

The Monthly Journal of the  
**Northern Rivers Classic Motorcycle Club Inc.**

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**February**  
**2012**

# Classic Torque

## *NRCMCC Christmas Party 2011*

Almost before you know it – another motorcycle year draws to a close and was celebrated with the NRCMCC's annual Christmas party held on Sunday 11 of December at the Clunes hall.



*Parking at a premium at Clunes for Christmas*

Over 60 members and friends turned up, a few only able to stay to reregister their bikes with our hardworking registration officers led by Bryson Walker, but most to stay on a chat and lunch with friends. Over 50 Membership subscriptions were also collected – a reminder for the rest of us that they are now due.

It was great to see so many bikes grouped outside the hall; they are, after all, the reason we gather here regularly.

The weather was ideal despite the forecasts, some even seeking the shade of the hall to escape the sun while discussing various bikes merits and events of the year. The hall provided an excellent and comfortable venue for the lunch prepared and served by a dedicated group of members, partners and friends. Thanks to you all.



Our Xmas hamper raffles were won by Dianne Britnell and Glenn Flint – thanks for all the generous donations towards the hampers, and we hope the winners enjoy their spoils. So brace yourself for the Christmas season and for the New Year, with many rides with friends!

*Richard Swinton*

# NRCMCC December Minutes

## Minutes of NRCMCC meeting 13/12/2011

**Present:** 28 members and 1 guest (second visit)

**Apologies:** Peter Fleming, Doug Hampson, Ray Fisher, Wendy Hagen, Jim Butler

**Minutes** from meeting of 8/11/2011 read and confirmed – no business arriving discussed.

**Treasurers report** read and accepted;

### Correspondence in;

- 7 Newsletters/Mags
- Letter from Clunes old school assoc confirming booking 18/3/2012
- Email from Neil Weir – report on Wacha Rally 2011

### Correspondence out:

- Letter to Clunes old school requesting booking for 18/3/2012

**General business:** request from RG Moorcroft for members to sign a petition to ban wire rope barriers. ([www.banwirebarriers.org/petition.php](http://www.banwirebarriers.org/petition.php))

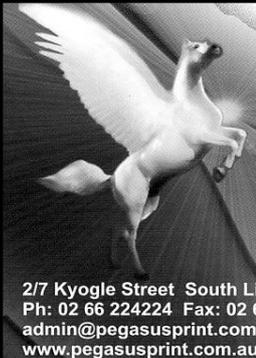
**Reports:** Nov13 – house with no steps run – 30 attendees

- midweek run to Lennox head – 9 attendees
- Toy run – 280 bikes, some original riders and bikes
- 1 confirmed entry for Jack Ahearn trophy, 2 others expected
- OTHM – 16 paid up entries, 12 more promised – limit of 36.
- Xmas party – about 60 attendees (thanks given to all who assisted – applause)

### Upcoming events

- Run to Frank Widdows house (18/1/2012) – Ballina
- Run to Tenterfield (14/1/2012) to meet run to Drake on 15/1/2012
- an extraordinary meeting of the club will be held on Sun 18 March at Clunes hall after the Sunday run to ratify the new constitution.

**Meeting closed 8.20pm**



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Annual Rally - 2011

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Photos By Nicholas Kostyn - Northern Rider Quarterly Magazine  
Black Dog Publishing - 02 6624 7888

# Entrants in the **Best Restored Bike award** for 2011



**1975 BMW R90S 900cc**  
2 years for restoration  
Owner Peter Fleming

**1971 DUCATI DESMO**  
8 years for restoration  
Owner David Charlton



**1975 BMW R90S 900cc**  
20 year for restoration  
Owner Ian Wilks



**1966 Norton Atlas**  
2 years for restoration  
Owner peter Harvey



## DOCS TIPS

### “Watch your back”



No I am not suggesting that anyone is out to get you. I mean watch out that you don't hurt your back. All those around the 60 year mark will remember the Dr McKenzie's Menthoids add on the TV for the relief of lumbago and sciatica. Well I don't know what was in them or if they worked or not but they were for the treatment of 'bad back' or for those of us 50y and up – degenerative disease of the spine, especially the lumbar area.

