

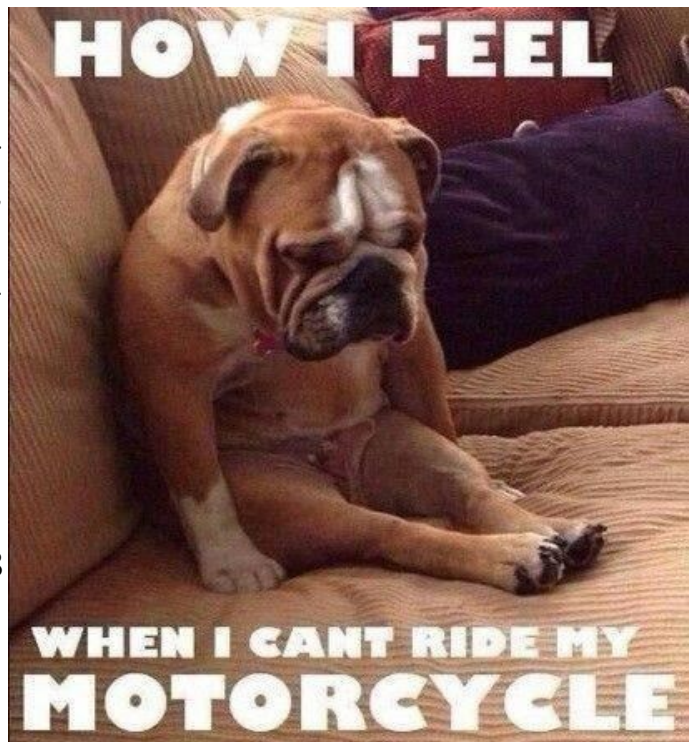
THE BEEMER

April 2019

Contents

Regular Spots

Who is Who.....2
 Members Out & About.....3
 Upcoming Events.....4
 Proposed Ride Dates.....4
 Presidents Report.....5
 Ladies Lunch.....6
 Crow’s Nest Run.....7
 Queensland’s Best Rides.....9
 Cool Clock Run.....10
 Bit of BMW Motorcycle Information.....12
 FOR SALE.....14
 BMW Motorsport Media Release.....15-17
 Editors Note.....19-21
 Ride Rules.....23
 BMW Matters.....24
 Explore NSW Rides.....25
 David’s Canberra Trip.....27-28
 Club Membership Form.....29-30
 Funnies.....31



BMW Clubs
Australia



NEWSLETTER OF THE BMW MOTORCYCLE OWNERS CLUB
(GOLD COAST) INC

BMW Motorcycle Owners Club
(Gold Coast) Inc.



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Contact David Huddy 0424738276

MEMBER'S OUT & ABOUT



Above Photo: Police Community Day at Beechmont. To the left of the officers are Dan and Glenys Willmott; to the right are Cherie and Adrian Headon. Unfortunately we do not know the names of the Police Officers.



John Vassallo, Greyden Tapp and Wojtek Jan Czewski aka Wally, heading off to the NRCMC Show and Shine at Alstonville on Sunday 17th March.

Upcoming Events

[Click here to access Calendar online](#)

April

Sunday 7th – 8am-Members Breakfast, The View Café Hinze Dam

Sunday 14th– 8am Management Committee Meeting, The View Café Hinze Dam

Sunday 5th May - 8am- Members Breakfast, The View Café Hinze Dam

Upcoming Proposed Rides

7th April*	Gordon & Jenny
21st April	John & Julie
5th May	Steve
19th May	Damian-Cambooya
2 June*	Rohan
16 June	Darren

*Online Calendar will be updated once rides are confirmed and any additional dates will be added

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<p>www.smartmotorcycleaccessories.com.au</p>	

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Another month older and the year is rapidly unwinding. I hope you are all sticking to your New Year Resolutions! It has been a quiet month for rides and that is an issue the committee will address at it's next meeting on the 7th April.

The highlight of my month has been the six day ride to Canberra, which I have written up elsewhere in this edition. My first ride of more than 1 night and many lessons learned, but if you don't try you never know. What it did make me realise is how lucky we are on the Gold Coast, with so many good riding roads in easy reach and without the density of population and endless congestion. There are many good roads in the south. Despite the set backs on this trip, I have every intention of completing more such rides, albeit at a slower pace.

It's interesting what you can pick up in a doctors waiting room, apart from somebody else's sniffles. I recently had that pleasure and picked up an old copy of the RACQ magazine which had an interesting news item, I had not seen in any other publication. The Queensland Department of Main Roads, in its quest to reduce road fatalities to 200 and hospitalisations to 4669 (?) Will test *Cooperative Intelligent Systems (C-ITS)* through the *Cooperative and Automated Vehicle Initiative (CAV)*. The fact that this technology is being developed around the world does make me wonder why the Qld Govt needs to spend more of our tax dollars on a local experiment? However, the intent is to allow vehicles to talk to other vehicles, infrastructure and *governments' central systems* (my emphasis). 500 vehicles in the Ipswich area will be fitted with the technology for testing later this year.

