980/81 it (the Federal Government) expects to increase its revenue from petrol taxes to \$3,978m., an increase of 27%. Less than 0.0002% of this petrol tax revenue will be spent on road safety. That is the value that this Government places on the lives of the motoring public. However, this is not the only implication of the Government's petrol tax for road safety. In effect, it has set in train fundamental shifts in the modes of personal transport. .... Given the inadequacy of the public transport system and the highly decentralised urban areas an increasing proportion of the motoring public is turning towards motorcycling as a form of personal transport. This shift is reflected in statistics which indicate that national sales of motorcycles increased by more than 45% in 1979/80. The average purchaser is a married man with 2 children in a single income family situation. On average, the motorcycle purchased is a commuter, medium sized road cycle with much greater potential for economy than that of a small 4 cylinder motor car. .... Government expenditure on motorcycle road safety has been less than ONE HALF OF ONE PER CENT OF TOTAL ROAD SAFETY SPENDING SINCE 1974/75. Motorcycles are an efficient and low cost form of personal transport and their use should be encouraged. It is the Government's responsibility to ensure that the motorcycle rider receives adequate training before being exposed to the hazards of the open road. .... 40,000 casualties. Some civil war.

What the Honorable Peter Morris was saying was that one half of one per cent was not enough of the road safety money to spend on motorcycling. Considering the amount of petrol tax collected and the cost to the community of 40,000 casualties the Federal Government had been neglecting the motorcycle community. They still are.

After his speech, in the corridors of power, Peter Morris was asked by other M.P's why he bothered with the "bikies". They did not listen to the statistics, or did not want to. Such was their lack of care. Were they conditioned to react against intelligent input from the motorcycle community?

Perhaps it was not a conscious discrimination. Perhaps they felt that one half of one per cent of the road safety spending was enough for motorcyclists. Perhaps they felt that we would all be dead soon anyway.

In 1981 I put the idea of a National Motorcycle Safety Month to the Parliamentary Advisory Committees on Education and Road Safety. (P.A.C.E.R.S. ) I am the A.M.C. Delegate to that Committee.

In Victoria we have just held our 3rd. annual Safety Month. They have all been successful. I showed P.A.C.E.R.S. a 2 minute video tape and other material M.R.A. Victoria had obtained from the U.S.A. where there are several successful Motorcycle Safety Months. I was given about 8 minutes at the end of a 6 hour meeting which was primarily concerned with re-designing a leaflet that has still not been printed.

I was told that the Federal Government would not be involved in a Motorcycle Safety Month.

## THE MOTTO

"Let those who ride decide" was also borrowed from the Americans. It is the M.R.A. motto. It does not mean that we want to make the laws to suit ourselves. It means we want fair and sensible input into decisions that effect our rights and safety. It was picked because it was a talking point. It would arouse interest in why the M.R.A. existed. It would promote dialogue and give us the opportunity to explain what we are about.

Similarly M.R.A. Victoria designed "lights on stinks" stickers. They were meant to provoke conversation with people who thought we were crazy not to want the compulsory daytime use of headlights. They were meant to give us a chance to put our case. They were very successful. Sadly the motto and the stickers were condemned by some people they were meant to help. They said "too militant..We don't want to be seen to be table thumping."

40,000 casualties. Don't table thump.

They should spend some time observing in a Melbourne casualty ward. They should talk to the 4B's. The 4B's started in Melbourne too.

## THE IMAGE

To do its job properly the M.R.A. had to project a credible image. It had to be seen as a well organised, representative body of people who did their research and wanted reasonable things. It had to be a strong image. People do not respect other people who make idle threats. Who cry wolf. It had to project a benign image. An image that represented people who cared for their community. M.R.A. Blood Runs, Toy Runs and charity work started in Melbourne. It had to project an image that said we work within the system to improve the system.

The name of the Association gave rise to the initials, M.R.A.. A Letraset type face, "Pump" bold was chosen because it was a benign rounded style. It was bold and highly legible and would be readily available in years to come. The large full stops could suggest wheels to some. The letters shown in a western style type face may have suggested cowboys to some. And so on.

Those 3 initials were to be, and are, representative of what the Association is. Just as the B.M.W., Shell, Red Cross and Qantas have their logos. You do not have to see their names written. A familiar logo is more eloquent than the written name in many cases. M.R.A. in pump represents the Motorcycle Riders' Association.

Since the media was to be one of our weapons and television is the most powerful medium, we needed colors that would compliment the work of the logo. The colors had to be very legible, readily available, fade resistant and easily distinguished from a crowd on camera. Black and white were the obvious choices because it stood in contrast to a colored surround in nature and on camera.

Some have since felt that black was negative. We felt that is was as negative as a Government vehicle, formal wear or a nun's habit. Just as white is as positive as a virgin bride. Black and white are the M.R.A.'s "colours".

M.R.A. Victoria is proud of the achievements all over Australia that the black and whites represent. Other colors are un-constitutional. Other logos are un-constitutional.

Bob Cocker, the President of South Australia's M.R.A., at the last National Conference, said that the logo and colors are designed for public activities. They display a strong, united image at Toy Runs and so on. At functions where media cameras are going.

Members do not have to wear the black and whites every day. They do not have to wear them until they go green under the arms. There are smaller badges and patches that can be worn on fashion colors for daily use. Official M.R.A. garments are black and white.

However, some of us wear our black and whites daily, and with pride.

#### OTHER BRANCHES

During 1979 the M.R.A. in Melbourne was gaining a reputation, via the media. Concerned motorcyclists contacted the Melbourne Committee hoping to establish M.R.A.'s in their areas.

Since the work of the Association dealt with Governments it was logical to have Branches close to the seats of Government in the capital cities. But riders in other centres needed an organisation to deal with local issues and represent those riders to the Branch and so to Government. The idea of Registers for those centres was formed.

Registers catered for the needs of riders outside the capitals and worked under the Branches.

Just as there was a need for Branches and Registers there is now a need for a National Body. In the future there will be a need for an International Body. It too will need a strong and respected image.

In 1978 there was only 1 Branch with 16 members. In 1982 there are more than 40 Branches and Registers, one Branch is in England. There are 10,000 + members. That has happened in just 5 years and the Branches that have held true to the original Constitution are growing. That indicates that there was a need for an organisation like the M.R.A. and that the original Constitution works.

The M.R.A. in Melbourne wanted to leave the way clear for the democratic growth of the Association so it checked out the riders that wished to start Branches and Registers as best it could. We asked that they uphold the spirit of the Constitution and the good name of the Association. We said that only minor things in the Constitution, like the numbers to make a quorum could be changed. We said that Victoria set the standard for colors and logos until a National Body was formed and a majority vote could be taken.

It was a verbal and moral agreement. We did not put it in writing. That was a mistake.

Some Committees have deviated from the spirit of the Constitution and have not kept to the accepted image of the M.R.A. This is probably through a lack of understanding of the origins of the M.R.A.

It is hoped that the M.R.A. National Conference will resolve these deviations. It is hoped that the Registers will have observers present in Canberra on the Australia Day long weekend in January 1983. It is hoped that members will be told of proceedings and will agree that we are a union and, in spite of political boundaries, we need a strong unified image and ONE Constitution.

The first Constitution took several forms. Typed sheets stapled together and then a type set booklet, but the contents were the same. Those who adopted Victoria's Constitution were morally bound not to change it.



