

Newsletter of the



September 2009



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Australian Wing Riders Association (Qld) Inc P O Box 1321, BURPENGARY DC, Old 4505







OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE AUSTRALIAN WING RIDERS ASSOCIATION QLD INCORPORATED

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Wing Notes is produced with the object of keeping members informed about matters of interest to AWRA members. An electronic copy of each issue is available to every financial member of the AWRA. Copies are also distributed to selected motorcycle dealers in the greater Brisbane area Submissions for inclusion in *Wing Notes* should be with the Editor no later than the Friday following the monthly meeting, i.e.: Friday after the 1st Monday of the month.

DISCLAIMER: Although **Wing Notes** will endeavour to reproduce submissions in their original form it reserves the right to edit submissions as it sees fit. Views expressed in contributed articles in **Wing Notes** are not necessarily those of the AWRA or the Editor. **Wing Notes** is produced with care, in good faith and from sources believed to be accurate at the time of writing.

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Secretary

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Meetings:

Meetings are held on the 1^{st} Monday of every month

Next meeting: 7th September 2009 7:30 pm Breakfast Creek Wharf, 192 Breakfast Creek Rd, Newstead, Brisbane



Upcoming activities:

18 th October	Cougal ride	
24 th October	Social night Pizza	
	at Pimpama	
15th November	Mt Nebo/Mt	
	Glorious country	
	ride	
21 st November	Social Night	
	check web news	
	for update	
Change of Address		

Could everyone please note a change of address for the association. It is now:

AWRA (Qld) Inc P O Box 1321, BURPENGARY DC, Qld 4505

A policeman parked his police van in from of the station, while gathering his equipment, his K-9 partner Tops was barking, and he saw a little boy staring in at him "Is that a dog you got back there?" he asked. "It sure is," the policeman replied. Puzzle, the boy looked at him and towards the back of the van. Finally he asked; "What did he do?"



The Editor Writes.....

Hello again , well I don't know about you , but I have had a very interesting couple of weeks and I will share this with you further in the magazine.

Due to unexpected travel plans and computer problems I have decided to combine a couple of months worth of info in this edition , hopefully everybody who contributed will be covered and if your story or pictures do not appear please don't get upset as some pictures can't be copied across.

Well, it appears we have had some great responses to our rides lately including the social nights (great to see everybody enjoying themselves), now if we can only get more people to arrange and lead a ride !!!!!

As I found out in September, Life is too short to worry about little problems, life is too short, so get on with life and enjoy the time you have on this planet even if it means taking that long ride you promised yourself, remember, you only live once so enjoy the time you have and get out there and show the world your still alive.

I didn't manage to make it for the Mongolian night, O'Rielly's ride or for the Narrabri ride but from what I hear they were certainly well attended after looking at some of the photos, I understand a great time was had by all who did attend, well done everybody for setting up their respective events, hopefully we can all make the next ride and social.

I have almost completed setting up my ride for November and hope that everybody can make the time to come along . The Shell Truckstop at Rocklea is off the access road that runs parallel to Ipswich road (if you miss the entrance you can gain access from Ipswich road heading to Oxley).

See you there The Ed



The President Speaks....

My apologies for not having the minutes of the last club meeting up on the Web in time.

Deb has asked me to tender her resignation as Secretary, due to other commitments and personal issues she feels she cannot continue in this appointment and ask for a volunteer to take on the secretary's position.

Another month has come and gone, with perfect weather for riding. Thanks to Paul for his ride last month and whilst Deb and I could only ride as far as Maleny due to other commitments that part of the ride was very enjoyable and also to Larry and Annette for the social night at the Mongolian Restaurant, the food and company was excellent.

Saga of the flags,

The Flag Makers are remaking our bike flags in a 300 Dernia material and are confident that this time they will work. Just waiting on the resupply.

From the emails that we receive it is obvious that other Wing riders actively look for sites like ours, this is why it is important to keep our site up to date and interesting, which again brings us to member contributions and our magazine.

It appears that only a few members are interested in contributing to articles, DO WE WANT A WEB SITE OR MAGAZINE ?





