

# Northern Rivers Classic Motorcycle Club Inc.

PO Box 7058, Lismore Heights, NSW 2480  
 www.nrcmcc.org  
 Email: nrcmcc@gmail.com  
 Or phone President  
 (see page 11)



**December**  
**2015**  
 next issue; February 2016

# Classic Torque



Hi everyone! Is Christmas starting to overwhelm you? The shops started their Christmas decoration and sales weeks ago, but it's still a month to go - and as soon as the post Christmas sales are over, they'll start gearing up for Easter (or is there some other sales focus before that?!)

Shopping - that's what we're here for - consume, consume, consume! And all these celebratory festivals are just another excuse to advertise and sell.. Since when did Australia inherit the American Halloween festival? It's based in American folk history, but its been imported here to sell things.

And the point of this rave? We classic bike restorers swim against the tide. We keep old machinery alive - we avoid the urge to buy new whenever a new model comes out. We're not the good little consumers that economists and treasurers want us to be. Ed

**Sunday run to Terry and Gerri Savins House at Belongil for Brunch - November 15.**  
 An excellent run, (see presidents report) with 17 bikes, about 50% classics, attending.



Below: Some local boys demonstrated their mono-wheels - and we worry about staying upright on 2wheels!!



## IMPORTANT \_ CHANGE OF PLAN!!!

### 2015 Club Christmas party and Registration day - Sunday, Dec 13

The Christmas brunch will be provided by the club and will be made by our enthusiastic volunteers, NOT catered as mentioned in the last newsletter.

Just turn up at the Rous Hotel at 8.30am to join the club ride, or for the less committed, be at the Clunes hall around 10.00am.

As the President has said, **'Please bring something to put in the Xmas hampers for the raffle'**

**To help our volunteers, Please let the secretary know how many will be attending for the Brunch.**



### Club Runs: Sunday, November 1 -

A 'first Sunday of the month' classics only ride. This is what happens when the date has to be changed and you don't check the details (even when you edit the newsletter!!) Lesson - always check the website for updates.



### Sunday, November 8 -

The corrected Classics only ride - but a similar result - only 2 showed up, including 'Our man from the West' who had ridden a long way with a very early start. I think the threat of rain dampened the attendance - and it did rain later on. Even I turned up in a car - but I was on my way to other commitments

I forgot to check with Mick whether he got home dry or damp Ed



### Alstonville Show, October 31

As you may have seen or heard, the club was invited to put on a display of classic bikes at the Alstonville Show.

Eight bikes were on show, 5 from Dave Jupe, all, of course, BSA's, His mate, Rex Goulding, also brought his BSA NRMA roadside assist sidecar outfit. I turned up on the reliable, but not so interesting, BMW R100S, and then, just to top off the variety, Frank Widdows arrived on his Honda 750-4. There y'go - UK, Germany and Japan represented.

We were parked a bit off the main area, but still attracted quite a few rubbernecks, and had some interesting conversations with them.

We also got time to explore the other show activities which surrounded the main drawcard on the arena - the horse events.

Next to our display was a display of antique engines and machinery which included a 1/4 scale traction engine which was for sale. Tricky to get a logbook for that, I think.

I was fascinated with the hand operated drill press. The only thing the owner took with him from job to job was the chuck and screw mechanism. The frame and mounting clamp he would have made out of scrap on a forge. The chuck held drills up to 3/4 inch but the pressure was applied by slowly screwing the chuck down into the metal with a spanner while the drill was turned with a ratchet lever. The owner demonstrated it and told us that all the rivets in the Sydney harbor bridge were drilled this way!!



The snake display was fascinating and educational, and, if bike riding is no longer a possibility, the model boat club had some beautiful models on display.

Cindy spent some time in the poultry shed - hard to believe that such variety can exist in one species!!

Next year, the club banner would be a good addition. Ed

## Presidents Report

Hi everyone,

Season's greetings, I hope you are all well.