Our spines are rather like centipedes, we have 7 cervical or neck vertebrae, 12 thoracic or chest vertebrae and 5 lumbar or lower back vertebrae before we get to the tail bones, the sacrum and coccyx. We also have 24 discs that separate these vertebrae and it's at these points that the nerves exit on either side. If a disc gets squashed then so does the nerve, this will cause lumbago (lower back pain) as the lumbar area is the most commonly affected and sometimes Sciatica, where the pain is telegraphed down one or both legs according to which spinal level is affected. It can really be a disabling event if you get a “prolapsed disc”. So the message is don't use your back as a crane. If you lift anything, bend at the knees and keep a straight back, do not bend at the waist, you may strain your lower back and this will definitely put you out of action and put you off the road. *Till next time, safe riding, Doc.*

## President's Report

Fellow members. A start to a new and exciting year. For me, the third time as the Chairperson (President). First I must thank Mark, Katrina and Peter for their commitment to their positions last year and a special thanks to Eric who has been re-elected to Vice President. I am always a little worried when I single people out because very often you overlook that special person or event that should have been recognised. That said, Noel, Rob, Mary, Bryson, registration inspectors Caters, Ian and Wendy and Tony and Lena. Thank You all. The new committee this year welcomes Richard as Secretary and I am very much looking forward to working with him, as I am with Mark and Eric. Let me get down to a bit of "house order", the sub-committee. The newly elected committee will meet early in February to discuss the new Constitution. After that a special meeting for the whole club will be held on March 18th at the Clunes old school, opposite the Clunes Hall. ALL members will be given a copy of the proposed constitution at the February meeting.

The March meeting is a "MUST DO". There are still positions vacant as left over from the 2011 AGM. Members - The club needs you to put up your hands and give it a go. The club needs to go forward and if I may use the words of the late President Kennedy "Ask not what the club can do for you, but what you can do for the club". As you can see I have taken licence to change a few words. Over the next months I will be handing out a commitment sheet. This will help the committee to take a fresh look at upcoming events. All the best for the new year,

*Pat Holt President*



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# **NRCMC Club Events 2011**

*Club runs each month on the 1st Sunday after the meeting.*

Bangalow: runs start from top restaurant car park / from Lismore Railway Station.

Wednesday Mid-week runs all start at Lismore Railway at 9 am on the 1st and 4th Wednesday every month

**February 19:** Sunday Club Run to Luffley's for a coffee, leaves Lismore Railway at 8.30 am, Bangalow 9.

**February 22:** Wednesday mid-week run, leaves Lismore rail at 9 am stopping for a coffee some where to be decided (but it will be good).

**March 13:** Monthly meeting at Clunes at 7.30 pm.

**March 18:** Sunday Club Run, leaves Bangalow 8.30 am, Lismore Rail at 9 am for a short run arriving back at the Clunes hall for a coffee and very important meeting.

## **Proposed overnight Nymboida Run 2012**

- Coaching station Inn - Nymboida - 66494126
- We have arranged a ride on 12.05.2012
- leaving 9.30am - Lismore railway station
- Afternoon ride to Dorrigo from Nymboida
- Everyone make there own way home Sunday
- Lunch at Lawrence Pub 12pm Sunday (if anyone wants to ride up on the day)



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# The Tenterfield challenge 14/1/12

A dozen brave members departed Lismore at 1.30 pm Saturday as arranged except someone who was slightly confused about the start time and left at 9.30. Ray and his wife Tracey were late withdrawals owing to closely monitoring Willy weather on the internet; it is so annoying that it can be so accurate in its predictions as we were willing it to be wrong just for once. Beautiful riding conditions prevailed as we toured along the Caniaba Road to Casino where as arranged two more members joined the group.

So heading due west and enjoying the dry and cool conditions, plus, as all motorcycling members know just how good the ride is to our mandatory first stop at Drake. Everyone enjoyed a refreshing cool drink except one member



*From left to right, Leonie, Graeme, Sinkers, Norm and Mark sheltering from the torrential rain..*

was not satisfied with only one and ordered another, so we waited. He was probably not aware that the extra 10 minutes or so it took him to drink his extra drop ensured that we all got a very wet arse as a torrential storm hit us less than 5 kms from the hotel in Tenterfield.