ABN 53 153 794 978

Ray & Valerie Thomas

Highpoint Plaza, 240 Waterworks Rd, Ashgrove 4060 Ph: 07 3366 7288 Fax: 07 3366 5992 Email: info@ashgrovestationery.com.au www.ashgrovestationery.com.au

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Where Service Isn't Stationary

Dinner at the Mongolian Sizzling BBQ - Loganholme

Here we go with one of one of our wonderful stories. Happy to see 2 couples waiting when we arrived at BP Stapleton, Jeff & Julie & Eric & Deb, well at least their keen, I thought... little did I know they just happened to have business down this way on the day. We weren't expecting many to show as we were being selfish by arranging our social on a Friday night instead of a Saturday, just so we could go dancing. We didn't have far to ride so we left a bit late, just in case of late comers' (traffic , being Friday etc)... Lizzy & Wayne had already rang earlier to say they would be late.... After a short time a few other members turn up totalling 12.

Anyway, we start off with six bikes & riding just 10 minutes up the road to the Restaurant at Loganholme. Here waiting to greet us in the car was Lee, one of our new members who was eagerly waiting to join us, less a husband I might add.... She wasn't going to miss out just because he had to work.



Once inside, settled & seated, Bill & Mary arrive followed shortly after by Lizzy & Wayne. Once again

we did the table arranging thing as we do.... This was followed by a brief explanation of how it all works, which was, "fill your bowl with whatever you desired, top it up with oils of your liking & take it to the window". You can watch the chef cook your dinner while you wait. The hint was to fill your bowls right up because when the food is cooked it condenses down... If you don't, you have to go back a couple of times to get your fill, and they did.... It would appear Wayne's eyes were too big for his belly or he put too much chilli on last bowl of food, as he was unable to finish off his last plate.... Not that I was checking mind I'm sure he enjoyed what he did have. I hope everyone enjoyed the meal and got their fill...... I thought it was healthy & different. A few ventured out & had sweets. Fried bananas & ice-cream seem to be the order of the day.... Jeff & Julie went for something different. A bowl of fruit & marshmallows with dipping chocolate.... Also known as fondue I think.... This caught the eye of Bill so he decided to help them out.

Shortly after we are back on our bikes & heading for Springwood via some winding but scenic roads through the back of Daisy Hill.... The Cold Rock Ice Creamery was where we were headed to further indulge with more ice cream, as we do.... As for one poor couple new to the club who just wanted a coffee (sorry can't put a handle on your names, (I think it was MR & Mrs. Bribie wasn't it?) ended up with a cold coffee. Someone forgot to turn the urn on I think. Also it was nice to see Phil & Vicki & grandson arrive just in time to have an ice-cream with us. No bike as yet but getting closer.

I'm sorry it wasn't such a great ride (even though it was an excellent night for it) after all it is called a social night, so that's what we did.

We both enjoyed ourselves hope you all did too. Larry



Mother tells little Johnny, as they wait for the bus, to tell the driver he is 4 years old when asked because he will ride for free. As they get into the bus the driver asks Johnny how old he was. "I am 4 years old". "And when will you be six years old?" asks the driver. "When I get off the bus" answers Johnny.



Cooling Garments (Vests, Caps, and Do-Rags) to Combat Motorcyclist Heat Stress

Just Add H20...and Go for Hours of Cool Riding!

Activated in minutes by tap water, the garments use evaporative technology to cool the wearer for two to eight hours, depending on the climate and environmental conditions. Fully activated, Silver Eagle| apparel remains ultra light and breathable, allowing the wearer full range of motion and consistent comfort. The fabric's water-resistant inner liner pulls heat away from the body and wicks moisture away from the skin, keeping the wearer cool and dry.



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Phil and Vikki's ride

Departure time was 0830 for 9.00am. We arrived at BP Stapleton at about 8.35 and 6 other bikes were in attendance, they belonged to, Larry/Annette, Gecko / Kay, Trevor / Lee, John / Linda, Wayne /Lizzy and Bill / Mary. A pleasant little group and just enough to lead up the hills to O'Riellys.

