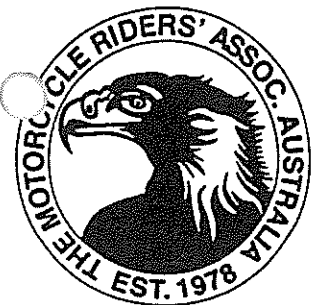


IF NOT CLAIMED IN 7 DAYS RETURN TO: P.O Box 1933R Melbourne 3001



THE MRAA LOGO IS  
THE AUSTRALIAN  
WEDGE TAILED EAGLE

July 1994

**SURFACE  
MAIL**

**POSTAGE  
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AUSTRALIA**

Print Post Approved  
PP329068/0008

THE DECIDING

# FACTOR

The Motorcycle Riders Assoc. of Australia Inc. Tel. 03 663 2164. Fax 03 563 5248.

## MRAA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, RENEWAL OR STOCK ORDER FORM

NAME	ADDRESS		
POSTCODE	PHONE	DATE OF BIRTH	MEMBER NO. If Known.

	Number	
Video. Toy Runs Melbourne 1978 - '92. 35 mins.	\$30 each.....	\$.....
TeeShirts. Black or White. Size.....	\$20 each.....	\$.....
Windcheaters. Black or White. Size.....	\$40 each.....	\$.....
MRAA Cloth Patch.	\$8 each.....	\$.....
MRAA Metal Badge.	\$8 each.....	\$.....
	Post and handling.	\$ 4.00.....
New members, Single \$30, Family \$40.....		\$.....
Renewals, Single \$20, Family \$30.....		\$.....
	<b>Total</b>	\$.....
		\$.....

**Payment method.**

Money order

Cheque

Bankcard

Visa

Mastercard

Please make cheque out to: MRA Australia.  
Send to: MRA Australia Inc., GPO Box 1933R., Melbourne.,  
3001. Fax: 03-563 5248. Tel: 03-663 2164.

Account No.

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## MRAA Calendar for August / September.

11th August / 10 September. **WSR** Video night. 03-311 8256

16th August / 13 September. **MRAA Kickstart**. Exclusively L & P plate riders. Meets at the Anchor & Hope (481 Church st, Richmond). 8pm on the second tuesday each month. Visitors welcome.

18th August / 15 September. **Women riders and Pillions**. (WRAP). Meets at the Anchor and Hope (481 Church st, Richmond). Second thursday each month, great Bistro from 6pm, meeting at 7.30pm. All welcome.

23rd August. **Western Suburbs Riders**. (WSR). Annual general meeting. 03-311 8256.

**MRAA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.**  
**Sunday 7th August 1994. 2PM.**  
 The N.M.C Shop, 380 Elizabeth St., Melbourne. 03-663 2164.

**MRAA Hotline**  
**0055 13 118**

A.AA 26c 21.4 sec. Premium

## MRAA MOVES BACK TO THE CITY.

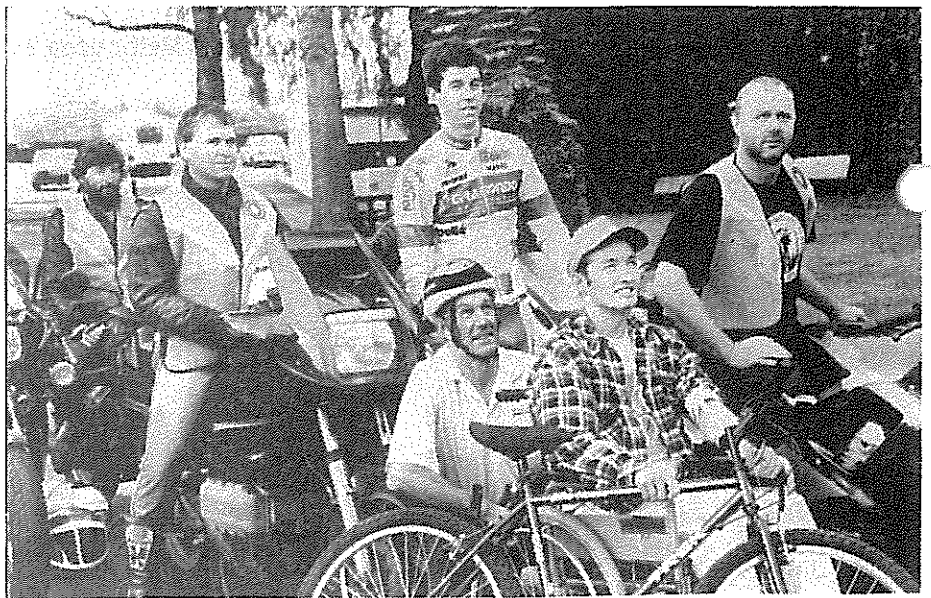
**T**he Association has moved into premises in Elizabeth St, Melbourne, ending an absence of ten years. Members and non members alike can now call into the Shop at 380, to chat, or conduct business in person. A heck of an improvement on the old system of telephoning to be greeted, in the majority of cases, by an answering machine. I personally hate the damn things and don't blame anybody who hangs up in disgust.

