

Registered by Australia Post  
Publication No. VBH3889

If undeliverable return to:

MOTORCYCLE RIDERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA  
MRA HOUSE, 184 BRUNSWICK STREET, FITZROY 3065

POSTAGE  
PAID  
FITZROY, VIC.  
AUSTRALIA  
3065

WED. 9TH MAY. 1984.

Dear Hal,

I hereby confirm the withdrawal of my letter to you but the issues relating to terms of the Executive and secret ballots stand.

I will stand for National Secretary and strongly protest about the lack of internal, MRA communications.

I enclose newsletters and a copy of the video used to promote M.R.A. Oz to Australian clubs.

I oppose Bryan Luke (QLD) as National Newsletter Ed. My opposition is based on his bias against M.R.A. Vic. as demonstrated by his work with the QLD. N/L. Copies attached.

Damien

# THE MOTOR CYCLE RIDER

NO. 16 OCT-DEC '83

50¢



## Sando Road Tests

Registered by Australia Post - Publication No. QBH2708 - Category B

# THE MOTOR CYCLE RIDER

NO. 16 OCT-DEC '83

## STATE COMMITTEE

GARRY ROBERTS  
Chairman  
A.H. (07) 395 0395

JAN FLEMING  
Secretary  
A.H. (07) 395 0395

STEVE ISAKSEN  
Accountant  
B.H. (07) 277 9855  
A.H. (07) 277 8204

BRIAN LUKE  
Editor  
B.H. (07) 379 6333  
A.H. (07) 359 7354

JENNY WILLIAMS  
Memberships Register Liaison  
B.H. (07) 225 7459  
A.H. (07) 391 5591

JOHN PARDON  
Minutes Officer

DALE MIKE  
Regalia

BRETT AULD  
Promotions

GLENN MURRY  
Co-Ordinator in Chief

GREG ROHWEDER  
Rally Co-Ordinator

ALAN CUNNINGHAM  
Research

GORDON HEATHCOTE  
Research

MURRAY POTBURY  
Retail & Dealer Liaison

PAUL BAKER  
Retail & Dealer Liaison

LEA BARNETT  
Meetings Officer

PETER BUCKNEY  
Committee Advisor

KEVIN TREVARTHEN  
Office Manager

COVER:- Sando testing LAVERDA RGS 1000  
supplied by CYCLEWORLD

## QUEENSLAND BRANCH

POSTAL: P.O. BOX 238, PADDINGTON. 4064.  
MEETINGS: Fourth Tuesday of the Month  
Hamilton Hall, Rossiter Parade, Hamilton, 8.00 p.m.  
2nd Floor, Podesa House, 19 Evelyn Street,  
Newstead. 4006.  
OFFICE: (07) 52 1214  
TELEPHONE: Committee Meetings: 7.30 to 10.00pm Tuesday  
HOURS: Business: 9.00am to 1.00pm Saturday

GOLD COAST: P.O. BOX 1630, SOUTHPORT. 4215.  
Meetings G.C. Motorcycle Club Rooms  
above Denny Park  
PORT DENISON: C/- POST OFFICE, BOWEN  
Meetings as Advertised.