It's not hard to see where this is going. To provide a vehicle with advance information on road works, accident delays etc., the central government system will need to know where it is and once that information is recorded there will be absolutely no privacy for our travels. It will all be done in the name of road safety of course, but it is well understood in legal circles, that a law or rule introduced for one purpose, will soon be used for other purposes. You can't keep out a police officer with a search warrant. George Orwell wrote the prescient novel '1984' in 1949. I wonder what he would have written had he known of the technology we have today.

Dr João Canoquena of the University of Notre Dame Australia, is conducting a survey on attitudes to road safety strategies and needs more input from MC riders. The survey covers community concerns about road safety strategies such as speed enforcement, wire rope barriers, roadside breath/drug testing, speed cameras, graduated licensing schemes and more. If you would like to contribute to the survey, you can contact Dr João Canoquena by email by [Click Here](#) or [Click Here](#)

Keep on keeping on.

David





MAD/ASIAN
KITCHEN & BAR

LADIES LUNCH

Mad Asian Kitchen & Bar

APRIL 12th

12noon

Upstairs in The Kitchens

Robina Town Centre



RUN

Sunday 17th March 2017

The rain has been great for the garden, but we really wanted a day out on the bike, relaxation time.

Meeting at 7:30am at Exit 54 BP and away at 8. Wally was TEC and did an excellent job at keeping the group tight. We decided not to run corner markers and the day went well with only one "U" turn ... ok, plus a 40km wrong decision but what the hell, it made the day.

Our Brisbane man Ken had been up over Glorious the day before and suggested it was to be avoided, trees across the road etc. – REALLY!! That is like parents saying not to play with matches! I remember my worst experience (there were several) was lighting a birthday cake candle and had it standing in a lux dishwashing liquid top, I left it on the piano for only a few seconds and went to do something, How was I supposed to know that piano keys are highly inflammable – I hid, but my parents found me at the back of the neighbours house, seriously though the new piano sounded much better. So, Ken said to avoid Glorious, Let's go look seemed the only logical answer – We have never seen so much crap on the Mt Glorious road – the cloud was really low with limited visibility, I swear we were above the cloud line at one stage. Down the other side Wally decided to test his ABS, it worked!

Stopping in Esk at [Nash's Gallery & Coffee](#) (pictured below). They have the world's #1 Passionfruit Iced Vanilla slice – we are talking gourmet food.

Up to Crow's Nest, along the range to Murphy's Creek descent, Helidon, Gatton and stopping at Forest Hill ([Café 4342](#)) for the world's best Turkish sandwich – go the #1 chicken & avo, camembert, with the dried tomatoes. The thick shake was their own homemade signature caramel / butterscotch creation – sin, sin, totally sinful.

Cross country back to the GC.

Not one drop of rain in the 450 k's Temperature was so nice A perfect day out

Gordon and Jenny



PS. Ok, I missed that it started raining 5 minutes from home... The rest is basically true.



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Motorcycle skills

Queensland's favourite rides


Riders' guide

Factsheet


Queensland's favourite rides

Ready to plan your ride? We've got you covered with this selection of Queensland's favourite rides. Remember to share your photos with us afterwards by hashtagging #StreetSmartsQLD.