*Chris parking his immaculate classic Ducati finally out of the rain in Tenterfield.*

The sight of the hotel as we slogged our way through the puddles and slipped along the wet and diesel embedded road was a huge relief (if only we had arrived 10 minutes earlier we would have all been nice and dry). Peter who had

left at 9.30 welcomed us in with a laugh as he had spent the day sightseeing and was very dry. Anyway having changed into dry clothes, booked into the hotel/motel we were soon enjoying ourselves, when a very wet and damp looking Norm arrived having ridden all the way from Brisbane to join us. We all dined at the pub restaurant and the food was remarked good.

Yes it poured all night ruining any plans we had for Sunday morning sightseeing so it was decided as soon as we had the Continental breakfast (included in price of only \$30 for the night) to head back home. Again it was a rather dismal wet ride and as it turned out for me, a half flat back tyre did nothing to help the handling characteristics of my bike on the wet road.

We all arrived safely home and Ray on his little 350 Jawa 2-stroke twin not that far behind. The weather Gods must owe us a fine weekend motorcycle ride, hope it is soon.

*Noel Edwards*

*Pete, "the early bird" with his recently restored R90 S BMW didn't beat the rain next morning*



## *Sunday run 18/12/11 to Frank Widdow's at Ballina*



*The "Wild Ones" hit a quiet street in Ballina*



*What is it you have at the bottom of your garden of so much interest Frank?*



*Frank checks his focus ability ....  
Lena, "oh come on Frank, it's only fruit juice".*

9.00am, Sunday, 18 December 2011; nearly the end of the year. About 25 bikes assembled at the Lismore Railway station for the last organized club run. The Destination? Frank Widdow's house in Ballina, for a sausage sizzle. Thank you, Frank and Lynn; your hospitality much appreciated!

We headed up the road to Dunoon, turning right at Duncans Road just before Dunoon, and then follow through to Numulgi. Left at the old school onto Lockton road and through Bexhill, and then follow Eltham and Teven roads to Ballina. An excellent ride followed by excellent sausages and tea and coffee.

The weather held out for us with a few showers AFTER most of us had returned home for lunch. A couple of late comers turned up at Ballina joined the feast, and only one lonely WLA seemed to drop off somewhere, but even it eventually arrived.

An interesting note for those wanting to save money on electricity. Frank has opted for Time of Use (TOUS) metering which charges different fees per kW hr depending on the time. By fitting timers to his dishwasher, washing machine and dryer (hardly used) so they only operate at low demand times, Frank has saved over \$140 per quarter!! This is smart metering!

Once again, Thank you to Frank and Lynn and Uncle Eric as cook.

## Last Mid Week Run / 28/12/11.

Due to cloudy skies and windy conditions (plus I suppose all the usual family/festive annual Christmas commitments) only 3 stalwarts turned up at 9AM at the old Lismore Railway Station for the Mid-Week Run on the 4th Wednesday of December 2011. But the good news was that all three were classic 2-strokes. Ray, after a quick change from his dry-clutched Norton Commando, rode his 1978 Suzuki X7 250 twin, Noel our Editor on his trusty 1976 Yamaha RD 250 and your scribe on his red 1983 Yamaha RZ 250. All these machines are capable of good cruising speeds and excellent acceleration.

Unexpectedly, in addition to the change-over at Ray's house we had the pleasant, though perhaps for some a frightening encounter with Ray's dogs. One was an Irish Wolf-Hound that was as big as a small rider seated on his machine. Who needs a burglar-alarm with such a lovely big beast! My 1983 RZ being the direct descent of the famous "Elsie" (thus called in some markets an RDLC2/YPVS) and being an early model it still has the inherited single-piston dual front disc-brakes, so I was keen to try-out/bed-in some newly-fitted carbon-fibre/kevlar organic front brake-pads, fitted (hopefully) for an improvement in the braking department. Given our enthusiast participants it was decided for a longer than usual run this week. This took us from South Lismore onto the Kyogle backroad, through Bentley to Manifold Road, through Casino, to well past Ellangowan village and then, back-tracking to Yorkleigh Hall and then via Horse Ridges to Tatham, Coraki and then coffee at Woodburn. We mutually decided against the 24Km dirt-road short-cut to Coraki from Elangowan, even though it was calculated it would have taken a full 40Km off the 120Km route. But in recompense, the countryside was superbly green and there were some great corners with practically no traffic on these sealed back-roads. Most of the rural homes we cruised past still had innovative and sometimes amusing Christmas decorations displayed and the livestock seemed to be enjoying the cooler conditions too.

