
The Good Oil



Volume 24 Number 7 July 2016

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START THEM YOUNG AND ...

They may end up on historic racing motorcycles. This month, in between classic racing seasons, we go off-road. If the best MotoGP riders can do it, why can't we? See reports starting Page 7

Photo HAMISH COOPER



Photo's in this issue are courtesy

www.historicmotorcycleracing.org

HMCRRSA OFFICE BEARERS 2013/2014

PATRON: Mal Pitman

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Vice President	Danny Ahern	0407 826 951 (m)
Treasurer	Dean Watson	
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Committee Members	Paul Walker Tony Tildesley Stuart Penn Neil Watson Bob Balestrin	0412 816 677 8278 5464
Club Delegates	Phil Baughan – Road Race/MSA	
Club Address	PO Box 311 Campbelltown SA 5074	
General Meeting Venue (third Thursday of each month)	MSA Office 251 The Parade BEULAH PARK	Committee Meeting (first Tuesday of every month)
Honorary Life Members	Peter WESTERMAN (†Deceased) Richard RAKE Danny AHERN David MANSON Len SMITH Ken LUCAS “Doc” WATSON (†Deceased) Trevor HENDERSON Phil BAUGHAN Len DYSON (†Deceased) Les Bell	1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2007 2009 2013

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Doesn't time fly? Already over halfway through the year and next month is AGM time again. Fortunately all your Office-bearers are willing to saddle up again, although none of us would be offended if any other members wanted an executive role.

We've had a very good Committee for some time now, who have kept the Club running efficiently.

Winter time is not ideal for what we do, without any suitable events, except for taking a chance on the weather and attending a ride day. Although the days are supposedly shorter, I think they feel the opposite, cold and wet days just seem to drag.

Although our Club is not officially involved, some of us will be associated with the

Sellicks Beach races being run next February. This will be a huge operation with all the concessions being made to placate Council and environmentalists, but the organisers are confident of support from competitors and spectators. It should be really spectacular, a reminder of days past when, due to a lack of sealed-surface circuits, the beaches provided natural flat going.

In a couple of months we should start seeing better weather and events happening, leading to our State Titles at year's end, which is what we're all about.

Trevor Henderson, President

TREV'S TITBITS: IS THE K70 THE NEW GRASSHOPPER?

Well into the 1960s, one of the requirements of the annual 24-Hour Road Trial was that tyres must be of road, not trials, pattern. A valued piece of kit then was a Goodyear Grasshopper rear tyre, made only in 3.50 x 19 which suited many of the roadster-based machines used in the event. The Grasshopper, along with the Dunlop Universal (road), Olympic Patrol (road) and Olympic Gripster (scrambles) were then made here in Australia. The Grasshopper coped with unsealed surfaces better than other road tyres. Eventually, "24-Hour" competitors were allowed to use Trials Universals, as they had been for the shorter trials in the calendar. Looking at the tyres currently used, the casual observer could think they were using motocross knobbies.

With the Sellicks Beach meeting next February, and the insistence on road-pattern tyres, what will be the choice? The Dunlop K70, which was standard fitment on many British bikes of the 1960s and 70s, may suffice. Some NSW Dirt Track (Short Circuit) riders preferred the K70 over speedway and trials tyres on their hard-packed, oiled circuits. Another K70 use was on the 1980s Triumph short-stroke Thunderbird 650, an austerity measure like lack of tacho and chrome. The K70, now made in Japan, should perform better on the beach than the TT100 or Avon Roadrunner. So, shall we see K70s on the beach, suggesting a parallel with the 60s and prompting the Question "Is the K70 the new Grasshopper?"

Thumbs Up & Change Right
Trevor Henderson # 55.

COMP SEC: TWO BIG EVENTS COMING UP FOR US

Two important events that will be of interest to all members, especially those who don't regularly exercise their great old motorcycles.