Toowoomba




Toowoomba loop via Milton
321km - approx. 285min




Toowoomba loop via Queen Mary Falls
354km - approx. 300min

South Burnett

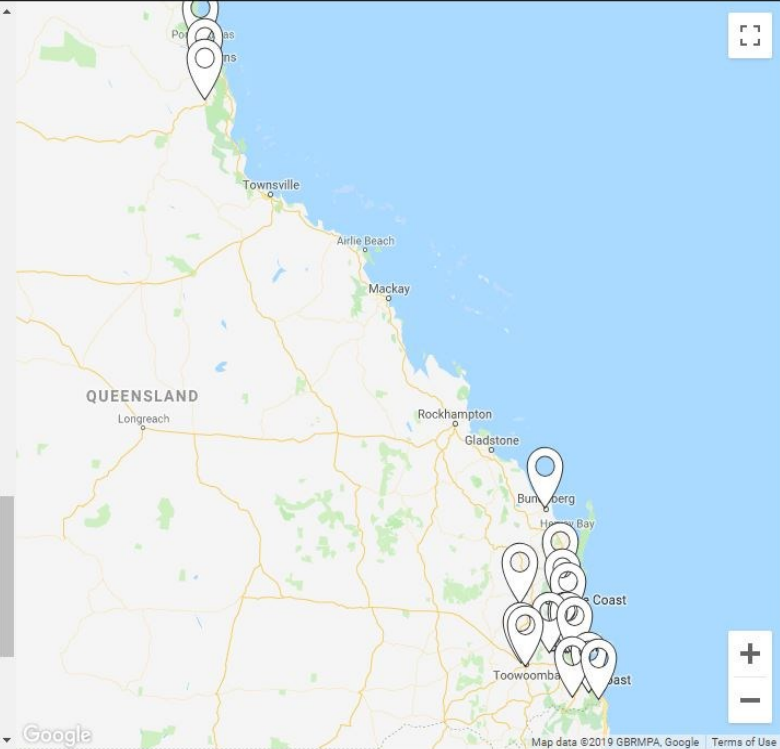


Kingaroy loop via Goomeri
215km - approx. 180min

Bundaberg



Alloway to Bundaberg via



Don't forget we now have links to websites available!

You never know you may find your next adventure in a link.

Sunday 3rd March 'Cool Clock Run'

Our ride started at Boonah at the cool clock– Otherwise known as the Blumbergville Town Clock which was named after the original name of the town. Along for the ride was Gordon, Jenny, Anna, John and Wally. (Please see the next page for an article on the making of the clock kindly provided by Gordon.)

Our ride ran past Maroon Dam to Kooralbyn where we stopped at VJ's Café for the ceremonial piece of carrot cake.



At Boonah, near the cool clock– it makes a racket on the hour. L to R Jenny, Anna, Wally and John



Picture to the left– VJ's at Kooralbyn... Last three pieces of Carrot Cake. Who missed out?
L to R Jenny, Gordon, Anna, John and Wally

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Boonah in south-east Queensland unveils 'crazy-fun' Blumbergville town clock

By Eric Tlozek
Updated 11 Jun 2014, 10:17am

Queensland's Scenic Rim Regional Council has installed a new town clock in Boonah named after the original township Blumbergville.

The Blumbergville clock is both an artwork and timepiece and has been made as part of the town's recovery from floods in the region.

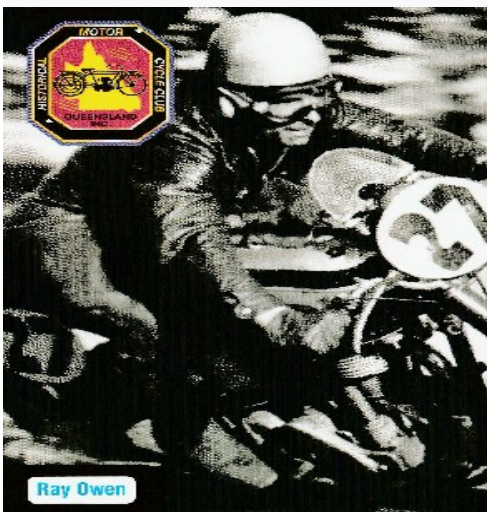
The clock's creator, local sculptor Christopher Trotter, says it is designed to play on the town's former name and commemorate the Scenic Rim's agricultural heritage.

"It's called Blumbergville clock because Boonah used to be named Blumbergville and it was named after the Blumberg brothers," said Mr Trotter, whose other works include the famous City Roos in Brisbane CBD, the mechanical pelicans on the Brisbane River and the fish fossil at Kangaroo Point.

"For me it's this crazy Dr. Seuss name - you know Blumbergville - that's like from a parallel reality, so I've done this piece that's somewhere sort of steam punk, [film director] Tim Burton, crazy-fun thing.



PHOTO: Sculptor Christopher Trotter works on his Blumbergville Clock. (ABC News: Courtney Wilson)



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This Month's History Lesson

Max Friz The father of the boxer flat-twin.

BMW Motorrad is given its initial boost on January 2nd 1917: On this day, the 33-year-old engineer Max Friz starts working for BMW. Shortly beforehand, the Swabian had quit his job under his previous boss Paul Daimler in Stuttgart. As it turns out, this is a highly fortunate circumstance for BMW, since after the banning of aircraft and aircraft engines by the treaty of Versailles on June 28th 1919, the existence of BMW seems to be placed on an unsure footing. Max Friz, who soon becomes BMW's head designer, turns his full attention to the motorcycle. In December 1922, hardly 4 weeks after the order was issued, Friz has already put the first BMW motorcycle on the drawing board to original scale. The core is the new drive concept of the BMW flat twin "boxer" engine.



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Odometer: 140,000 km
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Colour: Pearl

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Condition: Excellent

Safety certificate is current

Price: \$3,950

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BMW Motorrad

Corporate Communications



Press information
13 March 2019

Another outstanding year for BMW Motorrad in the “2019 Motorcycle of the Year” vote held by MOTORRAD magazine.