Had a great ride over to Terry and Gerrie Savins' place last Sunday. Thanks for that Mr and Mrs Savins, well done for organising, cooking etc etc. It was a bit of a scrappy road over through the hills and under the camphors after the heavy rain the night before. 21mm recorded at Ewings Bridge (Corndale Hall) in the 24 hours till 9am on the Sunday of the ride. So, a few washouts and sticks and leaves but everyone stayed upright to go through and have a very nice brunch in Byron.

I have managed to make one entry in my "logbook" during the last month. How's everyone else going with that?

See you at the next meeting, the Christmas party or both. Please bring something to put in the hampers for the Christmas raffle. Stay upright; Rob



**More Alstonville Show**  
**Top Left:** the portable drill press  
**Top:** 'cocksure' comes to mind.  
**Top Right:** Lots of homely little 'hit and miss' engines on display, chugging away  
**Right:** One of the model boats on display  
**Left:** The snake expert - with quite a handful. Anyone for a neck warmer?  
**Left below:** The deadliest snake in the world - the taipan from western Qld. One drop of venom can kill 100 people!  
**Right below:** A couple of the classic cars on display. My teacher had a Sunbeam Alpine like this one. He was ex RAF.



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### CLUB APPAREL

The current stock of shirts is at last sold, apart from 3 xxl sizes. The previous method was that the Club bought a large quantity, and these took 4 years to sell, and tied up a large amount of our funds. A new method has been put to the Committee, that members be responsible for the purchase themselves and a purchase system approved by Pegasus management has been put forward. Details are :

A member can call at Pegasus (details below) and can take a shirt or windcheater of his own, any style, or select from Pegasus' own range, and have the screen printing of his choice done. Colour of shirt should be deep blue (Pegasus has the standard colour club polo shirt), windcheaters and sloppy joes can be black

- 1 Club logo on front only \$11.00
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Pegasus have agreed to hold these prices for 12 months.

We still have a large stock of peak caps and floppy hats. These are available at each monthly meeting, or you can call the Apparel Officer and he will arrange the purchase and postage

Both the caps and floppy hats are \$10.00 , and postage added if purchase is made by phone

**Any enquiries** Eric

Wilson Apparel Officer

(02) 662 43157 or at

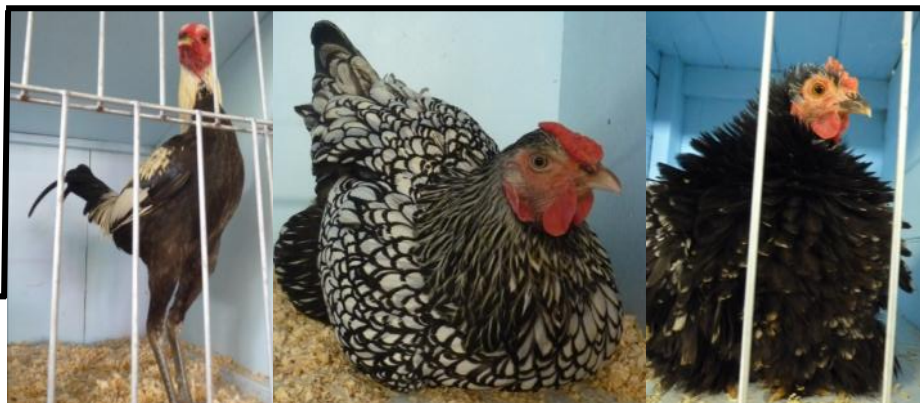
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**Pegasus details:** Open

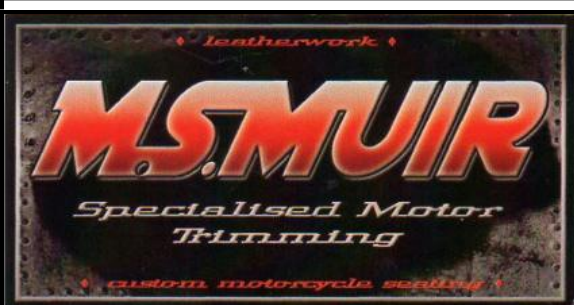
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**Right:** 'The long and the short and the tall' - just a few of the fowl on display at Alstonville!



