

In January, 1983, at a National Conference of the M.R.A., Victoria tabled a proposal called M.R.A. Australia. It was discussed at the June, 1983 Conference. This document was over 40 pages of research and experience. It took nearly 12 months to compile and 3 years to come to fruition since the idea was first conceived.

In this proposal, my section dealt with Financing. I believe that the M.R.A. membership funds should be pooled into one national account where this money can be utilised to its fullest extent by investing, etc. Investments can be made in different ways:

1. Short Term Money Market
2. Long Term Investment
3. Investment into stock, property and other assets.

The Short Term Money Market is fairly risky unless you have a good knowledge of the market. The interest gained is very high (it could be up to 50% per annum) but it involves a lot of wheeling and dealing.

Long Term Investments also give a high return, but the funds remain locked for a specific amount of time. This is a safe way of investing if you have the time and money.

Purchase of stock and other assets. This is a very profitable way of investing our funds, if we work on a national scale. We can purchase stock on a cheaper scale because of the larger quantities required. We can also purchase other assets such as computers, typewriters, etc. cheaper because we can search Australia-wide for the best deal available, thus actually saving money.

Investment in property may be an option sooner than many people think. Offices, camping parks and service centres for motorcyclists could be set up.

To date, the national body which was set up at the conference in June, 1983 will not work to the proposal put forward by M.R.A. Victoria. I personally believe that this proposal is too far advanced for their comprehension.

We have the states' Police Departments working towards becoming national. Road construction authorities are working towards becoming national. Swann Insurance and Western Underwriters are national. Myer stores are now working towards becoming national and purchasing goods on a national level.

This is an extract from Myer Stores' "Newsbrief", 3rd November, 1983, No. 2.

"The restructuring of Warehousing and Goods Movement is part of the total reorganisation of Myer Stores. The reorganisation is based on three elements:

1. Becoming a national operation.
2. Becoming a specialised operation.
3. Building on the skills of our people.

National Operation For the first time, Warehousing and Goods Movement is a national operation. With the introduction of national buying it is very important to be able to distribute nationally as well. Centralised control of both these functions will give greater flexibility and a quicker response to the changing needs of the business.

The new organisation structure reflects this national philosophy. Warehouse managers in all states report directly to the Group General Manager, Warehousing and Goods Movement.

Specialised Operation Additionally, certain specialist appointments have been made to offer advice and service to all managers within the function, and outside it if required...

Skills of People Prior to the development of a national operation, each state developed its own systems, handling techniques and so on. Warehousing and goods movement will now select the most appropriate ways of operating and standardise procedures nationally. Warehousing and goods movement people will be trained to implement these procedures. Through the flattened, specialised management structure there will also be greater accessibility to advice, service and the general direction of warehousing activities....."

For the M.R.A. to become more efficient and offer better services, it must grow.

To do so, it needs funding and one of the ways to fund the M.R.A. better is to be able to retain and/or invest the funds that we have at the moment.

M.R.A. Victoria has grown to large proportions since its inception 6 years ago. It will continue to do so with or without the other states. We only wish we could help those other states in their growth.

In the future, more motorcyclists may be employed by the M.R.A. to work for motorcycling, but this depends on the Association operating professionally and developing business and investment interests.

Lewis Bordon,
M.R.A. Vic. Treasurer

*
COMMENT ON M.R.A. AUSTRALIA FINANCING - LEWIS BORDON, M.R.A, VIC,

COMMENT ON MR.A,

COMMENT ON M.R.A. AUSTRALIA FINANCING - LEWIS BORDON, M.R.A, VIC, TREASURER