Section 1.(b) of that Constitution said:-  
The official colors and logo of the M.R.A. shall be made uniform as to comply with the standards and specifications set by the Victorian Head Office.

Section 17 was included to facilitate changes in minor things such as quorums, not the image or spirit of the Constitution. That has been explained to other Committees, but it has been used as a loop-hole by some. It should have been more clearly defined. That was what the people who started the other Branches and Registers agreed to.

That Constitution is reproduced in this paper. Other concerned riders asked us if they could use our Constitution. We did not force them to start Branches and Registers.

As well as the current Constitution, there is a proposed Constitution for discussion at the National Conference, attached.

As remaining founding member of the M.R.A. holding a Committee position, I am most concerned that the spirit and image of the M.R.A. should not be watered down or corrupted to the advantage of those who place personal gain, in whatever form, before the reduction of our road toll and the defense of our rights and liberty.

We have achieved much in 5 years. Victoria's growth indicates that our original policies are in general correct. We have a long way to grow.

The M.R.A. is at a cross roads. It is the same cross roads where the car clubs, the A.C.U.'s, the F.A.M.'s and others have failed. Political boundaries are negative for most purposes. We can have one strong, unified image and Constitution if we forget the petty State and National boundaries where possible. Leave the little empires to others. The people who make the bad laws for us, and neglect our safety.

No matter what or where we ride, we ride. That is what the M.R.A. was born of.



D. Codognotto,

President,  
M.R.A. Victoria.

## PROPOSALS FOR AN M.R.A. NATIONAL BODY

1. M.R.A. Annual General Meetings and Elections should be held in August.

This would allow the out going Treasurer to prepare and present a report on the last financial year (ended June 31st.) to the incoming Committee.

It would also give the new Committee time to take over and organise events such as Toy Runs.

It would have the advantage of ALL Committees receiving contact lists of the new Committee members at the same time (Sept.) so that people would know who they were dealing with for the coming year and documents like the N.S.W. M.R.A. Directory could be updated on an annual basis.

Methods of holding elections should be standardised and must be by secret ballot at meetings. Postal voting should be controlled by strict guidelines.

Standard ballot forms should be designed and used by all Branches and Registers.

This proposal will ensure all members have equal voting rights at Branch and Register level and will cut cost and time from the organisation of elections.

2. All M.R.A. membership fees should be \$10A or the equivalent. This would be low enough to allow a good cross section of motorcyclists to be represented by the Association and high enough to allow a National Body to function.

The new fees should apply from the beginning of the financial year.

3. All M.R.A. members should have equal voting rights, rights to facilities and services and the right to inspect books, finances, minutes etc. in all Branches and Registers.

4. The structure of M.R.A. Committees should be standardised. M.R.A. Victoria has had problems, as have other Committees, with working with large Committees. Some members resign mid term and others can't make meetings. However, decisions must be made. Members vote in a Committee person to administer the organisation for them. Large Committees sometimes hamper this work.

Obviously some Committees will need more manpower than others. Where a person is needed to take a role outside that of the Executive Committee that person should be appointed by that Committee, eg: A person would be needed to run the 4B's Sub Committee.

A person thus appointed would have the right to attend and speak at Executive Committee meetings.

Committee meetings at Branch and Register levels should be held at least once a month with the possible exception of January.

## STRUCTURE

### (a) REGISTERS.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

TREASURER

SECRETARY

APPOINTED POSITIONS

MEMBERS

Registers should be divided into 2 catagories.

Operational

Non-operational

To be considered operational a Register should have at least one Committee meeting and one General meeting per month and produce some form of record, eg: minutes book.

It may not be necessary to hold official functions in January or in the Northern Hemisphere during the month when most people take holidays.

Records of meeting should be forwarded to the Branch and the National Body.

Where possible, it would be desirable to circulate minutes to all Branches and Registers.

Registers considered operational should also have a post office box address and a bank account. Financial records should be kept and forwarded at the end of the financial year to the Branch.

Branch Committees would decide which Registers were operational judging them on their merits.

Operational Registers would have preference over non-operational Registers where stock or services were concerned when dealing with a Branch or the National Body.

(b) BRANCHES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

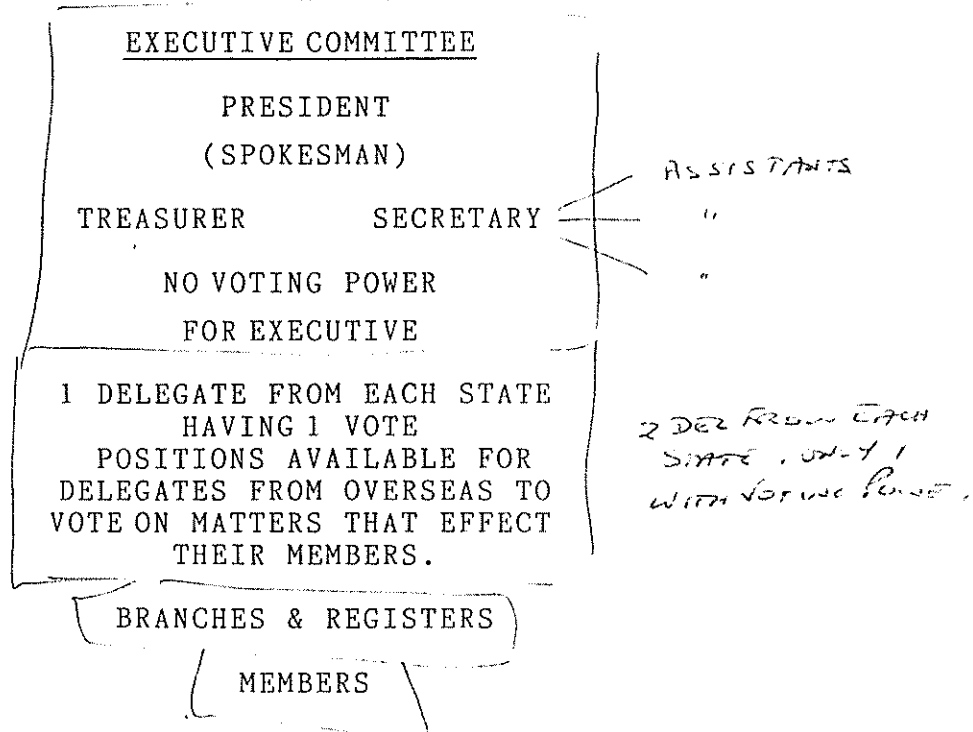
~ VICE PRESIDENT, TREASURER, SECRETARY, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

APPOINTED POSITIONS (INC. REGISTER REPS.)

MEMBERS

The roles of the Executive positions should be defined but should remain flexible.

(c) M.R.A. AUSTRALIA



5. The M.R.A. National Body should meet once a year on the Australia Day Weekend. This meeting would be held at the same location each year so that Branch Delegates and Register Observers could plan for the event. Reasonable travel costs and supply of the venue would be handled by M.R.A. Australia.
- If a second meeting was needed then it could be held in other locations but the host Branch would have to negotiate costs, venue and administration with M.R.A. Australia.

6. Locations of M.R.A. Australia and the annual National Conference.
- POSSIBILITIES

Canberra-While Canberra is the Nations' Capitol the M.R.A. does not have a large membership there and has few facilities. Many members may be in the Public Service or the Armed Forces and so subject to transfers. Politicians are out of Canberra in their electorates for a good percentage of the year. The A.M.C. is based in Canberra and now has a serious manpower problem.