We left as scheduled and rode down the service road (rather than a quick trip down the freeway) through a few roundabouts, the obligatory U-turn at a roundabout to check that all the bikes were together, and onto the Gold Coast Hinterland back roads. On and up Beechmont Rd to the hang gliders park at Beechmont for morno's (see pic)



Wing Notes – AWRA Qld Inc

A short rest there then on the bikes again and down to Canungra. A lefty at the Outpost, past the Cop Shop and into the hills again. With a keen eye out for busses and other users of the road we settled into a rhythm of going and braking as we progressed up to O'Riellys. There is probably some very good views travelling up the mountain, but the drivers were somewhat busy with keeping their eyes on the road. On arrival at O'Riellys a designated parking area had already been allotted to us, on a hilly grassed slope. Well, as one of the bikes had partaken of a hard ride up the hill, it needed a little rest when we got there, so it lay on its side. The bike was soon rested enough to stand on its wheels again. We partook of lunch on the verandah, with guest (see pic) and then a few of us accompanied Bill on a treetop walk.

All too soon it was time to mount our steeds again and head for home. The ride down the mountain never seems as long as the ride up and we were soon back at Canungra and saying farewell to some that were heading off home from there. All in it was a pleasant day and a big thank you to all who attended.

It's your club, and without you there wouldn't be a club. Go on the rides, support the ride leader and lead a ride yourself, it's not that hard and quite satisfying. Thanks All, Phil and Vicki.



Three old ladies sit in a diner, discussing their health. One lady says, "You know, I'm getting really forgetful. This morning, I was standing at the top of the stairs, and I couldn't remember whether I had just come up or was about to go down." The second lady says, "You think that's bad? The other day, I was sitting on the edge of my bed, and I couldn't remember whether I was going to sleep or had just woken up!" The third lady smiles smugly. "Well, my memory is just as good as it's always been, knock on wood," she says as she raps on the table. Then with a startled look on her face, she asks, "Who's there?"

Narrabri for Dinner

Some might say we are a little crazy for even thinking of riding 600 Km plus to go to dinner, but as they say it's about the journey and most of us really like the journeys on our bikes.

An early 4 am wake up on Saturday had Deb and I not so bright eyed and bushy tailed but very keen to get on the road and meet with the others for our ride. We made our way across town and headed out to Yamanto for our 6 am meet with the others. John Reid was already there refuelling his bike as we pulled into Macca's, John and Lilley joined us for breakfast as we waited for others to join us. By 6.30 am we decided that no others were joining us so we headed off to Aratula to collect the rest. Not too far out of Aratula Thommo and Val caught up with us (not sure if we were going slowly or they were going fast?) anyway the six of us rode to the BP to be met by Phil, Vicki, Bill, Mary, Larry, Annette, Trevor and Leigh.



So with 7 bikes we headed off over Cunninghams gap and into Warwick, this part of the trip was uneventful with little traffic on the road and fine weather we made good time. The next stop was to be Inglewood, not sure of what was available there Thommo suggested we stop at a small servo about 30 k's from Inglewood for a short break, quick drink and breakfast for him so that he didn't fade away, by this time the wind had picked up and the sand storm the weather forecasters had predicted was about to hit us. After a short break, a few good gusts of wind and sand we headed off to meet up with Col and Helen who had arranged to meet us at Goondiwindi, as we came into the outskirts they joined us and we made our way to Boggabilla to refuel and have a coffee, (should have stopped at Macca's in Goondiwindi, the Shell's coffee machine was broken and the restaurant had little to offer). By the time we had reached Boggabilla the dust storm seemed to be at its worst or so we thought, it was already difficult to see trucks that were parked on the other side of the highway at the truck stop. We decided to refuel and go on to the Macca's at Moree for a break and hopefully get through the dust storm.



With the Dust storm in full fury, the next 120 odd Km's were probably the most uncomfortable Deb and I have ever ridden in (this includes the Locust swarms and torrential rains we have encounted on other trips), by the time we got into Moree some of us must have been wondering what we were doing out in the middle of NSW in this dust storm covered in dust and sick and tired of breathing it in. The answer was simple , we do it because we enjoy riding, the journeys we travel and the company of our friends.