Excellent result for BMW Motorrad with victories in three categories and a total of nine podium positions.



Munich/Stuttgart. With victories in the categories “Sports Bikes”, “Enduro/Supermoto” and “Crossovers” as well as four second places and two third places, BMW Motorrad achieved another impressive result in MOTORRAD magazine’s 21st “Motorcycle of the Year” readers’ vote in 2019, in which 222 motorcycle models lined up and were voted on by 47,407 readers in Germany.

“I am very pleased with the outstanding results our motorcycles achieved and would like to thank MOTORRAD readers most sincerely for their votes. These nine podium positions and the three category wins are highly motivating for myself and the entire BMW Motorrad team and a huge incentive to do everything we can in future to defend our leading position in all motorcycle market segments in which we are represented,” said Dr Markus Schramm, Head of BMW Motorrad.

First place in the category “Sport” went to the new S 1000 RR. Attracting 22.1% of readers’ votes, it overcame strong competition from Italy and the Far East. As

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Motoren Werke
Aktiengesellschaft

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Press information

Date 13 March 2019

Topic Another outstanding year for BMW Motorrad in the "2019 Motorcycle of the Year" vote held by MOTORRAD magazine.

page 2

such, participating MOTORRAD readers showed their appreciation of an RR that has been improved in all disciplines: in its new 2019 edition it is now more uncompromising, lighter, faster due to BMW ShiftCam Technology and more easily controllable thanks to state-of-the-art assistance systems. It is available from dealerships from June onwards.

The BMW S 1000 XR dominated the "Crossover" category once again in 2019, commanding a 20.4% share of the vote in what is a hotly competed segment. With its fascinating blend of sporty riding dynamics, outstanding sports touring qualities and individual design, it was once again the most highly ranked model among readers.

Another outright class victory was achieved by the new R 1250 GS along with its sibling model, the R 1250 GS Adventure, in the "Enduro/Supermoto" category. An impressive 23.5 % of readers confirmed that these two new GS models represent the ultimate benchmark in the segment with their comprehensively advanced boxer engine featuring BMW ShiftCam Technology.

The popular BMW touring models R 1250 RS and R 1250 RT only just missed winning their category this year. Nonetheless, the R 1250 RS attracted 22.2 % of readers' votes, finishing a strong second and followed by the R 1250 RT in third place. With their excellent all-round qualities including riding dynamics and touring suitability, both models thus confirmed their key role and high level of acceptance in the "Touring/Sports Touring" category.

Another second place was achieved by the BMW R nineT in the category "Modern Classics". Here, 17.0 % of voters were impressed by this model's incomparable blend of classic, laid-back design, cutting-edge technology and sporty riding dynamics.

The BMW G 310 R/GS models faced up to the competition for the first time in the "Entry Level" category, where readers spontaneously voted them into second place – a great result for these two agile BMW Motorrad all-rounders.

In the "Scooter" category, BMW Motorrad achieved another admirable second place with the zero-emission C evolution maxi scooter. Third place for the C 650

BMW Motorrad Corporate Communications



Press information

Date 13 March 2019
Topic Another outstanding year for BMW Motorrad in the "2019 Motorcycle of the Year" vote held by MOTORRAD magazine.
page 3

Sport/C 650 GT rounds off the positive overall performance of BMW Motorrad in this urban segment.

The award ceremony was held on 11 March 2019 in Stuttgart. 47,407 readers took part in the 21st "Motorcycle of the Year" vote, which is considered the most important readers' vote on motorcycles and scooters in the whole of Europe.

You will find press material on BMW motorcycles and BMW Motorrad rider equipment in the BMW Group PressClub at www.press.bmwgroup.com

In case of queries please contact:

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Internet: www.press.bmw.de
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The BMW Group

With its four brands BMW, MINI, Rolls-Royce and BMW Motorrad, the BMW Group is the world's leading premium manufacturer of automobiles and motorcycles and also provides premium financial and mobility services. The BMW Group production network comprises 30 production and assembly facilities in 14 countries; the company has a global sales network in more than 140 countries.

In 2018, the BMW Group sold over 2,490,000 passenger vehicles and more than 165,000 motorcycles worldwide. The profit before tax in the financial year 2016 was € 10,655 billion on revenues amounting to € 98,678 billion. As of 31 December 2017, the BMW Group had a workforce of 129,932 employees.

The success of the BMW Group has always been based on long-term thinking and responsible action. The company has therefore established ecological and social sustainability throughout the value chain, comprehensive product responsibility and a clear commitment to conserving resources as an integral part of its strategy.

