

Natureland Classic Motor Cycle Club



Waffle On

March 2011



P.O. Box 417 Kempsey NSW 2440.
Website: www.naturelandclassicmotorcycleclub.org.au

Editors Note ...

I haven't got much to say about motor bikes in this issue but read on, I'll start writing and some reference to bikes is sure to come up.

February was a busy month for me as I was in New Zealand visiting my Dad. He soon had me working hard getting his place sorted out so that he can down size in the near future. As a result most of my 'holiday' was spent cleaning out under his house, his garage and tidying his garden. He's still got to find the right place to move to but at least now we don't have to worry about those areas. Being Dutch, by birth and nature, he was delighted to pocket the proceeds of the garage sale!

The garden may need another go if he doesn't move soon but I dismantled (I just love sledge hammers!) garden beds and removed shrubs so that the section (you call them blocks over here in Oz) can now all be easily mowed. The grass seed was shooting up nicely by the time I left and hopefully I managed to save his favourite Japanese Maple.

Did notice that just like Australia, there's quite a few bikes zooming round the neighbourhood and scooters seem to be a popular choice round the city as Auckland's parking costs are as high as in Sydney. Reminded me of Italy seeing all the scooters parked together in a couple of specially designated spots in the city.

See told you, I could get a mention of bikes in there somewhere!

Cheers,
Norma



Movies of Natureland 2010 Rally

If you've visited our website recently and tried to access the movies of our rally you may have experienced difficulties. They were uploaded to a site where it was not only time consuming to download but you needed fairly fast internet access to do so. That's all changed! You can now easily access both movies as they have been uploaded to You Tube reducing the download time dramatically. There are two videos, Day 1 and Day 2 of the rally. They are also embedded into the home page so it's easy to watch them. Go

to www.naturelandclassicmotorcycleclub.org.au and take a look.

They are also accessible via hyperlinks from the photo gallery page and the rally movies page. If you want to go straight to You Tube the addresses for each video are: Day 1 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=86ZEHoIB6F8> and for Day 2 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=arvoD-tjV6o>

Do hope you enjoy them and see yourselves there somewhere, doing something. There's a good shot of you Kiwi! If there was an award for Club Comic you'd win in hands down.

“Nundle Overnight Ride” by Meredith Relf

Rod, Meredith, Kiwi and Sharon met up at Long Flat at a very civilized 11am for the ride to Nundle. Meredith set off first, being the slowest cornering (but getting better), followed by Sharon in the 4wd while Kiwi and Rod left a lot later and had a rather exhilarating ride to Gingers Creek.

The weather was perfect. We had a brief stopover, before setting off for Walcha and lunch in the park and continued on a lovely ride along the Oxley to Nundle pub where



we met up with Patrick and Liz. Accommodation in the pub was excellent, well almost... The Clarendon room for R and M, The Majestic room for P and L, the Mt Druitt room for the discerning Kiwi and Sharon, and talk about great pub food – delicious dinner and complimentary hot breaky. Although it was really hot, the pub was very quiet later on and we all rested well for the big ride the next day.

We had a look around Sheba Dam where they hold the Norton Owners (BMW gatecrashers) Rally and came back to Nundle and had a look at the old woollen mill. Liz and Patrick then left us and were going to stay at Bendemeer Pub. We came home via Port Stephens cutting (finally I know where Weabonga is) down Thunderbolts Way to Nowendoc, Gloucester, Taree and back home up the highway, Kiwi and Sharon stopping for a swim.



Only one slight mishap along the way when Meredith tried to take off from a lookout - dirt of course, hit the front brake (should know better by now) and was unceremoniously thrown off the bike with legs in the air, fortunately landing on her head so it didn't hurt a bit. There's one good thing about falling off your bike amongst a crowd of onlookers, there are always a couple of volunteers to pick your bike up while you finish cursing and someone else will always brush the dust off you. A frantic waving down of the wonder mechanic and some amazing Kiwi magic saved

the day, utilising a D-shackle and some cable ties to mend the broken gear change lever, enabling her to ride the 300km home from there.

What a brilliant weekend!