Sydney- This should be the biggest Branch but its membership has not grown at the rate of some other States. The M.R.A. in Sydney has few facilities and is low on manpower. Further, attitudes of some motorcycle groups and individuals in N.S.W. are anti M.R.A.N.S.W.. This was made clear by problems with Bikers Limited and C.M.A.C. and the most recent edition of Oz Bike. It was not clearly stated that the anti M.R.A. feeling was directed at the organisers of the Wombat Rally and not the M.R.A. in other States.

Melbourne- M.R.A. Victoria can offer a National Body a venue. The hall at M.R.A. House can seat over 100 people. The hall has a P.A. System, tape recording facilities, 16mm projection and video gear (VHS), tea and coffee making facilities, undercover parking, 2 phone lines, its own computer, 2 trucks, dark room, cameras, plate maker, offset printing press and office space with desk and filing cabinets. Melbourne also has 2 fulltime employees and the ability to send them anywhere in the country.

The logical choice for the location of a National Body and the Australia Day meetings would seem to be Melbourne, the birth place of the M.R.A.

7. A quarterly National Newsletter should be established. Newsletters already being produced would not change. However, a National Newsletter could take the place of some local newsletters thus reducing the cost and work loads for some Committees. For example, Victoria would drop its State Newsletter and put all its efforts into a National Newsletter. A National Newsletter would promote unity at a grass roots level because individual members would receive direct information on activities and contacts Interstate and Overseas. A newsletter editor would be responsible for supplying material for the National Newsletter. Since the N.S.W. M.R.A. Newsletter is the best in the country it would seem desirable that Tim Corcoran, its editor, be the editor of the National Newsletter.

8. M.R.A. Australia's National Newsletter could be called "The Deciding Factor" in keeping with the M.R.A.'s motto. Its logo could be as per Fig.3
9. 4B's- Since the 4B members job is an extremely important and responsible position a section controlling such bodies should be added to the National Constitution.
10. Motorcycle Clubs- Clubs wishing to become a club recognised by the M.R.A. should be able to do so by paying a fee of \$20 to M.R.A. Australia. They would then appoint a club member as M.R.A. rep. and that members M.R.A. membership fee would be covered by the club's \$20 payment. That member's job would be to inform the club of M.R.A. activities, distribute Newsletters and sign up M.R.A. members. In this way more clubs could be encouraged to include M.R.A. activities, such as Toy Runs, on their calanders and to urge members to support such functions. Where possible M.R.A. club reps. would attend general meetings. A National listing of M.R.A. recognised clubs and reps. would be handled by the computer.
11. The M.R.A. Toy Run be held on the second weekend in December by all Branches and be the major public activity of the M.R.A.
12. In order to cut costs all M.R.A. stock, stationary and so on be made uniform and ordered (where possible) in large quantities by the National Body. Perhaps a greater benefit would be the improvement to National unity and the credibility of the National Image.

FINANCES-A PROPOSAL

When the M.R.A. National Body has been set up, we will need to have some way of financing it. This has to be done in a profit making & professional way, as the National Body could become a financial burden on M.R.A. Branches, especially the Branches with low memberships. Set out below are three methods of financing a National Body.

PROPOSAL 1

All membership fees (\$10), from the start of the financial year, will be paid directly to the National Body. An income of approximately \$150,000 per annum. With this income the National Body can purchase stock on a yearly order from producers in the State that has the cheapest quote, i.e. M.R.A. Victoria pays \$3.30 per t-shirt on orders over 50. If we order 10,000 per year to be delivered at a rate of 1000 per month. The cost could be as low as \$2.50 per t-shirt. This stock purchased at a lower price and sent to the Branches at that price will mean a bigger profit margin for the whole Association. The National Body can print the Newsletters at no cost to the Branches and distribute same. It can run membership listings on its own computer and even have terminals in all main Branches, again at no cost to the Branches.

Money that is not being used at the time can be invested on short term money market, giving the National Body a way of increasing its income. The current rate of interest on the short term market is approximately 25%. Branches can not, and never will be able, to earn an income through investments due to the small amounts of finance they have. At best, M.R.A. Victoria may be able to invest \$5,000, the yearly return on that will be \$675. If the National Body invests a minimum of \$20,000 (which is quite possible) the return will be \$4,800 per annum. An increase of 611% on profit making abilities.

Branches that require funds to operate and cannot make the appropriate income through sale of stock etc. will put a submission to the National Body for funds. At the end of each financial year the National Body will return a percentage of its income to all State Branches which in turn the Branches can pass part of their income to their Registers.

The percentage return at the end of the financial year will be in proportion to the amount of members at the Branches.

On that income M.R.A. Australia will supply all printing, computer services, computer terminals and stationery at no cost to all Branches. It will pay all costs for the National Conferences, such as travel expenses for delegates and accommodation.

PROPOSAL 2

The National Body will receive a percentage of the membership fees (i.e. \$2 out of \$10) which means an annual income of \$30,000. This income will not be sufficient to run the National Body. The M.R.A. Victoria, Head Office, expenditure averaged \$60,000 per annum over 5 years.

To supplement this deficiency the National Body will have to purchase stock and sell it at a small increase. It will have to charge the Branches and Registers for services such as printing and distribution of the Newsletter, running the membership listings etc. Also because of the percentage of membership fees paid into the National Body, some of the Branches will be disadvantaged due to the fact that W.A. fees are \$10 at this time, so they will actually lose



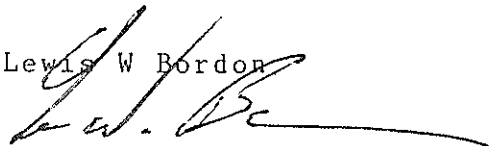
\$2 on each membership. Victoria membership is \$8 at present so they will gain nothing. The only States that will profit from this are the States with a membership of \$5.

### PROPOSAL 3

The National Body can be financed by asking the Branches to pay a specific amount into it, such as \$5,000 per annum from the 6 Branches. Making the total income of \$30,000 per annum, again not near enough for the proper operation of the National Body. The rest of the income can only be supplemented by the resale of stock at a profit etc.

I have been an accountant now for 10 years, in that period of time I have learnt the ways of making money work for you. To my belief the only way the M.R.A. can continue to grow is by following the first proposal. The only way for you and your members to be sure of my proposal is to actually speak to an accountant or a business man. Anyone that has no knowledge of business, accounting or book-keeping is only fooling himself by saying that he knows better. Funds and equipment currently held by Branches and Registers would remain the property of those Branches and Registers in all 3 proposals.

Lewis W Bordon



M.R.A. Victoria-Treasurer.

PROPOSED NATIONAL M.R.A. CONSTITUTION

1. THE NAME

- (a) The name of the Association shall be the Motorcycle Riders' Association of Australia herein referred to as the M.R.A.
- (b) Branches of the M.R.A. shall be known by the State name.  
e.g. The Queensland Branch of M.R.A. Australia.
- (c) Registers of the M.R.A. shall be known by a local name.  
e.g. The Gippsland Register of M.R.A. Australia.
- (d) No member shall use the name of the Motorcycle Riders' Association or any names or titles registered by law to the Motorcycle Riders' Association for the purpose of personal profit or advancement or for the profit of some other company or organisation without written permission of the Motorcycle Riders' Association. Permission is only to be granted subject to the majority vote of the National Body.