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Sunday 19th May 2019

7:00 Coffee* @ Darra

Autohouse Storage,
3 Perivale Street, Darra

8:00 Depart for Scenic Rim

Included in registration

9:30 Moto Lineup & Brunch*

"Nindooindah", Nindooindah
House Rd, Beaudesert

11:00 Head Home

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REGISTERING A VEHICLE

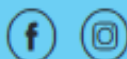
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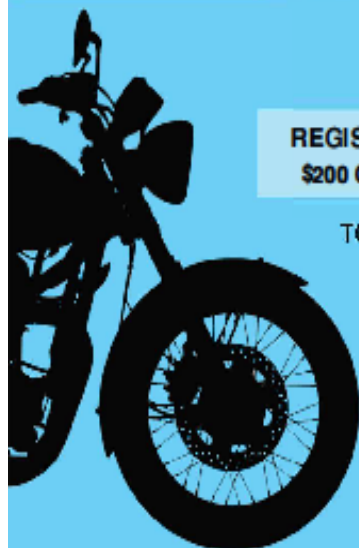
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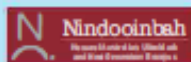
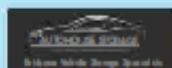
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ELLASPEDE

TRIUMPH

Editor's Note

I wish I could say the weather has cooled in Brisbane, but it is still an effort to put the gear on when its already in the mid 20's at 7am. I have been sneaking in a few short rides and thought I was in for a great ride with Gordon and the rest of you to Mt Glorious. Well the excitement of the ride got the better of me, I was exactly one week early. I don't think Gordon is going to let me forget this one. The following week was the weekend it decided to rain and blow, so I stayed home. I had just put new knobbies on as part of the BMW Safari bike check and didn't feel like slipping around on wet, debris strewn roads just 2 weeks before the Safari.

I am afraid I will miss the April meeting and ride as I will be starting the Safari from Richmond up to Coffs Harbour using whatever back roads the BMW team have found to challenge us.

In this issue I have included a charity event more aimed at people in Brisbane, but I thought it might interest a few of you, not just for the ride, but the opportunity to see the outside of a very historic homestead called "Nindooinbah" near Kerry. We often ride past the private road, but this event will get you onto the grounds and if like last year, a chance to see the magnificent gardens. There's not many homes that can boast a roof gutter length of 1 km. The event was originally aimed at Bikers. Sandy, the Owner's son, has ridden with us on his GS 650 and 750, but has now turned to a Triumph Scrambler. Surprisingly, a number of high performance sports car turned up last year and I suspect there will be more of them this year. I will of course be there, with participants meeting at Darra at 7am, that's just around the corner from home.

I had a few minutes to kill, so I went on the interweb to check the laws on lane filtering/splitting and also when and how to overtake cyclists. I think I am ok on the broad concept, but there are a few finer details that seem inconsistent, so I have included their printed info together with a video on when you can ride on the shoulder, which I do a lot when heading back from the Gold Coast rides with the club.....Will the M1 around Robina ever flow after 11am?

That's all from me for this month, I need to get back to packing my 6 T-shirts etc. for the Safari and deciding which way to drive down this time, but I can guarantee, it won't include much highway.

Ken

Lane filtering rules in QLD (seem nearly the same as NSW)

Lane filtering is when you ride your motorcycle at low speed between stationary or slow moving vehicles travelling in the same direction you are. The 2 lines or lanes of traffic must both be travelling in the same direction. If one of the lines or lanes is a dedicated turning lane (left or right) you must not lane filter using this lane.

You're only allowed to lane filter in Queensland if you hold an open licence for the motorcycle you are riding and:

- your speed when filtering is 30km/h or less

it's safe to do so.

You're not allowed to lane filter:

- at a speed more than 30km/h
- in school zones during school zone hours
- if you're a learner or provisional licence holder
- when a 'no filtering' sign applies to the length of road

if it isn't safe.

A motorcycle rider is not allowed to use a bicycle lane to lane filter.

To ensure pedestrian safety, lane filtering is only allowed between stationary or slow moving vehicles, not between a vehicle and the kerb.

Editor's Note

This seems to be legal if travelling on a road where the speed limit is 90km or more, but still riding at below 30kmh

Videolink below

<https://youtu.be/R-YJw6-Sshk>

Laws for motorists passing bicycle riders

Motorists must stay wider of bicycle riders by giving a minimum of:

- 1m when passing a bicycle rider in a 60km/h or less speed zone or
- 1.5m where the speed limit is over 60km/h.

Passing a bicycle rider means that you (as a motorist) and the bicycle rider are travelling in the same direction. This includes when you are travelling side-by-side in separate lanes on a multi-lane road. It does not apply if you are travelling in opposite directions.