## QUEENSLAND COUNTRY REGISTERS:

CENTRAL QLD.: G.P.O. BOX 1546, ROCKHAMPTON. 4700.  
Second Tuesday of the Month  
Park Avenue Hotel, 7.30 p.m.  
FAR NORTH QLD.: G.P.O. BOX 1220, CAIRNS. 4870.  
Third Tuesday of the Month  
C.W.A. Hall, Freshwater, 7.30 p.m.  
MARANOVA: P.O. BOX 219, CHINCHILLA. 4413.  
First Sunday of the Month  
Alternate between Commercial Hotel, Chinchilla  
and Queensland Hotel, Miles, 11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.  
NORTH QLD.: P.O. BOX 1915, TOWNSVILLE. 4810  
First Sunday of the Month  
Townsville Drag Club, 11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.  
PORT CURTIS: C/- 4 BRUNKE STREET, GLADSTONE. 4680.  
Meetings Advertised in Local Daily Newspaper.  
RUM CITY: P.O. BOX 1562, BUNDABERG. 4670.  
Meetings Advertised in "The Bundaberg Mail".  
SUNSHINE COAST: P.O. BOX 303, NAMBOUR. 4560.  
First Thursday of the Month  
Woombye Hotel, 7.30 p.m.  
TOOWOOMBA: P.O. BOX 958, TOOWOOMBA. 4350  
First Wednesday of the Month  
Toowoomba M.C.C. Rooms (behind Jeff Udy Suzuki), 7.00 p.m.  
WHITSUNDAY: P.O. BOX 317, MACKAY. 4740.  
First Tuesday of the Month  
T.A.F.E. Building, 7.30 p.m.  
WIDE BAY: P.O. BOX 178, MARYBOROUGH. 4650.  
Third Tuesday of the Month  
Forrester Hall, Richmond St., Maryborough, 8.00 p.m.

## Vibro Press

38 Warren Street, Fortitude Valley

Offset Printers

229 9205

● LETTERHEADS ● ENVELOPES  
● INVOICES ● DOCKET BOOKS  
● SMALL PUBLICATIONS  
● NEWSLETTERS ● LEAFLETS  
See us for all your Printing Needs  
Quick Service — Reasonable Prices

The Motor Cycle Rider is the official journal of the Motorcycle Riders Association Ltd (Inc. in Queensland). The people for the following pages of guff, diatribe and good bits are:- Editor, B. Luke, Advertising Tom, Dick and Harry, Rally Editor 'Scunge', Road Tester Wayne (Sando) Sanderson, Safety Editor Stewart Watson, Womens Editor Motorcycle Mama, with contributions from: Ruff Red, Boomer, Varken, Kevin Rockemer, Allan Cunningham, M. Pitman, Gail Cook Tonto and Steve Isaksen — without whose signature on the cheque we wouldn't be able to pay to print this rag

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

JAN FLEMING

No doubt by now you all have received your copy of the first National Newsletter, accompanied by an application form for membership to MRA Australia.

MRA Queensland is very concerned that in the confusion of the unexpected arrival of the form, we may lose members. If you are a member of MRA Queensland then you are already a member of MRA Australia. There is no need to forward \$10 to Victoria if you are currently financial. If you are due to renew, please send your remittance to MRA Queensland (either via your local Register or directly to the State Branch). The Queensland Branch will then forward that portion of the membership fee payable to MRA Australia (\$2) on your behalf.

To explain further — MRA Australia was formed as of 1 July this year. The State delegates agreed to form a non-administrative national body, in an effort to promote unity and to improve communications. It was agreed that MRA Australia would have six monthly conferences and would produce a national newsletter. It was also agreed that each State would retain its autonomy and would increase its annual membership fees to \$10 to allow a \$2 levy per member per year to be forwarded to MRA Australia to fund the postage costs of the newsletter and to pay the travel expenses of the delegates to the national conferences. A limit of \$5,000 per State contribution was set so that the States with the larger memberships would not bear a proportionally greater funding burden. The MRA Queensland delegates became aware of the MRA Australia application forms at the June National Conference. They had been produced in anticipation of the acceptance of the Victorian proposal, whereby all memberships would have been forwarded directly to Melbourne,

invested, and a percentage returned to the States at some later stage. **THIS PROPOSAL WAS NOT ACCEPTED.**

After the current structure of MRA Australia was decided upon, it was suggested that the application forms in question be destroyed. This, however, was over-ruled as some considerable expense was involved. The Victorian delegate agreed that the forms would be used only within that State. Hal Caston, President, MRA Australia, contacted MRA Victoria who advised that the inclusion of the application forms was an honest mistake and that only Victorian members were intended to receive them. The Queensland Branch remained unconvinced that any error was made and rightly so, it seems, for the latest advice from Tony Sicbera, the Victorian President, is that the forms were included in a deliberate attempt to offend other Branches.