2. THE LOGO AND COLORS.

- (a) The official logo and colors of the M.R.A. shall be uniform for the National Body, all Branches and all Registers of the M.R.A.
- (b) The official colors shall be black and white.
- (c) The official logo of the M.R.A. shall be the initials M.R.A. in the Letraset "Pump" type face as in Fig.1.
- (d) The official designs for M.R.A. garments and badges shall be as shown in Figs.2,3,4,5,6 and 7.
- (e) M.R.A. Branches and Registers may print the name and or logo of their Branch or Register on the backs of official garments.
- (f) Garments or badges produced for specific M.R.A. activities may incorporate other colors or designs, but the logo must be in black or white in the "Pump" type face.

2. THE OBJECTIVES OF THE M.R.A.

The objectives of the M.R.A. shall be to:-

- (a) To work for road safety.
- (b) To promote and improve the public image of motorcycling.
- (c) To work for fair and sensible legislation to protect the motorcyclist's safety and rights.

4. MEMBERSHIP

- (a) Any person who has an interest in the objectives of the M.R.A. is eligible for membership in the M.R.A.
- (b) The annual membership fee of the M.R.A. shall be \$10A or the equivalent in another currency.
- (c) The Committee of M.R.A. Australia shall set membership fees.
- (d) Any member who in the opinion of a State or National Committee has, or is acting in a manner detrimental to the M.R.A. shall be expelled from membership of the M.R.A.. Such action is to be decided by a majority vote of the State or National Committee concerned. The membership fee is to be forfeited to the M.R.A.. All membership badges and cards are to be surrendered to the M.R.A.

- (e) A financial member may appeal against expulsion to the National Committee.

## 5. FINANCE

- (a) The financial year shall terminate on the 30th June each year.
- (b) All accounts shall be presented and passed for payment at a Committee meeting and the minutes in relation thereto shall be included in the minute book.
- (c) The funds of the M.R.A. shall be banked in the name of the M.R.A. in a bank decided upon by the Committee.
- (d) Signatories of the M.R.A. cheques shall be any two (2) of the following:-
  - (1) President
  - (2) Vice President
  - (3) Treasurer
  - (4) Secretary
  - (5) Membership Secretary
- (e) The income and property of the M.R.A. wheresoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the M.R.A. and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to the members of the M.R.A. provided that nothing herein shall prevent payment in good faith of remuneration to any officer, member or servant of the M.R.A., duly authorised by the Committee of the M.R.A., in return for services actually rendered to the M.R.A. or reasonable and proper rent for premises let by any member of the M.R.A.
- (f) Each State Committee is to be supplied with a balance sheet showing monies received and expended for the previous twelve months by the National Body no more than thirty (30) days after the 30th day of June each year.

## (g) AUDITOR

The auditor for the M.R.A. Branch and National Committees shall be elected at each annual general meeting.

## (h) BOOK INSPECTION

- (a) All books of the M.R.A., and the names of members, shall be open for inspection at the time and place of meeting of the M.R.A. by any member, on such member giving three (3) days previous notice in writing to the Secretary, requiring their production.
- (b) Members personal details shall be confidential.

## (i) DISSOLUTION

- (a) In the event of the M.R.A. being dissolved, the assets and properties after payment of all just debts and liabilities shall not be distributed to members but shall be distributed to a fund or funds with similar objects and/or to a fund or funds exclusively for charitable purposes.
- (b) If a State Branch is dissolved, all assets and properties, after payment of just debts and liabilities, shall be distributed to the Registers of that State. If there are no such Registers, then all assets and properties shall be distributed to M.R.A. Australia.

- (c) If a Register is dissolved, all assets and properties, after all just debts and liabilities have been paid, shall be distributed to that State main Branch.

## 6. STRUCTURE

See Proposals for a National Body Pages.

## 7. MEETINGS

- (a) General meetings shall be open to the public.
- (b) Non members may voice opinions.
- (c) Only financial members shall have voting rights.
- (d) The annual general meeting and election of the Committee shall be in August of each year.
- (e) In all meetings the President shall preside, should the President be absent the chair shall be taken by the Vice President, and in the absence of the President and the Vice President the chairman shall be elected from those present.
- (f) General and Committee meetings shall be called at any time by the Secretary, upon authority of the President.
- (g) Extraordinary general meetings at Branch level shall be called by the Secretary upon the requisition made in writing and signed by not less than fifteen (15) members of the M.R.A.
- (h) Extraordinary general meetings at Register level shall be called by the Secretary upon the requisition made in writing and signed by not less than five (5) members of the M.R.A.
- (i) Extraordinary general meetings at a National level shall be called by the Secretary upon the requisition made in writing and signed by not less than four (4) State Delegates. In special circumstances the requisition may be made by telephone.
- (j) A Committee meeting shall be called by the Secretary upon the requisition made in writing and signed by not less than three (3) members of the Committee at Branch level or two (2) members of the Committee at Register level.
- (k) The Secretary, shall within seven (7) days from a receipt of a requisition call a meeting in accordance therewith, for a date not more than twenty-one (21) days after the receipt of such requisition.
- (l) The Secretary shall give twenty-one (21) days notice in respect of annual general meetings and extraordinary general meetings. Where special emergency circumstances exist the foregoing length of notice may be dispensed with by the President.
- (m) All notices of meeting, or other business in connection with the M.R.A. shall be deemed to be duly sent to the members by the Secretary, posting same by pre-paid letter to the members at their last known address.
- (n) M.R.A. Sub-Committees such as 4B's shall be bound by the rules of the Constitution and the Appointed Committee person shall fill the role of President of such Sub-Committees.
- (o) The names of Committee members and special visitors in attendance at meetings shall be recorded in the minutes and the number of people present shall be recorded in the minutes.
- (p) The National Body will meet at least once a year and as is deemed necessary by the National President. A chairman at each meeting is to be elected by majority vote of the National Body and all decisions made are to be made by majority vote.

## 8. QUORUMS

- (a) Quorums for meetings shall be set by the President of the National Body or the State Branch or the Register or the Sub-Committee after consultation with the Secretary and Treasurer of the Committee involved. The number of members needed to make a quorum shall be approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  the number of members that usually attend a meeting.
- (b) The number of members needed to make a quorum shall be recorded in the minutes of the first meeting after the quorum has been set.
- (c) If within 30 minutes after the time appointed for the meeting a quorum is not present the meeting, if convened upon the requisition of members, shall be dissolved, in any other case it shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within 30 minutes from the time appointed for the meeting the members present shall be a quorum.

## 9. VOTING

- (a) On a show of hands every member represented in person and entitled to vote shall have one vote.
- (b) Any member has the right to demand a secret ballot of any vote taken at the general meeting.
- (c) At all meetings the chairman shall have a casting vote.
- (d) A member unable to be present and entitled to vote on any matter on the agenda may communicate his vote in writing, such vote to be in the Secretary's hands prior to the starting time of the meeting.
- (e) A member shall appoint another member to act as his proxy provided notice in writing is given to the Secretary at the commencement of the meeting.
- (f) Election of office bearers and Committee shall be by secret ballot.
- (g) At a secret ballot vote any member being voted upon shall have the right to call a recount if the votes differ by a margin of 5% or less.
- (h) Standard secret ballot forms shall be available from the National Body and all Committees for postal voting and secret ballots.
- (i) Only a majority vote of all State Committee persons representing all States to the National Body of the Motorcycle Riders' Association will allow the removal of a National Committee person.