By the time we had lunch and were ready to finish the last 100 or so Km's the majority of the dust was gone and the rest of the trip into Narrabri was nowhere near as bad. After checking into the motel most decided to wash our bikes, thanks to the Motel manager who supplied us with everything including the Chamois. Whilst the boys cleaned the girls went walking and returned with some much needed refreshments.

It wasn't long before Frans and Jeannie arrived with two other wings in tow, Mark and Marg (M&M) and Peter and Donna all from somewhere down south. They, unlike us had managed to totally miss the dust storm. The rest of the afternoon was spent between the usual carpark gathering for drinks, some conversation and enjoying seeing the Might Cats win another AFL premiership before getting ourselves ready to head off to the RSL for dinner, which after all was the reason we had travelled more than 600 Km's.

After dinner it was back to the motel and what now seems to be a tradition, the **<u>carpark gathering</u>** for a few drinks and laughs, Frans arrived armed with a travel bag and proceeded to hand out Cowboy shots for the girls and Cowgirl shots for the boys, the evening was going rather well until some rather rude and slightly under the weather neighbours complained and abused us for keeping them awake with our chatter, mind you it was only 9.15 and they apparently had been drinking most of the afternoon. Later the motel manager did pay as us visit to let us know it was ok to enjoy ourselves.



Next morning we rode to the truck stop on the south side of Narrabri for breakfast before saying our farewells to Frans, Jeannie and their friends. We left Narrabri around 9 am and started our trip home, the dust storm had all but gone though the wind was extremely strong for most of the trip back.

Goondiwindi was our first fuel and food stop, from there we headed to Warwick for another fuel stop for both our bikes and us, for the main part the return trip was pretty much uneventful other than having a constant battle with the cross winds.

All in all Deb and I think that everyone enjoyed the weekend and despite the dust it was a good long ride, giving us a chance to clear the cobwebs from the bikes. A little side note, in an email with Frans I asked how his friend Peter was as he had not been well on the Sunday morning before heading home, his response "Peter ok, weed never die they say".

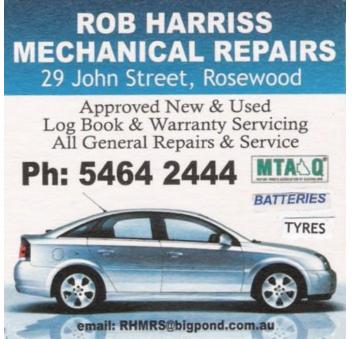
To those that couldn't make it, you missed a good weekend.

Deb and Eric

Here is the link to see Frans photos of this trip.

http://s994.photobucket.com/albums/af70/fransvdm/





A Ride to Remember (no photos)

This little story only happened in August '09 as I had to quickly arrange a 6 day break so I could ride to Adelaide to visit a very sick friend . I allowed myself 2 days to get there , 2 days in the City of Churches and 2 days to return to good 'ol Brisvegas.

I left home at 4am on the Wednesday morning (Brisbane EKKA day) and rode all day to West Wyalong (my stop for the night) only to find out that all accommodation was booked out due to one of the local mines having a maintenance shut-down.

I continued for another 60K to a little town called Weethalle only to find out the local pub's hot water system had broken and they were waiting for parts to repair it but was told of a little motel just down the road that should have a room for the night . After spending the night there I got up early and headed for Hay (my next stop) and was greeted by some very thick fog and very cold conditions , it turned out when I arrived at Hay the weather had been close to Zero that morning so that explained why I felt so <u>COOOOOLD</u> and the bike felt and sounded like it was only running on 5 cylinders !

The rest of the trip to Adelaide was uneventful except for the very long sections of 80k / hour through Mildura / Remark (Duplicating the Sturt highway I think the sign said , but I couldn't see any evidence of any road works and this was about 2pm in the arvo and on a week day) . I checked into the motel in Adelaide around 5.30pm and quickly got myself sorted out and hit the shower for a good nights sleep .