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## Natureland Classic Motorcycle Club Rally 2015

5

This Rally, in its 20<sup>th</sup> year, was held at Hat Head 6-7-8<sup>th</sup> of November.

Two members of NRCMCC, Warren & Col entered the event along with 130 others from various clubs. The Rally is based at the Hat Head Bowling Club. We headed off at 1pm for a lap around Kinchela, over Smithtown Bridge to Summer Island Rd and on to South West Rocks and return for the Friday afternoon ride. A BBQ was supplied at the back of the Bowlo on Friday evening.

Saturday saw great weather as Club Members chipped in to prepare a great breakfast for the entrants before we travelled along the scenic roads through Smithtown, Gladstone and on to Crescent Head. From there we went west over the highway and on to Sherwood Hall for a sumptuous morning tea put on by the local CWA.

We then went further west over the Macleay River through Willawarrin and on to the lunch stop at the historic village of Bellbird. Again the locals provided a feast to remember while the amazing collection of Classic Bikes were lined up for judging.

The ride back to Hat Head was also very scenic and the road conditions were much better than we are used to on the Northern Rivers.

The Presentation Dinner was held at the Bowlo, where Warren received the Trophy for best 1970's bike with his Blue Guzzi. I received the Trophy for Longest Distance Ridden to the Rally on a Classic Bike.

The return ride home on Sunday was far from pleasant with severe storms all the way up the coast.

This Rally is always very well run and deserves the support that it has had for the past 20 years. Col.



Once again, Team Kempnich/Walker has produced

### **the Fourteenth Anniversary "Over The Hill Tour"**

It is from Sunday 8th May 2016, returning on Friday 13th May.

Itinerary: Day 1 - to Stanthorpe visiting the Maroon Dam and Queen Mary falls

Day 2 to Goondiwindi via Texas, and there for day 3 as well

Day 4 to Inverell with visit to Cranky Rock, and stay in Inverell for day

5 including the Transport museum and other visits

Day 6 back to Lismore via Glen Innes and Tenterfield.

This is always a popular run with lots of camaraderie and fun and lots to see and do.

If you want to enjoy the company on this trip, contact Tony Kempnich on 02 66281806.

Application forms are on the club website.



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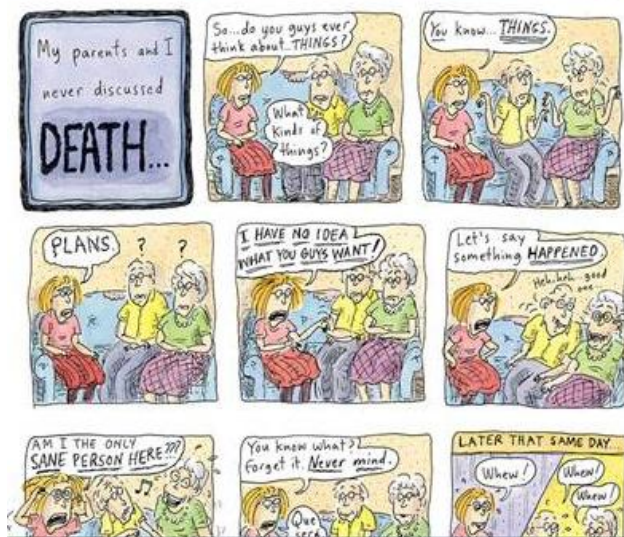
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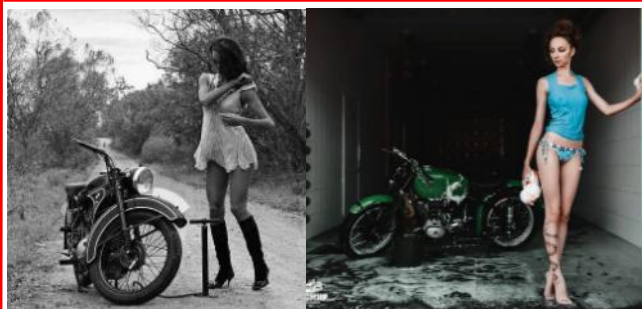
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# CAN'T WE TALK ABOUT SOMETHING MORE PLEASANT?