## FORMATION OF REGIONAL SUB-BRANCHES

- (a) On the description of the State Committee a Register or Regional Sub-Branch can be established if the occasion warrants such action.
- (b) The State Committee, by a majority vote, shall appoint three (3) regional representatives whose task will be to organise a Register for the local members, and a Committee to manage its affairs.
- (c) The regional Sub-Branch shall collect all fees and monies from sale of M.R.A. material and forward monies to the main State Branch of the M.R.A.
- (d) See proposal 4. Pages

## FORMATION OF OTHER BRANCHES

- (a) The Committee of the National Body shall, on majority vote, authorise individuals who have shown interest, to form a Branch of the M.R.A.. The duties of these individuals shall be similar to other Branch Committees.
- (b) When the Branch has a membership of thirty (30) members, a general meeting will be organised to elect an interim Committee for that State Main Branch.
- (c) The duties of the interim Committee shall be the same as other Branch Committees.
- (d) A copy of the constitution shall be sent to a Branch as soon as the Branch is established.
- (e) When the Branch is established, or before the passing of twelve (12) months, the interim Committee will arrange an election of a Committee in accordance with this constitution.
- (f) When an Interstate Regional Sub-Branch is in operation, and there is no Main Branch in that State, the Regional Sub-Branch will operate directly under the orders of the National Body until such time as a State Main Branch is established.
- (g) See proposal 4. Pages

## ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION

The National Body shall have the sole power to alter the Constitution of the Motorcycle Riders' Association.

## RESIGNATION

Any Committee member may resign his position at any time by writing to the Secretary at least fourteen (14) days prior to relinquishing his position.

## MANAGEMENT OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE M.R.A.

The government of the M.R.A. rests within the members in the general meeting. Subject thereto, the management of its affairs shall be vested in the Committees.

## POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The Committee may exercise all such powers of the M.R.A. as are not by these rules required to be exercised by the members in general meeting, and without derogation from the generality of the foregoing, shall have the following specific powers in addition to such others as are specified elsewhere in these rules:-

- (a) To adopt such measures as from time to time it appears proper for the purposes of giving effect to the purposes, aims or objects of the M.R.A.
- (b) To consider, and where necessary, authorise expenditure and payment of accounts properly incurred by the M.R.A.
- (c) To compromise, settle and resolve claims and demands made on the M.R.A.
- (d) The National Body only has the power to make, alter, vary or rescind such constitution rules as may be required for the purpose of carrying out these rules and for regulating the conduct and proceedings of meetings of the Committee and of the M.R.A. These changes shall not however be binding unless confirmed by the next general meeting or extraordinary general meeting called for that purpose.
- (e) To have the power to fill a casual vacancy occurring on the Committee during its year of office.
- (f) To have the power to create and dissolve Sub-Committees and power to co-opt members in such Sub-Committees.

#### OFFICE BEARERS

The office bearers shall be called:-

- (a) President
- (b) Vice President
- (c) Secretary
- (d) Treasurer
- (e) Membership Secretary

The immediate past President shall be ex-officio member of this Committee with the right of participating fully in the proceedings of meeting of the Committee. Except for any President which may have been expelled from the Committee.

#### (1) PRESIDENT

#### (2) VICE PRESIDENT

#### (3) TREASURER

The Treasurer shall keep account of the funds and the properties of the M.R.A. and all receipts and payments on account of the M.R.A.. He shall in each year, prepare a balance sheet and statement of accounts, and shall submit the same, duly audited, to the annual general meeting each year. He shall attend all meetings at which matters of finance are to be discussed.

4. SECRETARY

The Secretary shall, subject to the provision of this constitution, convene all meetings and M.R.A. conferences, and take proper minutes of the proceedings thereat and shall circulate a copy thereof to the Registers, the Main State Branches and the office bearers. The Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the M.R.A. He shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees. He shall maintain contact with the bodies with which the M.R.A. recognises and shall inform the M.R.A. of all matters relating to such bodies.

5. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

6. APPOINTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Where the need arises the Executive Committee shall appoint by majority vote a person to handle specific functions, e.g. the President of the 4B's Sub Committee. Appointed Committee members shall have voting rights at Committee meetings.

Appointed Committee persons shall not be obliged to attend Committee meetings.

Executive Committee members who fail to attend 2 consecutive Committee meetings and fail to make an apology in writing shall lose their position on the Committee.

Apologies may be phoned in but a written apology must be given within fourteen (14) days of the meeting.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND COMMITTEE

- (a) The President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary, except the immediate past President, shall be elected at each annual general meeting.
- (b) Nominations for the Committee shall be made in writing to the Secretary sixty (60) days prior to the annual general meeting.
- (c) Persons nominating and being nominated for the position of Committeeman must be a financial member of the M.R.A.
- (d) Voting for Executive Committeeman shall be done by secret ballot by the members present at the annual general meeting and by postal votes on approved ballot forms.
- (e) Executive Officers of the M.R.A. shall be elected for a twelve (12) month period at the annual general meeting, which will be held in August each year, and shall be convened in writing with at least fourteen (14) days notice given to every member.



4B'S

- (a) No Register of the M.R.A. shall raise a Committee known as the Bent and Buckled Bikies (Bikers) Bureau (4B's) without the prior consultation with and concurrence of the State Branch Committee person delegated as 4B Committee member.
- (b) Furthermore, no person or persons will claim to be a member of 4B's without written authority of the Committee person delegated to handle 4B's affairs.
- (c) Any unauthorised use of the 4B's patch, logo, name or badge is to be cause for immediate expulsion from the M.R.A as provided for in paragraph 4, sections (d) and (e), of the M.R.A. Constitution.
- (d) Supplies of 4B's patches will be provided by State M.R.A. 4B's Committee person and only upon receipt of a written request from 4B's Committee person at Register level.

POWERS OF THE COMMITTEE

12(g)

The Committee shall empower three members to sign a Declaration of Trust which shall provide that they be the Trustees of the Association and wherein in the said declaration the powers of the Trustees will be contained.

MOTORCYCLE RIDERS' ASSOCIATION-VICTORIA.

TREASURERS REPORT FOR JULY-DECEMBER 1962.

INCOME

Membership	\$	15618	
Stock	\$	13586	
Donations	\$	9832	
Miscellaneous	\$	20868*	
Postage	\$	25	
Rent	\$	3512	
Bank Interest	\$	-	\$ 63441

EXPENDITURE

Stock	\$	18346	
Print & Stat.	\$	7484	
Postage	\$	2282	
Telephone	\$	1544	
Insurance	\$	74	
Entertainment	\$	10	
Functions	\$	7237*	
Donations	\$	768	
Advertising	\$	377	
Miscellaneous	\$	5448*	
Rent	\$	6340	
Petty Cash	\$	661	
Power & Light	\$	1024	
Travell. Expenses	\$	318	
Build. Maintenance	\$	824	
Transf. of Funds	\$	830	
Purch. of Equipment	\$	2346*	\$ (55913)

PROFIT/LOSS .....	\$	7528
LEDGER BALANCE .....	\$	517
BANK ADJUSTMENTS.....	\$	( 44)
OUTSTANDING DEPOSITS.....	\$	
UN-PRESENTED CHEQUES.....	\$	
BALANCE AS PER BANK STATEMENT.....	\$	8001

\* N.B. Break-down of figures shown overleaf.