The next 2 days were taken up with visiting the hospital where my friend is undergoing treatment (the good news is he will be fine in a few months). While I was there I also caught up with quite a few other people I know and also had the opportunity to drop in on Frank Milligan (free plug) and spent a bit of time chin wagging about the Older wings he has in his collection that are still in running order (very, very nice, people).

For the return trip I had allowed myself a starting time of 5.30am (Adelaide time) on the Sunday morning, as I was trying to get well past West Wyalong before night fall and not have far to ride the next day. When I left Adelaide Sunday morning 15mins late, the weather was quite fine but by the time I got to Tailem Bend (heading to Melbourne) the wind had turned into gale force, it appears that Melbourne's severe wind conditions had reached Adelaide earlier than the weather bureau had anticipated . I topped up my fuel knowing I had at least 260km to my next fuel stop at Ouven and hit the road. My return trip was to take me through Ouyen/Tooleybuc (shorter distance and time than going through Renmark/Mildura) to Balranald . From there I had Tail and cross winds all the way across the Hay plains to West Wyalong and when I stopped for food and fuel later that afternoon I still felt pretty good so I filled up and set off for my planned overnight stop at Dubbo .

Well, this is where the fun began, lightning, rain, mud on the road, more mud and yet more mud, all due to unfinished road works and **ABSOLUTELY** no signs anywhere indicating a **MOTORCYCLE HAZARD AHEAD**, just your usual road under repair signs. Believe

me when I say I almost didn't make it through this section and was very grateful to the truckie that was in front of me for blazing a path with some very bright lights, this also helped to avoid the Road-kill that seemed to be appearing more and more frequently.

After arriving safely at Dubbo for Fuel and a coffee break I was still feeling pretty good, it was then I decided to try for home in 24 hours (that's 2100km in total). After hitting the road for Moree the ride really got interesting, WOW, what an eye opener this section is at night, I actually slowed to 85/90k's to make sure I had plenty of time to avoid the Kangaroos, Hares and foxes that literally live on the road (probably trying to keep warm at this time of the year). After I arrived in Moree I decided to take a 30 min breather and pulled into a 24hr garage for a well earned coffee and nibbles. When I eventually sat down I was asked by a couple of truckies where I had ridden from and where I was heading and they almost choked on their drinks when I told them I just ridden in from Adelaide and was trying to get to Brisbane in 24 hours, GOOD LUCK they said, nobody does Adelaide to Brissie in 24 hours, not even us . I told them I just wanted to prove that I could do it, so they offered to "light the road ahead" to Goondiwindi when I was ready to leave . There ended up being a lot more carnage on this section of road and I found it was still difficult to ride fast even with the road lit up. Believe me, I was very grateful when the lights of Goondi appeared so I tooted the horn to let them know I was still behind and very happy ..

When I pulled into the BP garage at Goondi at 3am I think I caused quite a bit of concern for the young lady behind

the counter until she realised I was Stripping off my clothing so I could add more warm gear for the early morning ride into Warwick . She told me she actually had the phone to her ear ready to ring the police when she realised what I was doing . After a bit of giggle from both parties I hit the road and found myself riding at about 85/90k's again all the way to Warwick as I was still very cold and still concerned about the amount of road kill. When I arrived in Warwick at 6.30am it was near freezing point and the wind chill factor was incredible (I think the person behind the counter said zero degrees outside) so off I went to get some coffee . It was then that it dawned on me my 24 hour trip to Brissie was history but the consolation factor was I did manage to do nearly 1800k's in that time so I just hit the road and enjoyed the rest of the ride back home arriving at 9.15am (27 hours 30 mins), still, not bad for a 2100k trip.

I will attempt this again , you can bet on it , but not just yet!

The Ed

P.S since I wrote this article my friend took a turn for the worse and has since passed away. Vale Martin Butvila fellow motorcycle rider and long time friend , may he ride forever in Heaven.

Answers to last edition questions .

Eric our President

Vikki our Regalia officer

Bill our Treasurer and Vice President

Phil our ride co-ordinator

An apology is due to Lizzy, it appears that I no longer have that list in my email files. If you want it put in next months magazine then please forward a copy to me again and hopefully it won't get lost this time.