The 6th Annual Burt Munro Challenge: 23rd - 27th November 2011

If you are interested in joining a group to tour the South Island of New Zealand to attend the Burt Munro Challenge in November 2011 please contact Meredith Tel: 65631786 now, as she is finalising dates for bookings. "We are looking at departing Sydney around 13th November and returning by 4th December," she says. "You may wish to travel together with the group, or catching up along the way would also be excellent." To find out more from about the event go to the organisers go to their web site. The web address is <http://www.burtmunrochallenge.com>



The Beach Race!



Here's what a rider from Melbourne has to say about this event! Article courtesy of the Southland Times.

Melbourne rider Doug Wood reckons the Burt Munro Challenge is the finest motorcycling event in Australasia – which is why he's more than happy to make the annual pilgrimage each year.

Wood competed in the first Burt Munro Challenge five years ago, and had such a wonderful time that he has returned every year since.

This year, he brought even his wife and two children along to soak up the experience, and said it had been a blast. "This is world class.

There's nothing in Australia that compares to it. This is my fifth year

here. I love it."

This year's trip had taken on extra significance for Wood after the death of his close friend and fellow motorcyclist Matt McMillan at the Phillip Island circuit.

McMillan was due to head to Southland with Wood to ride in this year's festival and said he had aimed to do well this week to honour his late mate.

Wood raced in the Bluff Hill Climb on Thursday and Saturday's Teretonga Sprint, but saved his best form for yesterday's Wyndham Street Race, in which he placed third in the pre '89 class.

"The Hill Climb was really interesting. Teretonga was absolutely glorious and the Street Race here would have to be my favourite," he said.

The Australian barely had time to draw breath at Wyndham after also racing in the Formula Threes and the open class events. He produced one of the most exhilarating

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moments of the day after his final race when he entertained the crowd with a huge burnout.

"I thought I'd give them a bit of a show," he smiled. "The crowd has been ... absolutely awesome. I've had an absolute hoot."

The number of Australian riders competing in the Burt Munro Challenge seems to grow each year and Wood said it was starting to develop a real reputation across the ditch.

Racing Events for older bikes



Several events are run over the course of the Burt Munro Challenge with a couple that enable older bikes to take part in the fun. These include a rally that runs over 4 days. Now that'd be fun as the countryside in New Zealand's Southland region will be wonderful for riding around, there's bound to be a surprise around every corner as they're not short of spectacular scenery in that part of the world. The other event for older bikes is the Wyndham Street Racing. In 2010 the Wyndham Street Racing events were Formula 1; Formula 2; Formula 3; Super Motard; BEARS Milwaukee Iron; Girder Forks Classics; Pre 63 Classics; 250 class pre 72, and pre 82; 350 Class pre 72; 351-open class pre 72, and pre 82, and pre 89. They'll probably have pretty much the same set up for 2011. You can see a video of the 2010 event on the Burt Munro Challenge web site.

Other bike races include Oreti Beach Racing, Bluff Hill Climb, Ascot Park Longtrack, Teretonga Sprint Racing and Oreti Park Speedway. Basically there's something for everyone. It should be a terrific event and well worth making the journey to Invercargill.



We need some help!

We really need your help guys! There's two roles to be filled, that of events coordinator and Rally Director. Please someone take up the challenge of either of these roles or both. Tony is a hard act to follow but we need you!

If you've always wanted to go somewhere or do something this is your chance. Tony has done a terrific job for well ... forever but he can't do it anymore. So, come on let's help him out, give him the break he deserves and stick your hand up for the job.

A load of crock

Step Forward—Not Back!

Getting someone to volunteer for something in a club is normally like an army parade ground scene. The Sergeant Major calls for volunteers to step forward and the whole line steps back—leaving some poor sod standing where he was carrying the can!

Well we need somebody, or bodies, to actually step forward and do their bit for the club. Tony (The Ethnic) Spiteri is standing down from his roles of Events Coordinator and Rally Director while he gets his bung knee sorted out. So come on guys and girls—would someone please put their hand up please?

The Taree Rally was attended by a few of our members, namely, yours truly, Jim Fairhurst and Graeme Branch. Two Triumphs and a Beeza with which Jimmy picked up a trophy. Saturday was bloody wet which proves that other rallies get their share of water too. It was a shame because lunch was at the new Bonny Hills Surf Club and it would have been absolutely spectacular if it hadn't been pissing down!