SCCELLANEIOUS INCOME.

ap meetings	\$ 745
ansfer of funds	\$ 830
ffles	\$ 149
n ball machines	\$ 19
ctorian Government Grant	\$ 9500
an from Queensland member	\$ 1000
R.A. Bike Show	\$ 6208
R.A. Toy Run	\$ 1220
oto copier sale	\$ 100
inner dance	\$ 40
ay upright course	\$ 162
wqua '83	\$ 10
scellaneous	\$ 885
	<hr/>
	\$ 20868

SCCELLANEIOUS EXPENSES.

payment of loan (C.C.C.)	\$ 1340
ilding rates	\$ 2385
ilding stamp duty	\$ 225
nk charges	\$ 304
tty cash	\$ 589
pairs to equipment	\$ 245
gal fees	\$ 88
lms and video tapes	\$ 272
	<hr/>
	\$ 5448

INCTIONS EXPENSES.

ss M.R.A. Quest	\$ 4719
R.A. House dinner dance	\$ 1865
y run	\$ 653
	<hr/>
	\$ 7237

URCHASE OF EQUIPMENT EXPENSES.

0 chairs	\$ 435
odge truck	\$ 488
ransceivers	\$ 85
ashua copier	\$ 800
otographic enlarger	\$ 200
atsun van	\$ 338
	<hr/>
	\$ 2346

## M.R.A. PROMOTIONS

M.R.A. Promotions is a company set up and run by two members of the M.R.A. Victoria Committee, namely Lewis Bordon and Damien Codognotto.

M.R.A. Promotions is one of the few feasible means for the Association to significantly supplement its funds, bypass restrictions and increase services to members.

M.R.A. Promotions has been granted the use of the M.R.A.'s logo and colors by the Association, so as to conduct its business in a manner best suited to the spirit of the original M.R.A. Constitution supplied by the founding Branch, Victoria. The granting of the logo and colors to M.R.A. Promotions by the Association was a means of controlling M.R.A. Promotions so that it remained in line with the spirit of the Constitution and acted in the best interests of the members. The Committee has the power to withdraw the logo offer which could mean the collapse of M.R.A. Promotions or could stop individual projects.

In payment for the use of the logo, M.R.A. Promotions pays 10% per annum of its nett yearly profit to the Association. Further to that, M.R.A. Promotions employs 2 persons on a full time basis. Because the Association and M.R.A. Promotions have the same interests, the 2 persons employed are virtually working for the Association. This saves the Association approximately \$30,000 per year in wages. Due to the nature of the Association, and the limits on its funds, the Association can not afford to employ full time workers.

To further aid the Association, M.R.A. Promotions has, and will, purchase items required to make the Association function at its best, e.g: the computer, sound and video equipment, offset printing and photographic systems, vehicles, renovations to M.R.A. House, telephones etc.

## LIMITATIONS TO THE BUSINESS FUNCTIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION

### 1. Funds.

The income of the Association is limited by the number of members that join and the lack of full-time staff to run bigger money making functions.

### 2. Status

- (a) Non Profit Association
- (b) Taxation
- (c) Constitution

## M.R.A. PROMOTIONS

### 1. Separate entity

- (a) The use of the M.R.A.'s logo and colors benefits the Association.
- (b) Any financial loss is borne by M.R.A. Promotions, not the Association.
- (c) Payment for use of the logo and colors is 10% of M.R.A. Promotions annual profit to the Association.

### 2. Employees

Two persons now. The Association is not able to employ staff and is not likely to be able to in the near future.

### 3. Promotional Work

Benefits the name and public image of the Association, e.g: Motorcycle Expo. Supplies services to members, otherwise not available, e.g: Motorcycle Insurance.

4. Controlled by Name

The M.R.A. Committee can stop any project that the State Committee deems not in the interests of the members or not in keeping with the spirit of the Constitution by withdrawing the use of the colors and logo.

M.R.A. Promotions has been operating for 2 years and has proved its worth in promoting the good name and the functions of the M.R.A., in purchasing equipment, operating M.R.A. House and providing services to members.

MOTORCYCLE RIDERS' ASSOCIATION

INTERNAL DIRECTIVE

No. 2

DATE:

1st January, 1983

SUBJECT: PUBLIC RELATIONS STANDS (PR STAND)

1. GENERAL

- 1.1 M.R.A. Public Relations Stands must be authorised by the M.R.A. State Committee and be co-ordinated by an appointed Committee person or authorised member, (known as PR Stand Co-ordinator).
- 1.2 The PR Stand Co-ordinator shall nominate, organise and instruct staff re: the operation of the stand under his/her responsibility.
- 1.3 The PR Stand Co-ordinator shall organise and supervise the location of the stand, the times the stand will operate and the operation of the stand.
- 1.4 Any member working for a PR Stand shall at all times be subject to the provisions of the M.R.A. Constitution.
- 1.5 A copy of these guidelines shall be issued to the PR Stand and members working for a stand shall familiarise themselves with the details.
- 1.6 Each PR Stand will be issued with the following items:
  - \* M.R.A. receipt books
  - \* M.R.A. cost sheets
  - \* A supply of blank membership cards & member detail sheet
  - \* A date stamp & pad
  - \* M.R.A. stock
  - \* M.R.A. leaflets, applications, newsletters etc.
  - \* One cash tin
  - \* Tables, notice boards etc. (as required)
  - \* One M.R.A. banner
  - \* One copy of Constitution and these guidelines
  - \* Other material as required

2. MEMBERSHIPS

- 2.1 New members or membership renewals shall complete the membership details sheet and pay the prescribed annual fee.
- 2.2 New members or membership renewals shall be issued with an M.R.A. receipt, signed by an authorised member, and a date STAMPED membership card for a period of 12 months. Membership cards should be signed immediately.
- 2.3 New members shall be given any relevant M.R.A. leaflets, i.e: calendars, newsletters, discount listing etc.
- 2.4 A record of membership shall be entered onto the monthly cost sheet.
- 2.5 Membership details are to be posted or delivered to M.R.A. House-membership secretary-184 Brunswick St., Fitzroy 3065 within 14 days of receipt.

- #### 4. FINANCE

- Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Dates of operation: -----

Time of operation: -----

P.R.STAND CO-ORDINATOR

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: -----

Authorised PR personell

Authorised by: (1) (11) (111)  
(Signatures of three Committee persons on behalf  
of M.R.A. Committee)

Date:        /        /198



MOTORCYCLE RIDERS' ASSOCIATION

INTERNAL DIRECTIVE

DATE:

1st January, 1983

No. 1

SUBJECT:        USE OF M.R.A. VEHICLES

DIRECTIVE (The M.R.A. State Committee shall appoint a Transport Officer for the purpose of the following directive.)