In an effort to protect the credibility of the MRA, the press have been informed that an error was made.

A letter of protest has been sent to MRA Australia. Hal Caston is planning to visit Victoria in the near future to personally relay the complaints he has received concerning both the inclusion of the MRA Australia application forms and the standard of the first National Newsletter.

At this stage, MRA Queensland, as an act of good faith in the future of the National body, has opted to continue to contribute as many articles as possible for inclusion in the National Newsletter. We plan to send so many articles that there will be no excuse to repeat the huge Victorian content of the first issue. MRA N.S.W. have decided to withdraw their support until they can be assured of a truly National Newsletter. It is not known what action, if any, is planned by MRA Tasmania.

As a result of the National President's

intervention, MRA Victoria have given an undertaking to return to the appropriate Branch, any applications received from residents of other States. We sincerely hope that this pledge is honoured. Though the incorporation process was lengthy and expensive, the protection of the rights of MRA Queensland members is now guaranteed. Any further interference from another State may annoy us but cannot hinder our operations. The only other result of future attacks initiated by another Branch, can only be the damage to the credibility and good standing of that State.

MRA Queensland will not only continue, but will improve its services to the membership of this State. If you ride a motorcycle and live in Queensland, you owe it to yourself to remain a member of MRA Queensland.

### STOP PRESS

The latest broadside from down south comes in the form of a "Letter of Intent" from a solicitor acting on behalf of the Directors of MRA Promotions Pty. Ltd., Mr. Damien Codognotto and Mr. Lewis Bordon. We are accused of using the name "MRA Insurance" which is currently reserved by MRA Promotions. As you all know, MRA Queensland is operating an insurance service in conjunction with Michael Wearing and Associates, but have not used the name "MRA Insurance" since it was first realised that the name was reserved by the private company of Mr. Codognotto and Mr. Bordon. On two separate occasions we requested that the name be made available to other Branches of the MRA but we were refused. A letter of denial is currently being prepared but meanwhile it's business as usual.

Cont'd on page 20



**ROAD SAFETY  
FINALLY-IT'S UP TO  
YOU!**



### Look! Important dates for Queenslanders

#### Check these Motor Cycle Training Programme Schedules

A 15hr practical programme for every rider who thinks he knows all there is to know about motor cycling — and is smart enough to want to prove it!

**BRISBANE — PHONE (07) 253 4700**

At Lutwyche Shopping Village Car Park

**Course 17**

7.00pm Tuesday — 4, 11, 18, 25 Oct. and

9.00am or 1.00pm Sunday 30 Oct.

**Course 18 - Starts Monday, 10 Oct.**

**ROCKHAMPTON — PHONE (079) 27 1900**

At K-Mart Plaza, Musgrave Street,

North Rockhampton

**Course 57**

6.30pm Monday — 10, 17, 24, 31 Oct.

and 9.00am or 1.00pm Sunday 6 Nov.

**TOWNSVILLE — PHONE (077) 72 1688**

At Ogden Street Car Park, Townsville

**Course 848**

6.30pm Monday — 24, 31 Oct. & 7, 14 Nov.

and 9 am Sunday 20 Nov

# CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

GARRY ROBERTS

Hello again, it can't be three months since I last sat up all night writing articles the night before Newsletter deadline, but Editor Brian has spoken, and terrified of him resigning, I am burning the midnight oil again.

Speaking of Brian Luke, I'm sure you will all have noticed and appreciated the quality of the last newsletter. A well put together package, just the professional approach needed for presentation to the business and government bodies we deal with.

Immediately after the last Newsletter, our State Branch elections were finalised and the new committee is introduced elsewhere in this newsletter.

A lot of thought went into these committee positions and the end result is more positions with more equal workload. We were fortunate to have enough interested people to fill all positions. This is a damned good committee and it deserves your support. Unless you get behind them, these keen workers will lose interest. MRA Queensland is in a position to achieve a lot for motorcyclists, response to our work has been very encouraging and we must continue to get out amongst the general public and show them we are proud to be motorcyclists.