This years Annual General Meeting will be held at the new premises, so try to make it along to check it out. If you want to sit, bring your own chair. Visitors welcome.

The lease has been financed and signed by Damien Codognotto's company, NMC Motorcycle Insurance. The new headquarters will be run as a business, not a clubhouse. Renting the floorspace from NMC means greater benefits for MRAA members if it succeeds and protection from financial loss should it fail.

The shop will offer an increasing range of merchandise and services. The NMC will continue to offer insurance policies and advice and will develop tourism products.

There are plans to buy/swap/sell



*MRAA Marshalls, pictured with Bethesda's Executive Director, Lieut-Colonel Warren Golding of the Salvation Army, together with Head Injury Victim Justin Welsh and Professional Cyclist Matthew*

club and rally badges. Damien is keen to hear from collectors and clubs with surpluses. He said, "This place gives us the profile we need to really achieve for the Motorcycle community across Australia. With proper management it will give us the political muscle and finances we need to get right into the fight for riders rights".

## Bethesda Ride

**M**.R.A.A Marshall's recently responded to a call from the management of Bethesda Hospital in Richmond for help in publicizing it's new Head Injury program, an ambitious program designed to rehabilitate victims to a level beyond that normally attempted.

Five Marshalls arranged time off from their respective workplaces on Friday, 27th of May to join twenty or so Cyclists on a ride through the streets of Richmond at lunchtime.

The Cyclists were members of the Hospital's Re-hab staff, and were joined by a Professional Cyclist.

Although meant to be part of the procession, it became obvious early in the ride that Motorcycle Marshalling would be needed to get the column of Cyclists safely through the traffic. This is what we do best, and the column arrived back at the Hospital grounds with no more drama than a bit of verbal from a few snarly motorists.

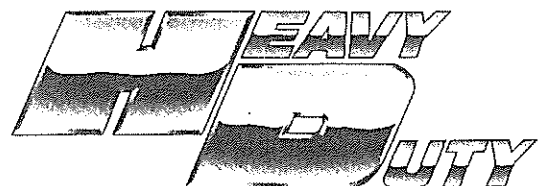
The usual speeches and a photo session ended the event and, with jaws aching from smiling for the Camera, riders either dispersed back to their various workplaces or decided to start the weekend a couple of hours early. A letter of thanks from Warren Golding of the Salvation Army (which runs the Hospital) was received a couple of days later.

Thanks again to Marshall's - Stephen Lang, Ken Wurster, Andrew Cooper and Peter Charles.



**L to R** : Dave Dorman, Brett, John Whitelaw and Lisa Dorman. Breakfast at the Arab Cafe, Lorne on Victoria's Great Ocean Road.

Dave and John run ProCycle in Geelong. 77 Mercer st. Ph. 052 23 2732.





# A NEW ADVENTURE

Hi, my name is Carole and I've been an adventurer at heart for some years, Backpacking overseas, staying at Youth Hostels, Skiing, doing Photography. As a member of "Melbourne Bicycle Touring Club I regularly went on day and weekend cycling trips with a group who were fun and good company.

The thought of riding Motorcycles never entered my head, now they are the passion of my life! If I can't ride - because I'm at work - I'm happiest when talking Motorcycles, reading about them or getting to know like minded people.

It all began when Husband, Patrick, mentioned he'd like to ride a Bike again, a surprise as I had not known he'd ridden in the past. In fact he'd owned three different Bikes. My reaction was "it's so dangerous". He let it drop for the moment, a wise man.