The passing distance is measured from:

- The rightmost part of the bicycle, or the person on the bicycle to
- The leftmost part of the vehicle, or something sticking out from the vehicle (e.g. a side mirror).

The minimum passing distance applies even if the bicycle rider is riding around an obstacle.

These road rules apply to all motor vehicles—including cars, motorcycles, heavy vehicles and public transport vehicles

- [Factsheet and frequently asked questions](#)

Crossing lines to pass a Bicycle Rider

To pass a bicycle rider—as long as it is safe to do so—you are allowed to:

- drive over centre lines (including double unbroken centre lines) on a 2-way road
- straddle or cross a lane line (including a continuous lane line) on a multi-lane road
- drive on a painted island.

If it is not safe to pass a bicycle rider, you must wait until it is safe to pass.



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CLUB RIDE RULES

Never pass the ride leader.

To be considered as riding with the group, you should be between the ride captain and the tail-end Charlie. (TEC) TEC hasn't got eyes in the back of their head.

When riding in staggered formation, the formation is set by the rider behind the ride captain. When the formation changes, please take care. It is not advised to merely move across. Move across if safe to do so.

The rider behind the ride captain corner marks. Do it safely. Try to be in vision of the riders that you are directing. Do not endanger yourself by stopping in loose gravel, or in a place where you may be hit. Tail End Charlie will wave you to re-join the group as he/she approaches you. Again, do it safely. Join only when you think it is appropriate.

If TEC is being followed by traffic, pull in behind the traffic and make your way back to the ride. If it's not safe to pull in front of TEC, don't. Use common sense. Keep safe distance at all times.

Advise the ride captain and tail end Charlie if you are leaving the ride before the 'good-bye' point. Be fully fueled before the ride [The bike guys, the bike]

It is not easy to keep a head count of riders. If you think someone is missing and should not be, ask. It's always better to be safe than sorry.

Never pass on the left; never tail-gate, pass slower riders only when it is safe to do so; be patient. Abide by the road rules at all times.



BMW MATTERS

From Lyn Dyne

The New **BMW C 400 X** - Mid Size Scooter

Type: Water-cooled single cylinder 4 stroke engine, 4 valves per cylinder, overhead camshaft with rocker arm, wet sump lubrication.

Bore & stroke: 80mm x 69.6mm - Capacity: 350 cc

Rated output: 25 kW (34 hp) at 7,500 rpm

Max torque: 35 Nm at 6,000 rpm

Compression ratio: 11.5:1

Engine Management: BMS-E2 digital engine management

Emission control: Closed-loop 3-way catalytic converter, emission standard EU-4

Maximum speed: 139 km/h

Fuel type: Unleaded super 95, E10 compatible

Clutch: Centrifugal dry clutch

Gearbox: Stepless CVT gearbox

Drive: Gearwheel set

Frame: Steel tube construction with aluminum die cast unit

Front wheel/suspension: Telescopic front fork \varnothing 35 mm

Rear wheel/suspension: Double aluminum swingarm, double spring struts, adjustable preload

Suspension travel front/rear: 110 mm / 112 mm

Wheelbase: 1,565 mm

Wheels: Aluminum cast wheels

Rim, front/rear: 3.50 x 15" - 4.25 x 14"

Tyre, front/rear: 120/70 ZR 15 - 150/70 ZR 14

Brake, front: Double disc brake, 265 mm dia. 4-piston calipers

Brake, rear: Single disc brake, 265 mm dia. 1-piston floating caliper

ABS - BMW Motorrad ABS

Seat height: 775 mm

Usable tank volume: 12.8 L - Reserve 4 L

Unladen weight, road ready, fully fueled: 204 kg - dry 193 kg

Colours: Black Storm Metallic, Alpine White, Zenith Blue metallic

UPCOMING EVENTS - 2019

7 - 12th April -

BMW Motorrad 2019 GS Safari taking place in NSW from Windsor to Coffs Harbour. Support:- Medical, Luggage vehicle, Tyre Support, Sweep vehicle/ Technical support, On-Bike technical support, BMW Safari Management Crew, Optional 2-day pre-Safari BMW Off-Road Training info@bmwsafari.com

14th April - [Moto GP Americas](#)

19-22nd April (Easter) - [Broadford Bike Bonanza](#)

5th May - [Moto GP Spain](#)

[12th May](#) - Mothers Day

17-19th May - Pelikan Rally by *BMW Owners Club of South Australia* at Camp Kedron on the banks of Lake Bonney, 4.7 km from Barmera and 221 km N/E of Adelaide.

www.bmwocsa.org.au

19th May - Moto GP France

2nd June - Moto GP Italy

8,9,10 June - June Long Weekend

50th Alpine Motorcycle Rally at Yarrangobilly on the banks of the Yarrangobilly River, Cotterill's Cottage, next to the Snowy Mountains Highway

Contact: Henning 0457 034 488 or hj333@gmail.com

Website: <http://alpinerally.webs.com>

16th June - Moto GP Catalonia

30th June - Moto GP Netherlands

7th July - Moto GP Germany

21st July - Club Laverda Concours at Redland Showgrounds, Long Street, Cleveland 6am - 3pm.