At the planned Woodburn coffee-stop we encountered Barry Day and his charming wife, both riding modern Triumphs all the way from Griffith MCC [www.griffithmcc.org]. After some minor refuelling in packed "last chance before Maclean" servo conditions, (don't you just love the manoeuvrability of a motorcycle in congested traffic!) we set off back to Lismore via the Woodburn Bridge and The Big Hill. Due to lack of time, this was not the planned route through Baggotville and Meerschaum Vale/Rous Road as was initially hoped. Even so, the planned 200Km 'brake-pad bed-down trip' was logged at 170Km on our Speedo trip-meters. The red Commodore was patrolling the Lismore/Woodburn Road as expected, but as we were caught in 90Km tin-top traffic, no "ticket" transpired. These lightweight and good-handling little two-strokes are quite capable of comfortably completing longer distances - if you give them a chance and are prepared for the fuel bills! The new brake-pads performed well and I think "organic" pads seem to be much "kinder" to the discs than the former fully-metallic ones. See you on the next MWR!

*Rob Andrews*



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# From the Editor's desk . . .



Welcome to the year 2012 in which our NRCMCC club should power ahead once again in bringing to our members the opportunity of being able to participate in the many types of motor cycle events. Possibly the biggest change this year is that this newsletter will be available electronically simply by logging on to the website: <http://nrcmcc.org> and follow the links to the news. It is not been decided yet the arrangements for those members who still require a printed version of the newsletter.

As you can tell from the photos on page 3 that the contestants in this latest Jack Ahearn award for the "Best restored bike" have performed a miracle in the way each of their bikes have been restored to such a high standard as I am sure they are now even better than when brand new. The results are to be announced at this February meeting and the 4 contestants have to be congratulated on their amazing effort and am sure it would have been a most difficult decision to decide a winner. I was quite amazed at Peter Fleming riding his newly restored R90 1975 BMW to Tenterfield. He certainly had confidence in its reliability and no he may have missed getting it wet on the way up but he would have got it wet for sure on the return trip. Apart from getting wet everyone enjoyed the weekend.

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 Catering: yet to be announced  
 Raffles: Dave Bonhote-Mede Ph 6621 8803  
 Events Co-ordinator: To be nominated each month  
 Mid-Week ride organizer, Rob Andrews Ph 6621 4083

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CONFEDERATION OF HISTORIC MOTOR CLUBS MEETING  
HELD IN QUEANBEYAN, OCTOBER 2011

## REGARDING THE MATTER OF REGISTRATION OF HISTORIC VEHICLES

*Members may recall my bringing this up at our September meeting and the response was only one member saw fit to put his thoughts forward. There were 33 car and bike clubs representatives present in Queanbeyan and the following is a short account of what happened.*

**There are approx 21000 members of historic clubs in NSW,**

**The National Code VSB14, states the maximum allowance in power increase is 20%, which is easily obtained by an engine overhaul or additional carburettors, (cars) so this will be lobbied**

**Tyre date stamp—All new tyres have a manufactured date stamp and recommended tyre life of 5 years. How will this effect Historic vehicle use?**

**The Confederation reported on a meeting with RTA re log books etc, and RTA said it was researching the Victorian and South Australian registration changes, and said that if current method of rego is kept in NSW, there would be a review to “iron out the bugs”.**

**RTA also said there is a push to “harmonise” the H rego scheme nationally and there will be full consultation if this proceeds (The writers opinion is that this will happen, just a matter of how long before it does come in NSW?)**

**The Committee will keep you informed as news comes to hand.**

**ERIC WILSON. VP**

**Lismore Motorcycles**

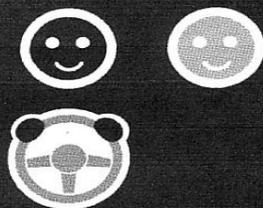


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## The conversation before and after marriage.