Last weekend, 10th and 11th September, saw the MRA State Conference held at Imbil, south west of Gympie. It was a good weekend with representatives from far north Queensland, the Gold Coast, Maranoa, North Queensland, Rum City, Sunshine Coast, Toowoomba and Wide Bay Registers.

Due to the date clash with the Capricorn Rally, Central Queensland were not present, nor were Whitsunday or Western Downs, both of these Registers have ceased formal operations. Western Downs members are lucky to have Maranoa and Toowoomba Registers within 80km, and both groups would welcome new faces and visitors.

*Where were you Port Curtis and Port Denison? All registers had plenty of notice and were called on to submit agenda items.*

State Conferences are designed for members throughout our State to put forward their thoughts on the operation of the MRA and guide its progress. Queensland is the only branch of MRA Australia with more members in its registers than in the Capitals branch and we now offer financial assistance and accommodation to delegates to maintain this associations democracy. All delegates agreed that \$10 was a fair membership fee, but there were a few queries about the allocation of this money.

\$2 — goes to MRA Australia to pay for the National Newsletter and travel expenses of delegates.

\$5 — goes to the State Branch to cover administrative costs and that of the State Newsletter.

\$3 — stays in Register coffers. Some delegates were surprised to learn that the Queensland Newsletter costs almost \$4 per member for the four copies yearly and all agreed that the amount left to service each register members was being well spent. All

delegates reaffirmed their support for the 25% guideline of rally proceeds to the branch.

All regalia and stationery are supplied to registers at cost.

Apparently some members believed the State Branch is syphoning off too much of their registers funds. After studying the allocation of State spending, delegates agreed that this was not the case.

Reminder cards will shortly be altered to advise members that they can also renew their membership with their local register.

Registers were also advised of the bookkeeping requirements which accompanied our incorporation.

All delegates offered to loan fellow registers their surplus funds when they were needed to finance rallies and other activities.

All delegates had queries and suggestions and we will all benefit from so many experienced heads working on the problems tabled.

Complete minutes will be circulated shortly. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to meet the other delegates and a top night was had at the Imbil Pub. Everyone was a little subdued next morning, but promised to keep closer contact and several inter-register outings were discussed.

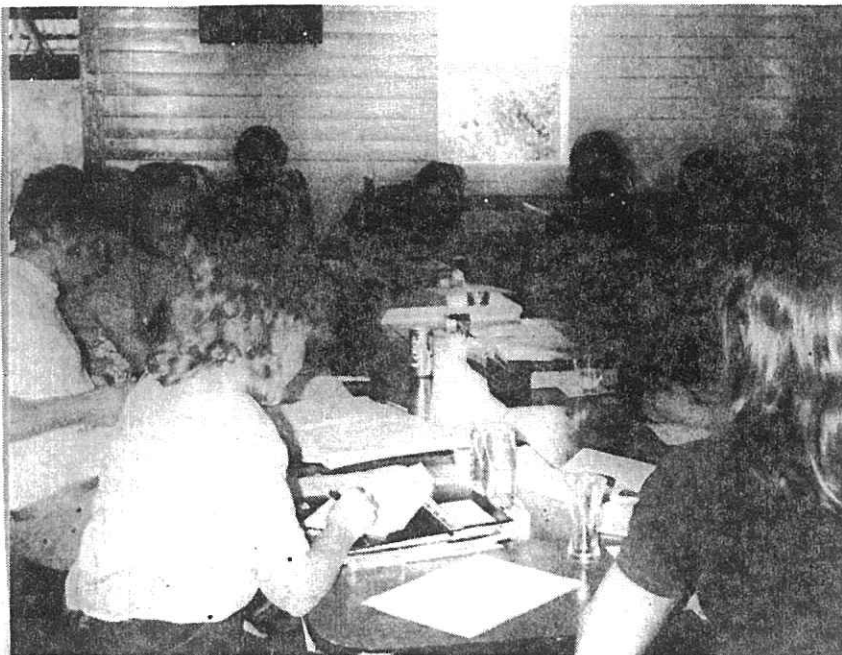
Anyone interested in starting a register or reviving a stagnant one, is urged to contact the State Branch and we will give as much assistance as possible. Alan and Julie Schafer have done a top job in getting the Gold Coast Register off the ground.