Something all of us have to face, but a conversation about the future is important and helps families deal with the issues. Don't put off the conversation until it's too late.



Even classic BMWs get flats : Keep your bike clean



Above: projects at the Bendigo Swap Meet

Below: Shots from the Italian Bike show in Melbourne (No BMWs there that I can spot!) Thanks to Tony K



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### Wednesday Warriors: November 4.

A good turn-up of 12 riders in a humid/hot weather went on a novel loop-run, without a coffee in the middle. As they say:- 'Variety is the spice of life!' After a late start and collecting a wayward BMW 650GS Dakar (a future classic- for sure) on the way out of Lismore we proceeded along Boat Harbour Road and then down past the Eltham turn-off to Teven golf course; then down to Tintenbar, through the new 80Kph Pacific H'way road-works and east via Midgen Flat (care here - minor road-works) and then RHT onto the Coast Road and back to Ross Lane and home, whence we came. Two riders went off this Run for previously arranged commitments. Great pre-planning and everyone notified, good work! The final part via Midgen Flat to The Coast Road [also to Suffolk Park] was extremely bumpy & patched - but worse was to come.....

One of our members on his brand-new bike had a previously dormant warning-light flash on his futuristic dash-board. Yes, the perennial and age-old problem. He was out of fuel! After an off-road con-fab, it was decided that our three concerned club riders would escort his Suzuki to the nearest petrol supply at Suffolk Park - just to be sure. This was accomplished satisfactorily. Then our remaining four riders proceeded on the planned reverse loop route via the congested Coast Road south - and then up Ross Lane to Tintenbar; then to Teven & Eltham, finally to the prearranged Lismore coffee-stop near the BCC cinema in Lismore. Overall a nice scenic ride of 110 Km. But now I add a couple of personal comments on 'club-ride ethics' generally:-

1/On MWR we don't mind faster riders passing, but please - not on a narrow bends! You know you are riding safely - but we don't!

2/ Personally, I'm a bit old-fashioned, but if I see any club-member has problem on a ride/or anywhere [however minor] this becomes my problem and also a group matter (as ever - "one in - all in"). I am pleased to report that the traditional motor-cycling classic ethos is alive and well in our Northern Rivers Classic Club to-day. R.A.

### An Outback Story:

An elderly bushman lay dying in his bed. While suffering the pain of impending death he suddenly smelled the aroma of his favourite scones wafting up the stairs from the kitchen below. He gathered his remaining strength and lifted himself from the bed. Leaning on the wall he slowly made his way out of the bedroom, and with even greater effort, clinging to the handrail with both hands, he made his way down the stairs. With labored breath, he leant against the door-frame and gazed into the kitchen.


Were it not for his agony, he would have thought himself already in heaven, for there on the table, fresh from the oven, were his favourite scones.

Was it heaven? or was it just one final act of love from his devoted Welsh wife of 60 years, seeing to it that he left this earth a happy man?

Mustering one final great effort, he threw himself towards the table landing in a crumpled heap on his knees.

His aged and withered hand trembled towards a scone at the edge of the table, when it was suddenly smacked with a wooden spoon.

"Away with you, Boyo. They're for the funeral!"



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# **NRCMC Club Events**



Club run each month on the Sunday after the meeting.

Classic (pre 1985) run first Sunday of the month

**Sunday runs now start only from Lismore Rous Hotel  
cnr. Keen and Zadoc Street at 8.30 am sharp**

*Note: Every Sunday is now an authorised club ride if you start at the Rous Hotel*

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

Dec 5 - 6 - Ride to Emmaville; contact Terry Savins 0407 927 982

Dec 6 - Classics only Ride. From Rous hotel 8.30 To Frank Widdows house, Ballina, for Brunch

Dec 13 - Xmas party and Registration day @ Clunes hall; club provided brunch

No meetings in January - next meeting 9 February 2016

Jan 3 Classics only ride - see website for details

Feb 7 Classics only ride, tba

Feb 14 - Lismore Circle ride (we'll get it right this time!)