1.        Use of M.R.A. vehicles
  - 1.1       M.R.A. vehicles are not to be used for private purposes. Unless authorised by the State Committee.
  - 1.2       No person shall drive an M.R.A. Vehicle unless he/she is the holder of a current drivers' licence. Members are reminded that in the case of an accident to a motor vehicle driven by a person who does not hold a current drivers' licence, the insurance policy is invalidated and the driver will be liable for any costs or damages resulting from the accident.
  - 1.3       A member who may be required to drive an M.R.A. vehicle must, before first doing so, present his current licence to the Transport Officer for notation and must advise such officer immediately he ceases to hold a current driving licence for any reason.
  - 1.4       The driver of an M.R.A. vehicle is responsible for the preservation of the vehicle entrusted to him/her.
  - 1.5       The vehicle must be locked when it is left unattended.
  - 1.6       Drivers must observe traffic regulations and by-laws at all times.
  - 1.7       Drivers must ensure that every courtesy is shown to other road users and pedestrians.
  - 1.8       M.R.A. vehicles are to be driven at safe speeds at all times and always within speed limits.
  - 1.9       M.R.A. vehicles are not to be used for the purpose of giving tuition to driving without prior approval of the State Committee.
  - 1.10      M.R.A. vehicles are not to be used for carrying private passengers except on official business.
  - 1.11      Members driving M.R.A. vehicles are subject to provisions of the Motor Car Act which requires a probationary licence holder to display "P" plates on the front and rear of any motor vehicle which he/she drives within a period of 12 months after the date of issue of his licence. Sets of these "P" plates are available for loan from M.R.A. House.
2.       Booking a Vehicle: Use of Log Books
  - 2.1       Bookings for transportation are to be made with the responsible Transport Officer, at M.R.A. House.
  - 2.2       Drivers are to ensure that particulars concerning the operation of the vehicle are properly recorded in the log book provided. Where vehicles are allocated to a specific member, single entries must be made daily and each sheet

2.2 (Cont)

forwarded to the Transport Officer at the end of each calendar month or when the sheet is full, whichever is the earlier. In the case of pool vehicles, i.e: more than one driver, entries are to be made after each trip and sheets are to be forwarded as above. These log sheets will be examined, recorded and retained by the Transport Officer.

3. Purchase of Petrol, Oil, Tyres & Tubes.

- 3.1 Petrol, oil, tyres & tubes shall be obtained only with permission from the Transport Officer. These purchases must be recorded in the log book.
- 3.2 Petrol, oil, tyres & tubes may be purchased only in emergencies and then only in quantities sufficient to reach M.R.A. House. The Transport Officer must be notified of these purchases as soon as possible.
- 3.3 Vehicles are not to be returned with a fuel level of less than a quarter of a tank.

4. Servicing & Repairs

- 4.1 Servicing & repairs to M.R.A. vehicles must be authorised by the Transport Officer.

5. Accidents

- 5.1 If an M.R.A. vehicle is involved in an accident, the driver should take the following steps:
  - (1) Immediately stop
  - (2) Immediately render whatever assistance you can.
  - (3) Do not admit liability
  - (4) Do not make any statement-verbal or written- in regard to the accident to any person other than members of the Police Force.
  - (5) At the scene of the accident give-
    - (a) Your name and address
    - (b) The M.R.A.'s name and address
    - (c) The vehicle registration number to-
      - (1) Any person injured or the owner of any injured animal or property; or
      - (11) Some person representing such injured person or owner
      - (111) Any police present
  - (6) At the scene of the accident, obtain the names and addresses of all concerned and of as many witnesses as possible. Make a note of the make and registration numbers of all relevant vehicles and, if possible, the name of each driver's insurance company and driving licence number. Also endeavour to obtain the name and official number of any member of the Police Force, or an employee of the Tramways Board, Fire Fighting Service, Railway Department etc., involved in attending the accident.

- (7) Make a rough plan of the scene of the accident showing intersections, directions from which vehicles were approaching at the time the accident occurred, position of vehicles and pedestrians, wheel tracks and skid marks of all vehicles involved.
- (8) If there are no police present, and any person has been injured, report the facts to the nearest Police Station. If property is damaged and the owner or his representative is not present, report it to the nearest Police Station.
- (9) Report the circumstances promptly to the Transport Officer  
Note: Every case of damage to an M.R.A. vehicle must be promptly reported, whether or not another vehicle is involved.
- (10) Repairs to a vehicle may be authorised only by the Transport Officer.
- (11) It should be remembered that drivers may be held responsible for any damage to vehicles arising from circumstances within their control.
- (12) In particular, officers must ensure that, when driving M.R.A. vehicles, their ability is not at any time impaired by the consumption of alcohol. Every officer is warned that, if he/she is found to be responsible for any accident where it is proved that the percentage of alcohol in his blood at the time of the accident was above the prescribed limit, he/she shall be held personally responsible for the cost of repairs to the M.R.A. vehicle and the cost of repairs to other vehicles/property involved.

## 6. Towing

- 6.1 Towing for accident or breakdown purposes must be authorised by the Transport Officer. If an accident or breakdown occurs in the metropolitan area and it is not possible to contact the Transport Officer the vehicle is to be towed to M.R.A. House. The driver of the vehicle is at liberty to select any operator.

## 7. Fire Damage or Theft

- 7.1 In case of fire damage to an M.R.A. vehicle or theft of or from an M.R.A. motor vehicle-
  - (a) Notify the nearest Police Station, make a note of its location, and the Police Officer's name, rank and number.
  - (b) Furnish a detailed report of the circumstances to the Transport Officer giving a full description of the damaged or stolen items.
  - (c) The M.R.A. will take no responsibility for damage or theft or personal property carried in M.R.A. vehicles except that required to carry out normal duties.

8. Accessories

- 8.1 Accessories for motor vehicles must not be purchased without the prior approval of the Transport Officer.

9. Claims by Other Persons

If any person involved in an accident expresses an intention of claiming on the M.R.A., or the driver of an M.R.A. vehicle, no liability should be admitted. The person making the claim should be advised to write, setting out the reasons for making the claim, together with details of alleged damage. Following registration, the letter is to be forwarded to the Transport Officer without delay.

10. Garaging of Vehicles

Vehicles are normally to be garaged at M.R.A. House except for those located in country areas. City based vehicles may only be garaged at member's homes in the following circumstances.

- (a) The vehicle is required for M.R.A. business outside normal hours, overnight or for any purpose authorised by the Transport Officer.

11. Cleanliness of Vehicles

- 11.1 The cleanliness of vehicles is the responsibility of the driver.

12. Traffic and Parking Infringement

- 12.1 Drivers will be responsible for the payment of any fines incurred whilst vehicles are in their care.

- 12.2 Only in special circumstances will an approach be made on behalf of Officers to the Police or municipalities in relation to traffic offences or parking infringements. In this case, a full explanation of the circumstances should be supplied to the Transport Officer.

13. Interstate Travel

- 13.1 No M.R.A. vehicle is to cross the Victorian state border without the prior approval of the Transport Officer.

14. Vehicle Copies

- 14.1 A copy of this directive shall be included in each M.R.A. vehicle.

Approved by the M.R.A. State Committee.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Signed

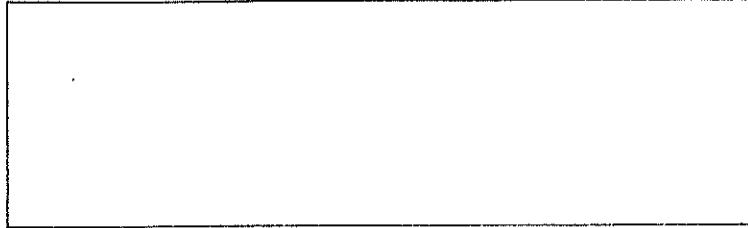
\_\_\_\_\_  
(President)



Motorcycle Riders' Association

184 Brunswick St. Fitzroy 3065. (03) 417 2718  
P.O. Box 64 Collins St. Melbourne 3000

OFFICIAL MAIL



### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Please note:

YOUR M.R.A. MEMBERSHIP  
HAS EXPIRED.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL \$8 P.A.