3/4th August - Border Run (SA/WA border)

4th August - Moto GP Czech Republic

11th August - Gold Coast Bike Show at Mudgeeraba Showgrounds - 7am to 3pm

11th August - Moto GP Austria

25th August - Moto GP Britain

1st SEPTEMBER - [Fathers Day](#)

14/15th September - Far Cairn Rally by *BMW Touring Club of New South Wales*

7-17th September - Postie Bike Challenge will be a 3500 km trip on a Postie Bike across the Australian Outback from Brisbane to Adelaide via the Birdsville Track.

www.postiebikechallenge.org

15th September - Moto GP San Marino

22nd September - Moto GP Aragon

.....
How many Australian 'Knights of the Realm' raced motorcycles:

Sir James Disney and

Sir Jack Brabham - He entered a motorcycle race at Bathurst in the 1940's

Sir Hubert Oppeman raced bicycles

HP4 RACE

BMW's (track only) HP4 RACE has received excellent reviews in the latest edition of *Australian Road Rider* magazine. The contributor at ARR who test rode the bike at Phillip Island commented thus: 'Somewhere between a world superbike and a MotoGP prototype, BMW's HP4 is probably the most exotic and mind-bending thing to have ever passed through the factory'.

Price: \$115,000

Colour: BMW Racing colour scheme

Warranty: 5000 km before buying replacement engine for \$27,000

Only 750 of this exclusive bike have been built. After the test runs (including the S 1000 range) at Queensland Raceway, Sydney Motor-sport Park and Phillip Island, the bikes were sent back to Germany.

..... BMW Motorrad 2019 TS Safari to take place in the New England region of NSW around the high country roads to the coast. Dates to be advised.



EXPLORE GREAT NSW RIDES



COMMUTING IN SYDNEY



KINGS HIGHWAY BATEMANS BAY TO BRAIDWOOD



SNOWY MOUNTAINS KHANCOBAN TO KIANDRA



BYLONG VALLEY WAY ILFORD TO SANDY HOLLOW



MACQUARIE PASS ALBION PARK TO ROBERTSON



SNOWY MOUNTAINS

BMW SAFARI
NEW SOUTH WALES 2019

GS

25th ANNIVERSARY



Official Partner of
BMW Motorrad



Wildlife
Amazing roads
African cultures
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**- For your two wheel ride
of a lifetime!**

**Just few
spaces left!**

33 days

CAPE TOWN TO KILIMANJARO

29 JUNE - 31 JULY 2019

**Don't miss out
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**This is truly Africa
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Join us on this epic motorcycle expedition that will take you from Cape Town to Kilimanjaro (The lowest point in Africa to the highest!). No other motorcycle tour company in the world offers this exciting route that takes you up along Lake Malawi, through the highlands of Tanzania to the foothills of Kilimanjaro.

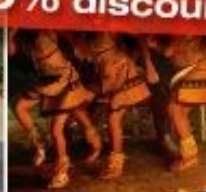
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CANBERRA LONG WEEKEND

It has long been an ambition of mine to ride to Canberra. The objective being to take in three of Australia's best riding roads, [Thunderbolt Way](#), [Putty Road](#) and the [Oberon - Goulburn](#) Road. When I first mapped it I had estimated 3 days each way, but it's hard to find that amount of time. Perhaps, if I could make Gloucester in one day, I could then do the trip in two days. There was, of course, only one way to find out. The Canberra Day long week-end, in early March seemed ideal and would allow me to spend a few days with the grand children.



Day one started well. I took the short route to Grafton down the highway, but by the time I got there I decided that, due to the road works, rotten surface and ever changing speed limits I would not go home that way. I filled up at Armidale Airport and hurried on to Walcha, noticing a drop in the temperature. At Walcha, it was down to 15° with light rain falling. In the distance, I could see mist and seriously contemplated stopping there, but that would have meant a marathon second day, which I wanted to avoid, so I pressed on. As the light faded, the fog rolled in, accompanied by light rain. The temp on the bike dropped to 12° and my light gear was totally inadequate. I turned on the heated grips, which possibly saved me from a severe case of hypothermia. Going down the escarpment into Gloucester in fog was frightening. Luckily (?) I was the only vehicle on the road, so dropped to a low gear and took it slowly, eventually arriving into Gloucester frozen and shaking like a leaf. The Bucketts Way Motel was a good choice. It has been modernised and now has a good bar and restaurant. Day 1 - 651km

Day two, aiming for Singleton, I took the back road through Dungog, which was good riding, except for the road surface. Much of the road was as if had been totally resurfaced, one shovel full at a time. Cobblestones would have been smoother. Approaching the range on Putty Road there are some nice turns, but the real interest is the climb up the range with 16km of fairly tight turns. At the top it levels out with long straight stretches. It was not what I had expected and was rather disappointed. I can understand Sydney riders being enthusiastic, as there's not much else to enjoy close to the city. I've done it, but would not be in a hurry to do it again.