Talking of food—the dinner held at the PCYC was great—three courses after nibbles to start with. Not only was the food good but it was all done by volunteers and as well as enjoying the great feed we were helping a good cause.

At least we had a nice dry and sunny ride on the Sunday when we ventured west of Wingham. Rumour has it that a certain member that attended the rally went shopping on the Sunday—I wonder what he has bought now?

Cheers,
Crock.

Natureland 20th Anniversary Dinner



You'll notice on the events calendar that a Club Dinner is scheduled for the 30 April at the Crescent Head Country Club. It is important that you ring Meredith Relf if you want to join in the celebrations as we need to confirm numbers. Her telephone number is Tel: 65631786.

Don't miss out! Ring Meredith now!

Articles following reproduced from UK magazine Motor Cycle News

New Harley-Davidson Blackline hit the show circuit in January



Unveiled in the USA in January was [Harley-Davidson's](#) new 2011 Blackline, a Softail-based cruiser featuring a back-to-basics styling, new fuel tank and split drag handlebars.

The new bike was unveiled in New York and follows a recent trend in customising, away from the usual lashings of chrome and colour in favour of a dark 'old school' look.

Specification-wise the most noticeable changes are the new 'Split Drag' bars with each, separate

bar now mounted directly onto the top yoke plus the new, 18-litre fuel tank complete with 'Blackline' trim down the centre of the tank.

The engine gets new gloss black powder coat on the rocker covers, crankcase, outer primary covers and gearbox side covers. The new analogue clock and compact headlight are tucked in low, while a new rear fender rounds off the rear.

According to Harley-Davidson, the new Blackline is: "A rebellious creation of the Dark Custom movement, the Blackline celebrates three fundamental elements of motorcycling: mechanical beauty, internal combustion and the long black line of the road ahead."

Brand new Kawasaki W800 is top retro



The new Kawasaki W800 has come out on top in MCN's world first group test of the latest retro roadsters.

The new Kawasaki is essentially a revival of the old W650 which was dropped from Kawasaki's line-up in 2006. The revived version not only boasts a larger capacity but also fuel injection for the first time and a host of cosmetic updates.

To find out how good these updates have made the new Kawasaki MCN pitted it against its closest rivals -

Triumph's Bonneville T100 and the Moto Guzzi V7 Classic – and it was the W800 which proved the favourite of two of their three testers.

At the end of the test MCN Chief Road Tester Trevor Franklin concluded: "Two of the three test riders placed Kawasaki's W800 ahead of Triumph's T100 Bonneville. Both gave the same reasons: a lovely bike to ride because of its comfort, styling and easy-going engine with performance to suit its style."

An article about the full test is in Motorcycle News that hit the streets Wednesday 16 March or visit their web site at <http://www.motorcyclenews.com>

Events Calendar

March 2011	
27 Mar	Time Trial Kempsey to Bellbrook. Leave McDonalds Kempsey at 10.30am. JAP Rally?
April 2011	
3 Apr	Dorrigo/Ebor Hatchery Day Ride.
10 Apr	Old Bangers Ride.
15-17 Apr	Inverell Rally - Ride Friday, Saturday & Sunday. Swap meet Sunday.
22-25 Apr	Sofala Ride.
26 Apr	Club Meeting 7.30pm Salvo's Hall, Kempsey.
28-1 May	Celtic Festival Glen Innes.
30-1 May	Norton Owners Rally, Nundle.
30 Apr	Club Dinner at Crescent Head Bowling Club.
May 2011	
1 May	Free day!
8 May	Old Bangers Ride, Mother's Day.
13-15 May	Macleay Auto Restorers Rally at Hat Head.
15 May	NCMCC Swap Meet.
22 May	Free day!
24 May	Club Meeting 7.30pm Salvo's Hall, Kempsey.
29 May	Old Bangers Ride - ride the Sunday rally route.

All rides leave from McDonald's in Kempsey unless otherwise stated at a strict departure time of 9.30am.

To see the events scheduled for June onwards visit
www.naturelandclassicmotorcycleclub.org.au