Mar 13 - NRCMCC Show and Shine - Alstonville plaza

Mar 26 - 7 Easter broadford run - Terry Savins 0407 927 982

April 17 - Ride to Kyogle Info centre

## **Upcoming Rallies & Events Organised by other Clubs**

Dec 6 - Toy run from Ballina to Lismore. Leaving the oval opposite where our rally starts at 10.00am

Jan 17? (date to be confirmed) Cramm farm BBQ, Doon Doon Rd, top end of Clarrie hall dam. Meet Tweed Motorcycle Enthusiasts Club for excellent lunch and company

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## 10<sup>th</sup> National Veteran Rally.

Lyn and I recently travelled to The 10<sup>th</sup> National Veteran Motorcycle Rally, held at Ararat in Victoria, between 4<sup>th</sup> October and the 9<sup>th</sup> October, with our 1914 Triumph. This rally was hosted by Jenny and Ian Sargent and was run out of the Ararat Motocross Complex, an excellent venue with plenty of camping, hot showers and toilets. Bacon and egg sandwich and tea or coffee for a gold coin every morning. This turned out to be an excellent rally with typical Victorian weather, hot days and nights, cold days and nights, rain on one night and plenty of wind on most days. All four seasons in one week.

The rally was well attended with a total of 116 entrants coming from all states, including one entrant from Darwin and 17 entrants from Western Australia, a great effort considering a 4 day trip to get to the rally. There was also a record number of lady riders, 10 in total, another great effort considering most were riding bikes with no clutch, no gear box, belt drive and dodgy brakes.

Rides were conducted every day, mainly on quite country roads with excellent marshalling and very little traffic, visiting places of interest such as Seppelts/Great Western winery, Halls Gap, Historic Narrapumelap Homestead and the Lions of Wickliffe, Wind farms and numerous other towns in the Ararat District. The Triumph behaved itself with no problems and run like a dream with the one exception of failing (after 4 attempts) to go over a very long and steep hill (nicknamed heart break hill) and having to be pushed the last 50 metres. (I was not the only one.)

Wednesday saw a public display at the Town Hall which proved very popular with the locals. The bi-annual AGM was also held where it was decided to hold the next rally at Nuriootpa in South Australia in 2017.

After packing up camp and loading the bike on our ute we left on the Saturday after the rally, taking another week to get home via the Victorian coast, Sorrento - Queenscliff ferry, Phillip Island, East coast of NSW up to Bairnsdale and over the Alpine Highway via Mount Hotham (snow on the hills) then on to Wangaratta and home via Dubbo.

A great rally, great time, great friends, can't wait for the next one.

N.B. Bryson & Mary Walker arrived by car during the rally. Hopefully Bryson got a few ideas for his Triumph restoration. COME ON, BRYSON ONLY 2 YEARS TO GO!. Alan & Lyn Stratton



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**Top Left:** Brian Fleming 1916 Ariel

**Above:** The Lady riders on their veterans

**Right:** Alan with his 1914 Triumph. Outside his camp



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**MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON: 11<sup>th</sup> November 2015 (to be confirmed) START: 7:40 pm**

WELCOME: Welcome by President 6 Visitors. Attended by 48 members with 9 apologies as per the attendance sheet

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING - presented to members

ACCEPTED: John Mazzer

SECOND: Terry Savins

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: (see below in General Business)

TREASURERS REPORT – presented to members

ACCEPTED: Terry Savins

SECOND: Richard Swinton

Clunes Hall is booked and paid for again as the Club meeting venue for 2016

CORRESPONDENCE OUT: Email sent to RMS by Secretary seeking further information about the penalties for not maintaining an accurate RMS Historic log book. *(No response to date)*