Firstly, I can report that following a precursor guide list that will be published any day now, the real final sup regs will go out early August for the Sellicks Races 18th & 19th Feb 2017. Info will be on Levis MCC website and all entries can be done online. Interest is wide and varied. The first milestone will be getting substantial entries in a firm timeline. Once that is accomplished, sales for spectators will be released and only presold tickets will get people in, there will be no sales at the gate! Ticket sales will be a key factor along with participants as to the success and in fact the meeting going ahead.

The HMCRRSA is supportive of the event and will be looking to get some further help from club members not racing on the weekend with a few key roles. It looks very much like I will have a key role with eligibility management and Race Secretary back up prior to event and on the weekend.

Secondly, as has been previously flagged, we have again been invited to get involved with the Motorsport Festival 19th & 20th Nov with the Sporting Car Club. We need to get 20 bikes involved with this event so let me know ASAP if you are up for it. This has the potential to be both a showcase to our club's longstanding involvement with historic racing and a chance to members who no longer wish to actually race their great old motorcycles but want to exercise them in a gentlemanly environment to have a great day out. Over to you, my friends.

Danny Ahern

Comp Sec

Draft Minutes of the General Meeting of the Historic Motor Cycle Racing Register of SA held at the MSA clubrooms on Thursday, June 16.

The meeting opened at 8pm with 17 members attending.

Apologies:	Claire.
Visitors:	N/A
New members:	N/A.
Minutes of previous meeting:	Moved John Inkster, Seconded Dan Ahern, Accepted by members via show of hands.
Business arising:	None

Reports:

President's report

- State Titles for 2016 discussed. Trevor informed meeting that we are seeking to engage the same officials as per 2015 event.
- Still seeking a starter for the event.
- Letter received from Veteran & Vintage MCC encouraging new members.
- Email from Chris Lang re the BSA that as mentioned in the last edition of the Good Oil. Trevor read out the email to the meeting.
- Letter to editor published in the Southern Times Messenger re the Sellicks Beach race proposal was discussed.

Secretary' report

- Barossa Valley Classic Motor Cycle Club wrote the club inviting members to participate in their showcase event. They are specifically seeking pre 1930s machines to exhibit.

Treasurer's report (May)

- Dean reported that HMCRRSA has donated \$500 to a competitor in the Variety Bash. The HMCRRSA logo will be displayed on the vehicle for the duration of the event.
- An update of the balances of each of the club's accounts was provided to the meeting.

Comp Secretary's report

- Dan reported that Sellicks Beach event is a 'goer' for late his year.
- Levis is to run the event and HMCRRSA members are likely to assist in a 'non financial' capacity.
- Dan provided an overview of the impact of HMCRRSA's letter to MSA re the FMX financial loss.

- Supp Regs will be available for the Sellicks Beach event by the close of June 2016.
- Preselling of entry tickets for spectators will be capped at 10,000 for each day of the 2 day event.
- Corporate sponsorship is being actively sought.
- 'Expressions of interest' from members is being sought for participation in the Adelaide Motor Sport Festival. 20 bikes are required for exhibition and parade laps.
- The event is scheduled for 19 – 20 November 2016.
- This date conflicts with the 2016 National titles in Tasmania.
- Draft Regs for our December 'State Titles' meeting at Mac Park are about to be finalised.

MSA/RR Committee

- Phil informed meeting that the R/R Committee meeting had been postponed.
- Phil led a discussion on the topic of fire extinguishers at race meetings. A general discussion followed about availability of these in pit areas and on the track side.

General business

- Dan and Phil provided the meeting with an update on the proposal from MA to take over control of State governing bodies including MSA.
- It was noted that although the proposed model included a number of positive aspects, states were universally resisting the change at this stage.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.

Draft Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the Historic Motor Cycle Racing Register of South Australia held on Tuesday, July 5, at the MSA clubrooms.

