

Damien Codognotto holds 3 titles in the Victorian Branch of the Motorcycle Riders' Association of Australia Inc.

1. Founding (past) President. 2. Honourary Life Member. 3. Patron.

He is also the Director of MRA Promotions Pty.Ltd., a private company that does not represent any MRA Committee. MRA Promotions is a legal, family company that owns MRA Motorcycle Insurance. **PARTNER JULIAN BUTLER.**

Damien has offered both companies for the Association to purchase.

In 1986 Damien produced the last issue of the Deciding Factor for the members at a personal ~~cost~~ ^{LOSS} of \$1840.00 in the hope that it would improve the image of the Association and attract new members as well as becoming profitable in the future. The magazine was lost through lack of support.

Damien set up a membership scheme through the VACC that, after a 90 day trial could have seen memberships in the MRA sold in bike shops across the State. The MRA failed to take advantage of this and the scheme was lost.

Damien supplied photos and articles to the newsletter Open Ride at no cost.

At the request of the 4B's Damien helped issue press releases and gave media advice regarding the Blood Challenge which was won by the MRA for the first time since 1979. **ALSO TO AMCO & REVS - SIGNS**
HERALD ARTICLE IN DEC. THRU ADDRESSIVE
PETH. SEC.

At threquest of a committee member Damien gave up his time to discuss the agenda for the National Conference with the Victorian Delegate. **4 YRS. M.C.**

Damien arranged a press conference at the MRA Shop with Melbourne's Lord Mayor to open the MRA's National Motorcycle Month, produced the TV CSA "Ride safe. Be trained" and arranged for the President of the Geelong Register to appear with the Police at the launch on National TV. The MRA ^{MELB.} President was invited but failed to attend. Damien organised Police cooperation for the Driver Awareness Run to help the new committee.

Damien also organised the MRA/4B involvement in the Operation Countdown Road Safety Day in the City Square on December 22. He is a member of the Police Road Safety Advisory Committee. **TRYING TO SET UP SPECIAL POLICE BIKE SQUAD.**

Damien introduced Toy Runs to Australia and has organised all 9 Melbourne events.

He is currently organising the 10th Anniversary Toy Run in cooperation with MRA ACT, NSW and SA. In 1986 he was able to cut the cost of the event by 2 thirds saving the membership about \$1500.00. **YELLOW BRICK ROAD CASE WON**

In the current financial year Damien has raised \$1526.38 (at 14%) to pay the legal costs associated with the yellow brick road court actions. He has raised \$347.00 in sales of new memberships and stock at no cost to the MRA and no profit for himself.

Since the MRA destroyed Damien's income from insurance in early 1986 Damien has lived on less than \$100.00 per week and in spite of continued attacks by 2 State committees has continued to work for the good of the members and the original aims of the MRA. He is now heavily in debt and unable to meet mortgage repayments on his home, which was mortgaged to finance the opening of the MRA Shop.

The MRA has spent \$800.00 of members' funds to get legal advice on destroying MRA Promotions ability to operate. A motion to expel damien from the MRA was moved by the Gippsland Register and seconded by the Vice President. The motion was defeated but was discussed at length without Damien being present or even knowing about the action. He was not given the opportunity to defend himself and nearly a month later the MRA still refuses to tell him what charges were laid against him.

In spite of this Damien continues to work for the members in 1987. He was authorised to mount a campaign against the new 3rd party system by the Vice President in February and the campaign conducted by Damien and Steve Bond has considerably increased the MRA campaign's chances of some success. Damien has and is working with the Melbourne City Council to promote motorcycling in this State, is organising several Bicentennial events which will benefit the MRA.

EXPO - TOYRUN - HAPPY B/DAY OZ RALLY

SEMINAR FOR M/C STS

M/C DIARY. COL ROSEWARWE / 3RD PARTY