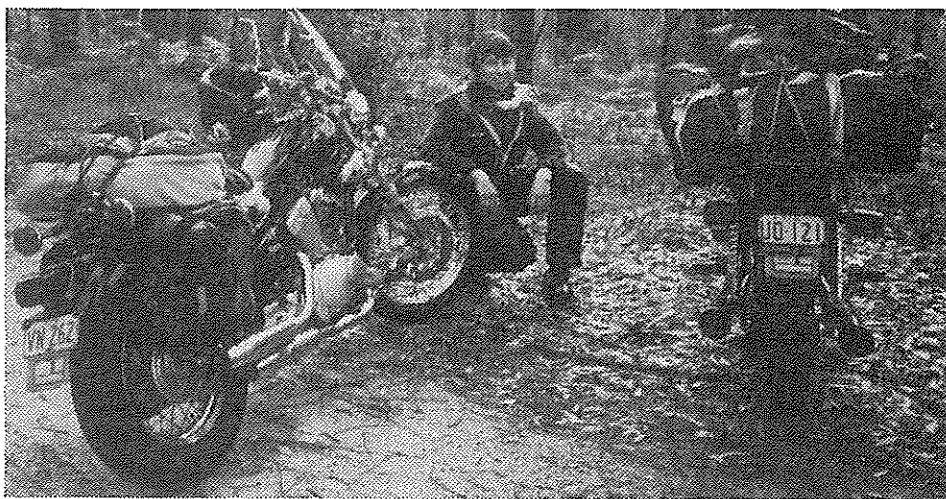
Well, the bug bit about ten months later, we were seated in a Restaurant overlooking busy Toorak Rd., when I saw a very average guy, in his forties, jump onto a Motor Scooter. He was wearing only a TrackSuit, Helmet with visor up and no other protective gear. I said, "What about a Motor Scooter?, I could learn to ride one of those". My Husband was quite pleased, I think, at the change of heart. For the rest of the evening we talked Motorbikes ending with my being persuaded from a Scooter to a Motorcycle!

Next day, in the City, I sat on a Kawasaki EL250 - and it seemed so big and daunting - "Oh no, I couldn't ride one of these!"

Hubby suggested a 185cc so a check in the "Trading Post" set up a visit, next morning to see a '79 Suzuki 185cc two stroke.

What a great little Bike it looked!, Red and Black with lot's of chrome and a packrack too - all for \$700. Patrick took it for a run and thought it would be perfect for me. I pillioned behind him, but it was scary! Anyway, a deposit of \$10 did the deal, and after a rush to the City to buy a Helmet each, we picked it up the next Saturday.

Wow, what excitement! Patrick rode the little Suzi to a parking lot for my first try. I was so frightened, would it rear



*Reformed Cyclist Carole, pictured with second love "Virago", now jilted in favour of a gleaming new GS500E.*

up? I just opened the throttle and went forward ten metres, slowly, Hubby running alongside to help. Then I stopped and it was all O.K

Thank's to Patrick's patience and good teaching I progressed, soon whizzing around the Parking area at 50 - 60 kmh.

Five week's later I stumbled on a five month old "Virago" 250 with only 200 km on it, at a City dealer. It was a good buy and more reliable in traffic than the little two stroke. Patrick saw the Bike he wanted there too, a GSX 400cc Suzuki, low mileage 1982 model. We did a double deal and two weeks later sold my Suzuki through the "Trading Post". It had been a wonderful Bike to learn on and I was sorry to part with it.

I have clocked up 18,000 km on my Virago so far, in less than a year. The "Black Spur", The "Dandenongs", "Mount Buller" and the "Great Ocean Road" being some of my favourite rides. You meet such nice people too, other "MotorBikers". A new strata of society to mix with.

Patrick and I rode to Merimbula on our last holiday, I kept up with him all the way. What an adventure! Once there we did day trips up the Sapphire Coast Road and beyond, enjoying the wonderful scenery, exhilaration of the ride, smells, wind in our faces and sounds of the Birds...

Backpacking on Motorcycles! What fun and a new challenge for us both to share. It's been a blessing to have this motivating interest between us.

I did all the VicRoads motorcycle courses, the "skilled rider" twice, and secured my license five months after that

first solo on the little Suzuki. Post license courses, like the ones I did with "StayUpright" and Honda Australia (H.A.R.T), are a great way to have a lot of fun, meet beautiful people and learn the skills to stay safe on your Motorcycle. I recommend a Basic maintenance course too, it enables you to keep your own Bike in top condition and to have confidence in it.

My next Bike will be a GS Suzuki 500E - a bit like a cafe racer, it's only 30 kg heavier than the Virago and with a more sporty riding position it will be easier to improve on cornering and slalom techniques. Leo, at Preston Bike Centre is looking after the deal for me. It's all very exciting, but, at present, it's on a very slow boat from Japan! It'll be a shame to sell the Virago, but I am looking forward to the new challenge already.

I love Motorcycling so much that I really want to become an Instructor at one of the Schools. I was encouraged by the Women Riders I met and was tested by a lady for the "on road" part of the license test. I know it would be a boost to "up and coming" Female Riders to see a Woman who can ride well. That's what I aim to do.

See you on a ride sometime.

**Carole Miles.**