The meeting opened at 7.30pm

Present: Trevor Henderson, Danny Ahern, Chris Hayward, Dean Watson, Neil Watson Bob Balestrin, Paul Walker. **Apologies:** Stuart. **Visitors:** None.

Minutes of previous meeting: Proposed Dan, seconded Dean. Accepted unanimously.

Business Arising:

- Chris provided an update on claim for reimbursement of advertising expenditure re Nationals. This claim has been forwarded to Phil Baughan (as MSA & R/R delegate) for submission to MSA. Chris to contact Phil for progress update.
- Sellicks Beach race proposal discussed. Dan provided update and reaffirmed that HMCRRSA will be happy to provide non financial logistical support if required.
- Race officials for 2015 state titles at Mac Park discussed. Trevor informed meeting that final sign off was expected shortly.
- Supplementary Regs have been approved by the Committee. (Dan)
- Non financial members discussed. Some of these members will be re-contacted to confirm their intent. (Dean)
- Dean reported that some members earlier identified as 'non financial' have since paid their subs.

President's Report

- Trevor informed meeting that Max Sargent who is 91 years old now resides in a nursing home. His daughter has been in contact with Trevor to inform him that a number of Max's bikes are up for sale. These include his 1956 Triumph and a Yamaha (no detailed description provided). Anyone interested should contact Max's daughter via Trevor.
- Trevor contacted Marg Trotter to seek confirmation of the Classic Master of Mac Park event for 2017 which is scheduled for March 4 - 5 2017.

Treasurers Report

- 10 year membership certificates discussed. Dan and Dean to liaise re final design.
- Dean provided overview of individual account balances and total combined balance.

Secretary's Report

- MSA affiliation renewal notice received. Chris to complete paperwork and submit to MSA. Dean has paid MSA the annual affiliation fee of \$500.
- Correspondence received from Dept for Communities and Social Inclusion re applying for Govt grants.
- Notification of MSA Board vacancy.

Comp Secretary

- Wakefield Park (NSW) 2 X 4 meeting discussed. Event limited to period 1 – 3 machines. Likely that a few HMCRRSA members will attend.
- Promotional HMCRRSA transfer stickers produced. Distribution will be discussed at next general meeting.

General Business

- A new member, Ben Fraser from Roxby Downs, acknowledged.
- Ongoing updates to website discussed. Historic photos for publication in the 'Good Oil' are now starting to come through. Neil to contact our web administrator (Luke Charlton) to arrange for further changes.

Meeting closed at 9.45pm

SERIOUSLY OFF ROAD AND LOVING IT



Hamish Cooper dropped into last weekend's Mud'n'Tars dirt track event to experience a perfect SA winter's day of sunny racing and take a couple of pics. Meanwhile Danny A and Co were recovering from a typical 24 Hour Trial weekend of driving rain, sleet and various other aspects of winter weather at its extreme. Gotta love the off-road winter season of racing. A test of commitment for sure. The picture above sums up the essence of dirt track. Teenager Jake Mitchell, who has ridden since the age of the youngster on the KTM featured on our cover, won his debut race on his new KTM, then followed that up with a win on the beautiful vintage Yamaha pictured below. Start them young and they will inevitably race on anything old and new.....





What's not to love about a Wasp outfit? A classic combination of the British frame builder's craft and any variety of engines, in this case a XR Honda. Boy, could it dig into the dirt and get serious traction.



Eye candy all over the place. Whether you love old or new, off road riding has it all.....

Have a gander at this and understand how old the good old winter pursuit of off-road riding is. The GO editor was flicking through a dog-eared National Geographic when he came across this photo. "That Honda looks mint," he thought. Then he turned back to the cover to realise it was actually January, 1976. The article was about recreational riding up at Mammoth Lakes, in the high snow country behind Los Angeles. The more things change, the more they stay the same eh? These Californians called their group the Sierra Old Timers.

if people must have *some* control over destiny," reasons Wilma Muth, an ur-woman who serves as Inyo County su-or. Yet Los Angeles is the big landlord valley, and valley talk turns inevitably "City," the "Department," or even, as emused official put it, the "Kingdom of and Power."

colonial relationship is schizophrenic, city's tight but usually benevolent grip tarded valley growth, leaving its scenic

tensions. The valley provides Los Angeles with 80 percent of its water, and has become its playground as well.