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

- 4 x Club Newsletters: Inverell Motorcycle Club, Coffs Harbour, Newcastle Vintage Motorcycle Club, Grafton Vintage Motor Vehicle Club *(See Club Events Page for invitation details)*
- Receipts for Club insurances
- Ballina Base riding book

GENERAL BUSINESS:

From previous meeting:

- NRCMCC Christmas Party. Originally advertised as a sit down meal. This was premature as the final decision was to be made at this meeting. Eric spoke about the reasons behind the sit down lunch option. Those present discussed the options. Tony Kempnich proposed that the Club put on a Christmas brunch and the ladies of the Club do the food preparation and cooking. Brunch to begin about 10am Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

PROPOSED: Tony Kempnich

SECOND: Col McAndrew

VOTED: Majority For – One

against - Carried

New Business:

- Richard Swinton spoke about his proposal to allow members to also register a historic car under certain conditions. This motion is due for official mention at the December general meeting and this was preliminary discussions only. *(NOTE: This motion has since been formally withdrawn and is no longer in consideration)*
  - John Mazzer spoke against the motion to allow members to register classic cars and about how he joined the club for the restoration and presentation of classic motorcycles and that this is the heart and soul of the Club. If someone wanted to register a car let them get a pink slip. It is more than cheap rego. General support voiced by the members present
- RMS Logbook Scheme:
  - Peter Harvey spoke about how he was opposed to the new logbook scheme.
  - Pat Holt spoke about the implications for the Club registration officers with increased demand for inspections and accompanying this the greater use and greater distances that have come into play because of the changes. Concerns were raised about the liability for the examiners and the Club.
  - Doug Foskey spoke about how he was in favour of the logbook scheme and was looking forward to being able to take his classic bike on holidays.
  - Col McAndrew spoke about anticipated rise in membership applications and numbers just to get cheap registration. The spirit of the Club is classic motorcycles and classic motorcycling. It is possible that this may be threatened because of the RMS logbook scheme encouraging more people to try to join just for the rego.
  - Richard Swinton spoke about how, even now, we have a mix of active and non active members amongst the membership.
  - Richard Swinton proposed the following motion

That the Club write to the Minister Hon Duncan Gay requesting that the minister ensure that an affordable, low cost scheme is maintained to encourage the restoration, maintenance and use of historic vehicles. That the letter be sent registered mail and the 'Bush Council' also be CC'd into the correspondence.

PROPOSED: Richard Swinton

SECOND: Neil Williams VOTED: Unanimous For – Carried

*(President Rob Evans volunteered to work with Richard to write the letter)*

- - Marc Jennison proposed the following motion

That an immediate moratorium be placed on new memberships to the Club. That the incoming 2016 Committee appoint a Sub-Committee to examine, in detail, all perceived consequences of the Club's involvement in the logbook trial, with an emphasis on highlighting any potentially adverse outcomes for the Club and suggesting possible ways to counteract those adverse effects.

PROPOSED: Marc Jennison

SECOND: Peter Harvey

VOTED: Unanimous For – Carried

- One new member accepted at this meeting as application was already received.
- Mary Walker and Alan Stratton spoke about the Ararat Veteran Bike Rally. There were 116 entries, 17 entries from Western Aust. Triumph was the most popular make with 26 entries.
- Mary Walker also spoke about a book called "No room for watermelons" and how the owner took his FN motorcycle back to Belgium. A strongly recommended read for people interested in true classic motorcycles and motorcycling.
- General discussions about the recent Laidley swap meet. A lot of members attended and some stayed over and camped together at the showground. Some early talk of taking the club trailer next year. (TBC)
- Bryson mentioned that he has recently learnt that the Brisbane and Inverell Clubs had added a Show & Shine to their annual event calendars.