### **Before**

John – Ah. . . At last, I can hardly wait

Jane – Do you want me to leave?

John – No, don't even think about it!

Jane – Do you love me?

John – Of course, always have, always will.

Jane – Have you ever cheated on me?

John – No. Why are you even asking?

Jane – Will you kiss me?

John – Every chance I get.

Jane – Will you hit me?

John – Hell no, are you crazy?

Jane – Can I trust you?

John – Yes.

Jane – Oh Darling!

### **And after marriage.**

Read from the bottom up!

## **Health & Safety Test**

I failed a Health and Safety course at work today.

One of the questions was: "In the event of a fire, what steps would you take?"

"F.....ing bloody' big ones" was apparently the wrong answer.

## **Golden Syrup.....**

A man with a bald head and a wooden leg is invited to a Xmas fancy dress party.

He doesn't know what to wear to hide his head and his wooden leg, so he writes to a fancy dress company to explain his problem. A few days later he receives a parcel with a note:

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed a Pirate's outfit. The spotted handkerchief will cover your bald head and with your wooden leg you will be just right as a Pirate.

The man is offended that the outfit emphasizes his disability, so he writes a letter of complaint.. A week passes and he receives another parcel and note:

Dear Sir,

Sorry about the previous parcel. Please find enclosed a monk's habit. The long robe will cover your wooden leg and with your bald head you will really look the part.

The man is really incandescent with rage now, because the company has gone from emphasizing his wooden leg to drawing attention to his bald head. So he writes a really strong letter of complaint..

A few days later he gets a very small parcel from the company with the accompanying letter:

Dear Sir,

Please find enclosed a tin of Golden Syrup.

We suggest you pour the tin of Golden Syrup over your bald head, let it harden, then stick your wooden leg up your arse and go as a toffee apple.

## **A real sharing experience . . . .**

The old man placed an order for one hamburger, French fries and a drink. He unwrapped the plain hamburger and carefully cut it in half, placing one half in front of his wife. He then carefully counted out the French fries, dividing them into two piles and neatly placed one pile in front of his wife.

He took a sip of the drink, his wife took a sip and then set the cup down between them. As he began to eat his few bites of hamburger, the people around them were looking over and whispering. Obviously they were thinking, 'That poor old couple - all they can afford is one meal for the two of them.'

As the man began to eat his fries a young man came to the table and politely offered to buy another meal for the old couple. The old man said, they were just fine - they were used to sharing everything. People closer to the table noticed the little old lady hadn't eaten a bite. She sat there watching her husband eat and occasionally taking turns sipping the drink.

Again, the young man came over and begged them to let him buy another meal for them. This time the old woman said 'No, thank you, we are used to sharing everything.'

Finally, as the old man finished and was wiping his face neatly with the napkin, the young man again came over to the little old lady who had yet to eat a single bite of food and asked 'What is it you are waiting for?' She answered, 'THE TEETH'

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### ***Our Club's objectives :-***

The objectives of the NRCMC are *primarily* to encourage the restoration, preservation, and riding of older motorcycles. Through its various activities, the club promotes motorcycling and the links to a bygone era with several organised monthly rides as well as our involvement in displaying our bikes at charity functions etc.

The club holds its annual Classic Rally in September each year and entry is open for everybody to attend regardless of the type or age of their machinery. Club members also attend rallies organised by other clubs throughout the year.

The club endeavors to cater for families and all members partners and children are most welcome to attend any meetings or outings. Membership is open to anybody with an interest in motorcycling and there is No prerequisite to currently own a new or old motorcycle.

#### ***Monthly Meetings***

Monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month in the Clunes Memorial Hall, Walker Street in Clunes. They start at 7.30 pm. Membership \$40 per annum, fees due in December.

#### ***Organised Runs***

A breakfast run is held on the Sunday immediately following the club's monthly meeting. We meet in the car park, next to the top roundabout in Bangalow 8.30 am or Lismore Railway 9 am. Every other Sunday can be a club run but members must contact the Events Organiser. There are also 2 Mid-week runs departing Lismore Railway on 1st and 4th Wednesday of the month at 9 am. Contact Rob Andrews on 6621 4083.