In closing, I must say how great it is to see so many women showing their independence and taking to their own bikes.

One warning for the warmer months, don't pack the protective gear away with the winter woolies.

Till the next deadline.

GARRY ROBERTS



**MRA DISCOUNT**  
**QUICK**  
**AS A FLASH**  
1 hour fast photo shops

State Conference was well attended.

## MRA DISCOUNT LIST

Just present your membership card at the following stores. The amount and application of the discount is at the discretion of the shop management and not available on sale items.

### DISCOUNT LIST INCL. BNE METRO

Boyd's Honda  
Balaclava Street, Woolloongabba  
Rocky's Honda  
Slacks Creek  
Town & Country Pest Control  
Brisbane and Toowoomba  
Quik-As-A-Flash  
Sunny Park Shop Centre Sunnybank  
Tyres for Bikes  
Allison Street, Mayne

### INC. DOWNS DISTRICT.

Geoff Udy Suzuki  
307 Ruthven Street, Toowoomba  
Royal Kawasaki  
1 Railway Street, Toowoomba  
Independent Motorcycle Wreckers  
2 Dexter Street, Toowoomba  
Denis Deguara Motorcycles  
160 Jellicoe Street, Toowoomba

Oakey Motorcycles  
7 Campbell Street, Oakey  
Lockyer Service Centre  
Warrego Highway, Gatton  
Lockyer Mowers and Motorcycles  
Western Drive, Gatton

HIGHWAY MOTORCYCLES —  
Alice Street, Maryborough.  
Telephone (071) 21 5660.  
— Gail or one of the staff re parts.

RON HOWLETT HONDA —  
B.P. Ferry Street, Maryborough.  
Telephone (071) 21 4207.  
— See Ron.

RON HOWLETT HONDA —  
Torquay Road, Pialba.  
Telephone (071) 28 3855.  
— See Ian.

GREG OHL MOTORCYCLES —  
Gympie Road, Tinana.  
Telephone (071) 21 3491.  
— See Greg or Robyn Ohl.

W.H. WILCOX — YAMAHA —  
Kent Street, Maryborough.  
Telephone (071)  
— Trevor Wilcox re parts and accessories.

KEVIN ROCKEMER —  
B.E. MOTORCYCLES —  
57 Odessa Street, Granville 4650.  
18 Brooks Road, Bray Park 4501.  
— Mail Order Specialist for BMW,  
Triumph, Ducati parts  
— Write to Kevin.

MARYBOROUGH MOTORCYCLE  
PARTS/WRECKERS —  
303 Kent Street, Maryborough.  
Telephone (071) 21 6630.  
Adrian Thompson re parts used and  
used as well as tyres and  
accessories.  
Valentinos Suzuki  
Old Cleveland Road, Capalaba  
Frontier Suzuki  
Pickering Street, Enoggera  
Moorooka Yamaha  
Ipswich Road, Moorooka

# M.R.A.

## MOTORCYCLE RIDERS' ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Tick if renewal ☐

Name.....  
Address.....  
Postcode.....PH.....  
Occupation.....  
Birth Date.....  
Enclosed please find the sum of \$8.00 being for 1 year's  
membership in the MRA and ..... MRA cloth  
Badges at \$3.00 each.  
Total enclosed.....

- ☐ "MRA Australia" badges (members only) @ \$4.00;
- ☐ "Education not Legislation" stickers @ 50c ea;
- ☐ "No Compulsory Daytime Lights On" stickers @ 50c ea;
- ☐ Cloth Badges @ \$3.00 ea;
- ☐ "Let Those Who Ride Decide" stickers @ 50c ea;
- ☐ "Motorcycle Aware Driver" stickers @ 50c ea;
- ☐ "M.R.A. QLD" reflective stickers @ 50c ea;
- ☐ M.R.A. Caps @ \$2.00 ea.