To renew please fill in this card and  
send to the M.R.A.

#### Membership Services

M.R.A. Discounts (Motorcycle),  
Road Safety & Research, 4B's Information  
and Legal Service, Motorcycle Insurance,  
Political Representation, Social Activities etc.

The M.R.A. needs your support

**let those who ride decide**

Fig. 15. Membership renewal notice.

### LIST OF FIGURES.

ARTWORKS HAVE BEEN DONE FOR MOST OF THESE FIGURES AND TO ENSURE  
NATIONAL UNITY, BROMIDES CAN BE SUPPLIED.

- Fig. 1. The M.R.A. Logo & moto.
- Fig. 2. The T - Shirt design.
- Fig. 3. The Windcheater design.
- Fig. 4. The Australia Badge design.
- Fig. 5. The Members Patch design.
- Fig. 6. The 4 B Patch design.
- Fig. 7. The Life Membership form.
- Fig. 8. Order forms and invoice / statement forms.
- Fig. 9. The envelope design.
- Fig. 10. 'Let those who ride decide' sticker.
- Fig. 11. 'Motorcycle aware driver' sticker.
- Fig. 12. Receipt book design.
- Fig. 13. Membership form design.

member \_\_\_\_\_

expires \_\_\_\_\_ signature \_\_\_\_\_

**let those who ride decide**

INTERSTATE  
A.C.T. P.O. Box 1768 Civic Square 2601  
(062) 542 142  
N.S.W. P.O. Box 232 Spit Junction 2088  
(02) 938 3411 B.H. (02) 938 5496 A.H.  
Queensland P.O. Box 238 Paddington 4064  
(07) 334 415 B.H. (07) 355 3804 A.H.  
S.A. G.P.O. 1895 Adelaide 5001  
(08) 447 294 or (08) 384 4904  
TAS. P.O. Box 48 Sandy Bay 7005  
(002) 301 216 B.H. (002) 727 278 A.H.  
W.A. P.O. Box 295 Gosnells 6110  
(09) 459 5936 B.H. (09) 390 5820 A.H.

Fig. 16. Membership card.

# MRA

Motorcycle Riders' Association

## let those who ride decide

Fig. 1. The M.R.A. Logo & Moto.



Fig. 4. The Australia Badge design.

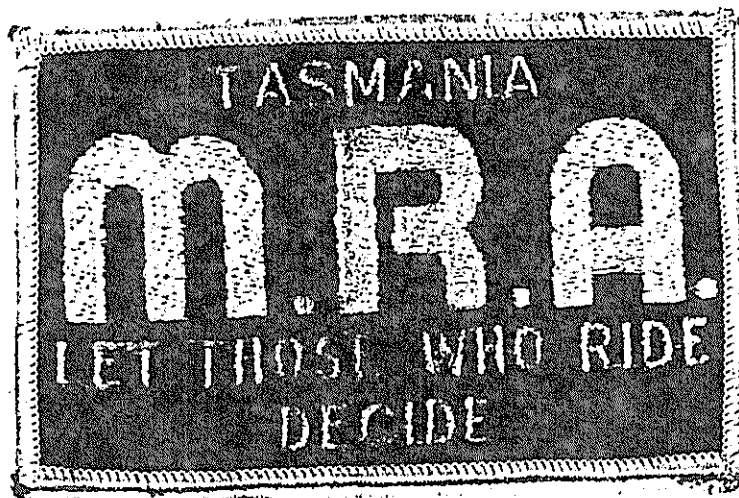
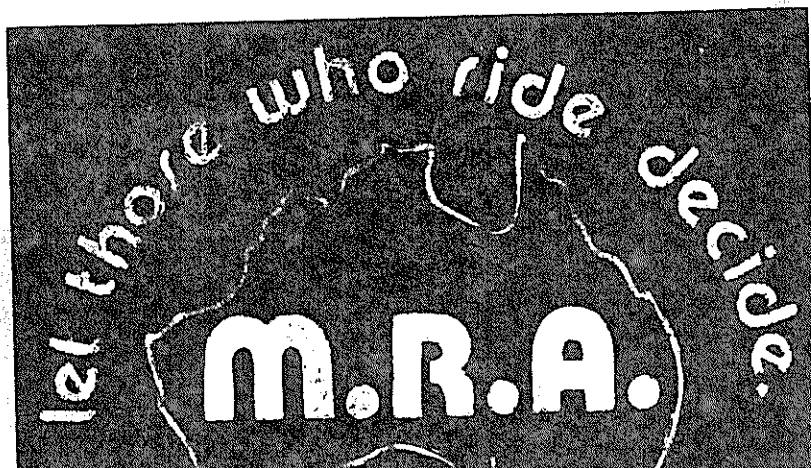


Fig. 5. The Members Patch design.



**M.R.A.**  
**MOTORCYCLE RIDERS'**  
**ASSOCIATION**

**let those who ride decide.**

Fig. 2. The T - Shirt design.





Fig. 6. The 4 B Patch design.

**MRA**

Motorcycle Riders' Association

in appreciation for services to  
the Motorcycle Riders' Association

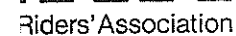
---

**LIFE MEMBER**

---

MRA Australia

Fig. 7. The Life Membership form.



ick St.

8.

## Date \_\_\_\_\_

7

1

[illegible]

## those who ride decide



Motorcycle Riders' Association

184 Brunswick St.

Fitzroy 3065.

(03) 417 2718.

INVOICE/  
STATEMENT

Date

3

Qty.	Description	Amount
Terms: Nett 7 days		Total

## let those who ride decide



No.

Received from \_\_\_\_\_  
the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ Dollars  
\_\_\_\_\_ Cents  
being for \_\_\_\_\_  
taken by \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**let those who ride decide**

fig. 12. Receipt book design.



Motorcycle Riders' Association

184 Brunswick St.  
Fitzroy 3065.  
(03) 417 2718.

date \_\_\_\_\_

☐ new membership  
\$8 per year

☐ renewal

surname \_\_\_\_\_

first name \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ postcode \_\_\_\_\_

phone no. \_\_\_\_\_

occupation \_\_\_\_\_

register \_\_\_\_\_

Fig. 13. Membership form design.

**MOTORCYCLE AWARE DRIVER**

MOTORCYCLE RIDERS ASSOCIATION VIC., N.S.W., S.A., W.A., Q'LAND, TAS., A.C.T., N.T.

Fig. 11. 'Motorcycle aware driver' sticker.

**MRA** let those who ride decide.

Motorcycle Riders' Association

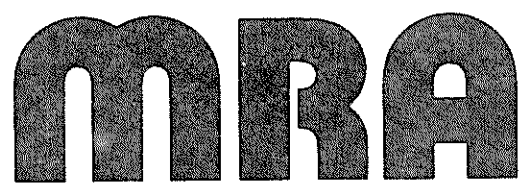
184 Brunswick St. Fitzroy 3065. (03) 417 2718

P.O. Box 64 Collins St. Melbourne 3000

Fig. 9. The Envelope design.

**IT THOSE WHO RIDE DECIDE**

MOTORCYCLE RIDERS ASSOCIATION VIC. NEW SA. WA. Q. AND TAS ACT NT



Motorcycle Riders' Association

A.C.T., New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia,  
Tasmania, Victoria, Western Australia and Gt. Britain