- Col Mc Andrew had previously requested a breakdown of Club expenses to Club membership charges. Club treasurer provided a breakdown to the group and confirmed that after Club insurances, Hall hire, trailer registrations & insurance, affiliations, newsletter printing and postage were taken out there was \$9 per member remaining for any unexpected expenses. One of the greatest expenses was printing and postage of monthly newsletters. This matter will need to be formally reviewed in 2016 to work out a fair and e  
*(Please note, there are many members who receive a hard copy newsletter and have already offered to contribute to the costs. This matter will be deliberated and options decided fairly early 2016. Outcome will be provided to members)*
- Tony Evans spoke about progress in setting up next years Show & Shine. There has been a meeting with Richard Campbell from LJ Hookers – Alstonville. Date is confirmed for Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Venue to be the same as this year – the top carpark of the Alstonville Shopping Centre.
  - Need for improved signage and greater advertising
  - Col asked if it was possible to also include a motorcycle swap meet next year. *(Matter to be considered by the S&S Sub Committee)*

**THE EARLY DAYS OF THE CLUB:**

Bryson spoke about the recent sale of rare motorcycles that belonged to a former Club member, Mr Gary Ross. Gary had collected several very rare Brough Superior motorcycles. These were sold for over \$1 million at a Bonhams sale in England. (Link below)  
[https://www.bonhams.com/press\\_release/19675/](https://www.bonhams.com/press_release/19675/)

**REGO OFFICER REPORT:**

Bryson advised that he had inspected 2 BMWs and 1 Kawasaki this month

**CLUB RUNS:**

- Col McAndrew spoke about the Hat Head rally. He and Warren Walmsley attended and both won awards. Warren best 70s bike and Col longest distance ridden. A great rally as always.
- Dave Jupe represented the Club at the Alstonville Show. Dave reported that signage could have been better but overall a good day that promoted historic motorcycling to the public.
- Doug Foskey reported on the annual Compression V Depression ride. The HSU was a major sponsor and about \$10000 was raised for Lifeline.

**WEDNESDAY RIDES:**

No report at this meeting

**NEXT CLUB RUNS:** As listed on the NRCMCC website and below

- Rob Evans spoke about a request from the Ballina Prawn Festival for member’s bikes to participate in the Grand Parade. To meet in the Ballina RSL Carpark at 8am for a 8:50-9:30 start. *(Members asked to speak with Rob if interested)*
- This Sunday the Club ride is to Club member Terry Savin’s house at Byron Bay. Usual 8:30am start from the Rous Hotel in Lismore.
- The next Classic Bike Ride is due for 6<sup>th</sup> December. This is also the annual toy run. *(Col and Frank will look at linking the two events. Check Club website for details)*
- Tony Kempnich spoke about scouting the 2016 Over The Hill ride next year. The form is already up on the website. 8<sup>th</sup> May to 13<sup>th</sup> May 2016.
- 05-Dec to 06-Dec-2015 Ride to Emmaville. contact Terry Savins 0407 927 982 for further details

**BUSINESS ARISING FOR NEXT MEETING:**

Members are reminded that the next meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> December will be followed by the NRCMCC AGM., so think if you want to volunteer to take on a position in the club.

MEETING CLOSED: **9pm**

# NRCMCC OFFICIALS CONTACT NUMBERS

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 Vice President: Andy Genders.....0422 358 998  
 Secretary: Neil Williams .....0418 242 044  
 Treasurer: Peter Lake.....0459 285 872  
 Librarian: Richard Swinton.....6629 1069  
 Committee: above plus, Eric Wilson 6624 3157  
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 Mid-Week ride organizer, Rob Andrews ..... 6621 4083

**Website: www.nrcmcc.org**

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### ***Our Club:-***

The objectives of the NRCMC are to encourage the restoration, preservation, and riding of older motorcycles. Through its various activities, the club promotes classic 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. The club Show and Shine is held in March. 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 of the club is for those who have an interest in restoring and riding classic motorcycles

#### ***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. A classics only run is held on the first Sunday of the month. Both runs start at the Lismore Rous Hotel at 8.30 am. Every Sunday can be a club run but members must contact the Events Organiser. Club events are also listed on the club website. 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.