### T-SHIRTS

- ☐ Sky Blue
- ☐ Black

Size (10-22)  
@ \$7.00  
@ \$7.00

Send to: M.R.A. (Qld), P.O. Box 238,  
Paddington 4064  
or your nearest Register.

When ordering T-shirts please enclose \$1.00 for  
sending as certified mail.

## STOP PRESS:-

More bad news for MRA Australia came when the Victorian President, Tony Sicbuna, announced recently that MRA Victoria has refused to honour their prior commitment to fund the National body. The Victorian minutes state that MRA Victoria intends to form a National body as originally envisaged by Damien Codognotto. It is uncertain at this stage whether this means that a new organisation in opposition to MRA Australia is planned or just an attempt to reverse the majority decisions already made. Unfortunately, democracy just doesn't appear to have the same connotations in Victoria!

**NOTE: Next Newsletter dead-  
line DEC.18th.**

# SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

## CASH REBATE FOR SAFE RIDING COURSE

Michael Wearing and Associates in conjunction with the Motorcycle Riders Association, is offering a cash rebate of up to \$40 to any person completing either:

- a. A Queensland Motorcycle Training Centre course or
- b. A Queensland Road Safety Council Motorcycle training programme and
- c. Let Michael Wearing look after their Superannuation, or Life Insurance or Sickness and Accident Insurance.

The cash rebate will be paid on the production of a course certificate and the completion of business. Only one cash rebate per person.

## STOP PRESS

Cash rebate will also apply to any person who completes a riding course within twelve months after doing business with Michael Wearing and Associates.

Contact — Michael Wearing on

369 8741 Home  
371 7466 Work

or write to:

Michael Wearing and Associates  
P.O. Box 391, Toowong, Qld. 4066.

## **ON THE VICTORIAN BRANCH . . .**

**M.R.A. Australia has published its first newsletter. You may have thought it was Victoria's Newsletter. You are excused. This publication from M.R.A. Australia was edited and printed as well as posted by the Victorian Branch. It has since been admitted by the current Victorian President of M.R.A., that this**

## **NEXT NATIONAL NEWSLETTER**

**M.R.A. Victoria has used the communication difficulties that exist throughout any organisation to again place themselves in a position of controlling the next National Newsletter.**

M.R.A. Australia has committed itself to two newsletters between meetings and unfortunately it was decided to again allow M.R.A. Victoria to produce it. It appears that M.R.A. (Vic) has (as it has admitted) tried to confuse and compound the situation. M.R.A. (Vic) in full knowledge, allowed the rest of Australia to rest with confusion, before pressurising the M.R.A. Australian executive into producing the next newsletter, after the deadline.

Two things concern me with this:

1. Only M.R.A. Victoria was prepared, while other states were waiting for direction from M.R.A. Australian executive.

**M.R.A. Australian Newsletter, was designed to deliberately confuse and mislead and divide M.R.A. members throughout Australia.**

M.R.A. Victoria was entrusted with the responsibility of producing Australia's first National Newsletter. M.R.A. (Vic) by its action has usurped its responsibility and prostituted M.R.A. Australia. The basic idea of M.R.A. Australia was to bring bike riders from around this country together.

This is not the first occasion where the Victorian Branch has tried to mislead the people of Australia.

2. The M.R.A. Newsletter executive is allowing this confusion to continue, by permitting the National Newsletter to go to press without proper preparation by those states involved - Queensland is one of these.

I can only conclude that editorial control must be removed from any branch. I also feel that as a branch, Queensland should restrict its communications with Victoria to the National Conference. I believe such problems that M.R.A. Victoria instigate/develop have only served to weaken the Association. Please what are your thoughts?

**B. Luke**  
**Queensland Editor**

(Ed: The Victorian Branch has been given right of reply to this item but, in line with the policy statement sent to ALL Branches, has no comment. Paper warfare does nothing for National Unity. Any Member wishing further information should write to M.R.A. Vic. All letters will be answered.)