Anywhere near Sydney is a problem due to the population. Putty Road ends at Windsor, so how to get south to Canberra? The old Northern Road used to be a nice country road to Campbelltown. Now it has teeming suburbs either side and is being widened to 4 lanes. So it was another trawl through 45km of road works. Day 2 - 648km

On the return trip I decided to leave Oberon for another day and got an early start by staying in Goulburn on Sunday night. Unfortunately, I chose the very cheap Southern Railway Hotel, (\$85) which was undoubtedly the worst I have ever stayed in. I also opted to eat there, which was a pity as I was within walking distance of the excellent Paragon Cafe. Fear of defamation suits prohibits further comment.

Two 450km days from there, with a stop over at Kempsey. The City Centre Motel (\$105) was another good choice; nicely modernised and within walking distance of the RSL which has also been refurbished and with a very good restaurant. Home by mid-day Tuesday to temperatures around 35°.

A few lessons learned, but that's what adventures are for. More importantly; some excellent time spent with the grandchildren.



While I was in Canberra the Enlighten Festival was on. This is the National Library all lit up.

David



NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

BMW MOTORCYCLE OWNERS CLUB (GOLD COAST) INC.

66 Quarry Road, Murwillumbah, NSW 2484

Secretary: Jill Tapp

Phone: (02) 6672 1708

Mobile: 0412 761 443 Email: jilliantapp@gmail.com

BMW Motorcycle Owners
Club (Gold Coast) Inc.



APPLICANT INFORMATION

First name:	Surname:	Class of membership (see over):
Family member's first name:	Family member's surname:	Relationship to member:
Current address:		
City:	State:	Post Code:
BH:	AH:	Mobile:
Email:	Motorcycle type:	Occupation (optional)

I would like my name and contact number to appear on the Membership Grapevine List: YES / NO

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name:	Phone:
Name:	Phone:

SIGNATURES

I hereby agree to abide by the terms of the constitution of the BMW Motorcycle Owner's Club (Gold Coast) Inc.

Signature of applicant:	Date:
Signature of family member (if joint membership):	Date:

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BMW Motorcycle Owners
Club (Gold Coast) Inc.



CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP

Ordinary Member:

This class of membership is available to an applicant who is an owner of a BMW motorcycle. They enjoy all the benefits of the Association and are eligible to vote on any matter and are eligible for election to the Management Committee.

Associate Member:

This class of membership is available to an applicant who is not an owner of a BMW motorcycle. They enjoy all the benefits of the Association but are not eligible to vote on any matter and are not eligible for election to the Management Committee.

Family Member:

This class of membership is available to bone fide immediate family members of an ordinary or associate member. Such members enjoy the benefits of the Association but are not eligible to vote on any matter and are not be eligible for election to the Management Committee. Only one family member is permitted for each ordinary or associate member.

DISCLAIMER

The BMW Motorcycle Owners Club (Gold Coast) Inc, is a social club of individuals voluntarily participating in social rides and social activities of their own free accord, and carries no liability or responsibility for the individual actions of any member of the club. By joining the club each member acknowledges that: motorcycle related activities are dangerous and that accidents causing death, bodily injury, disability and property damage can and do, happen; that they have adequate motorcycle insurance cover as required by law; and that they are entirely responsible for their own actions and behavior whilst riding a motorcycle within the club.

NOTE

The BMWOC(GC) Inc. carries Public liability Insurance in the amount of \$20M.

FEEES

\$50 Joining fee, \$40 Annual renewal
BMW Motorcycle Owners Club (Gold Coast) Inc.
Suncorp Bank: BSB 484799 AC: 000294631 REF: Please use your name

COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Proposed by:	Signature:	Date:
Seconded by:	Signature:	Date:
Membership No.	Notes:	

JOKES & CONTACT



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The views expressed herein are those of the writer or contributors and not necessarily reflect on official Club policy. Contributions should be addressed to the secretary at the email shown on this page. All other correspondence should be addressed to:

The Secretary
66 Quarry Road
MURWILLUMBAH, NSW 2484
Member of the International Council of BMW Clubs

For more information about our club:

[BMW Motorcycle Owners Club
\(Gold Coast\) INC](#)