Valley Lives an Outdoor Life

Inyo County, slightly larger than Vermont, encompasses Mount Whitney and Death Valley, the highest and lowest points of the contiguous 48 states. Most of its 17,000 people live in villages strung along Owens Valley from Lone Pine north to Bishop. Life is

A photographer who once traveled with Zane Grey, "Aim" Morhardt paints the valley in water colors, prospects its mountains, and writes much of its music and verse.

The Morhardt nutting method is to spread a sheet beneath a piñon pine and shake the tree with a pole. We settled for a sticky handful of nuts, then went on with a picnic basket and a bottle of wine to a hideaway beside a creek that races off Mount Tom. Aim built a fire of willow branches, while Gen

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BOTH BY JODI COBB



24 HOURS OF TORTURE (but I loved it) by Danny Ahern



Danny and Paul logging a rider.

July always means 24Hr reliability trial. I, like a few connected with other clubs or just taking an interest may have gone for a look or sustained a long stint logging in bikes to a control point. That is what I did again with DOCSA and in particular my friend Paul Hoey, who has organised the DOCSA official part of their proceedings for many a year now.

For me it's about 5 years in a row with DOCSA and it means very little sleep.....like 2 hours. This year was another torturous one, my guess is less than 50% would have finished.

Our paddock which was the last competitive timed paddock. Each circuit got deleted for the final lap. The third lap that saw our first sidecars arrive just after 4am ended sometime after 7am with the last of the solos coming through. One of the later bikes through had trouble negotiating a section and came to grief with a log and his bike, the poor bugger ending up with two broken bones in his leg and a few hours between it happening and getting carted off in the ambulance. All this made the mess I woke up to at 3.55am insignificant.

On walking down to our DOCSA marque checkpoint I noticed two club shades totally mangled up and demolished and then with disbelief found the marque flattened to the ground. Luckily the timing clock was still atop the little table being held down from the horrific winds by the battery driving it. We got our shit together and set up my Bungalow to give us some protection for the lap to start, luckily the rain abated. Come 10am we were told our paddock had been scrapped.

Another tough year at 24 Hr for all involved on and off the bikes. It really is a test of endurance. But if you've never been involved you will never know the satisfaction of putting your commitment to the test, and I'm just talking about volunteering at a marshalling point. Go on, give it a go.



No cover after the marquee blew away. Check the time and think about how cold it was.



Danny grabs some shut-eye at dawn.

2016-17 Dates

Date	Event	Venue
Nov 5-6	HMRAV Southern Classic	Broadford
Nov 12	Club ride day with DOCSA	Mac Park
Nov 19-20	Adelaide Motorsport Festival	Victoria Park
Nov 17-20	National Historic Titles	Symmons Plains
Dec 30-Jan 1, 2017	SA Historic Titles	Mac Park
Mar 23-24	Barry Sheene Festival of Speed	Sydney Motorsport Park
Champion ride days at Mallala	12th June, 24th June, 8th July, 31st July, 14th Aug, 26th Aug, 9th Sept, 24th Sept, 7th Oct, 22nd Oct, 25th Nov, 2nd Dec, 18th Dec	

For Sale/Wanted

Wanted	Single downtube frame to take 150cc Bultaco engine which is 375mm long	Trevor 83845284
For Sale	<p>CB72 Racer parts</p> 	Ken 0412805476
	Club Shirts \$35, Caps \$15, Hats \$18, Mugs \$4.50, Cloth Badges \$10 and Stickers \$2.50.	Buy at next club meeting