A	AUSTRALIAN WING RIDERS ASSOCIATION (QLD) INCORPORATED					
	QUEENSLAND RIDE and SOCIAL CALENDAR					
Date	DateStart PointDestinationRide / Social Event		Ride / Social Event	Ride Leaders		
24 Oct	BP Stapleton	Pimpama	A short ride through the back streets to	Trevor and		
Social	5.00 for 5.30		the Village Whistle stop Restaurant	Lee		
15 Nov	Shell Truck	Mt Nebo /	Trip encompasses Mt Nebo/Mt Glorious	Peter		
Ride	Stop Rocklea	Glorious and	and country ride taking in some of the			
	8.30 for 9am	country towns	locales that we haven't seen for a while,			
			returning to start point for coffees or ice-			
			creams.			
21 Nov	TBA	TBA	TBA	Bill and Mary		
Social						
4-6 Dec	Your Place	Waterways Motel	AWRA Christmas Party	Committee		
Extra		Bribie Island				
?? Dec	TBA	TBA	Brizzy Xmas Lights Ride	Clint and		
				Charleen		
				(PLEASE)		
17 Jan	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA		
Ride						
23 Jan	TBA	TBA	TBA	Larry and		
Social				Annette		

Ride Co-ordinator – Phil Merlo - Tel: 07 5533 7260 ; Mobile: 0419 140 957 mailto:philandvicki@bigpond.com

- **RIDE DATES**; Unless otherwise arranged, rides will be on the <u>3rd</u> Sunday of the month, and Social rides, the following weekend, with other social events as announced throughout the year.
- All monthly and social rides are for the enjoyment of members and guests. They are not race or competition events; please ride at your own skill level and observe the road rules.

ATTN: Ride Leaders

- Please check the details of your ride and let me know of any changes.
- Organize 2 raffle prizes for your ride. Suggested value approximately \$10.00 each. Raffle tickets will be made available from Bill Carter.
- IMPORTANT: Even if you have not finalized the details of your ride, just supply the start time & location, the general direction of the ride, and the meal arrangements.
- Please provide a short pre-ride briefing that outlines the basic safety precautions that we in the AWRA like to observe when riding in groups, and a little about the ride and the rest stop locations.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY ON RIDES:

Each motorcyclist is responsible for their own safety, adherence to the road rules and must ensure the following;

- The roadworthiness of your vehicle (including trailer)
- That you are in a fit condition to control the vehicle, (including trailer)
- Make sure you have a full tank of fuel before departing on a ride.
- That you obey all the traffic rules and ride in a safe manner.
- That you ride in a considerate manner that does not endanger, or unnecessarily inconvenience other road users.
- To be correctly attired for safe motorcycling
- To have fun and enjoy the day, and the company.

Thanks for all those that have offered to organize rides and socials. That is what makes this club so great. If you are yet to conduct a ride or organize a social, please start to plan something so that when your turn arrives you will be ready. You don't have to wait to be asked, just let me know.

AUSTRALIAN WING RIDERS ASSOCIATION (QLD) INCORPORATED VICTORIAN RIDE CALENDAR 2009/2010

	Date			
Date	Start Point 9:00 Sharp	Destination	Ride / Social Event	Ride Leaders
17-18 Oct 09	BP service station on Geelong road	GOR o/n Skenes creek	Overnight ride	Craig
21-22 Nov 09	Early start 8am Jeffrey Honda	Corryong	Overnight ride Xmas Party	JohnG
24-26 Jan 10	<u>Real</u> Early start Service centre on Hume hwy passed Kilmore turn off	Coonabarabran	Meet in the middle	JohnG
31 Jan 10			Ride Day	Ken
20-21 Feb 10	New Service station on Princess freeway near langwarren	Loch Sport	Over night ride	Steve
20-21 Mar 10	McDonalds nth bound lane of ring road	Horsham	Overnight ride	JohnB
April	<u>Real</u> Early start Service centre on Hume hwy passed Kilmore turn off	QLD	AGM via a different road then the <u>Newell</u>	JohnG

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