

Official BMW Club

# Shaft Drive Lines

March 2015

[www.bmwccact.org.au](http://www.bmwccact.org.au)

BMW Motorcycle Club  
ACT



## What's On

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 21 March    | BMWCCACT Annual General Meeting        |
| 22 March    | One Day Black Dog Ride, ACT            |
| 3-6 April   | BMW Car Clubs Australia Nationals 2015 |
| 4-5 April   | Penrite Oil Broadford Bike Bonanza     |
| 11-12 April | Club Overnight Ride                    |



## SHAFT DRIVE LINES VOLUME 35, MARCH 2015

### 2014-15 COMMITTEE

**President:**

Martin Robertson - R1200R, R80Rc  
0409 329 270 & Husqvarna 630

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**Vice President:**

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**Ride Coordinator**

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**Secretary:**

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**Treasurer:**

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**Membership Secretary:**

Bruce Barter - R1150GS

[Members@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Members@bmwmccact.org.au)



**Social Secretary:**

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0422 006 727

[Social@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Social@bmwmccact.org.au)



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**BMW Clubs Australia Delegate:**

Garry Smee

[BMWCA@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:BMWCA@bmwmccact.org.au)



**Cover Photo:** The Club's yellow contingent of new and older GS. New member Stacy (F650GS, single) and Robert (F650GS, twin) at Taemas Bridge, Yass district. G. Smee

## ABOUT THE CLUB

**Membership:** You can apply to join the BMW MCCA ACT Inc. online from the Club's website <http://bmwmccact.org.au>. Members can update their personal details by logging on to the Club webpage.

**Meetings:** Club meetings are on the fourth Sunday each month at different locations across the ACT; currently Parks with BBQ's and following a cooked breakfast from 0830. The location and details are posted to the websites *What's On* and email reminders sent to members beforehand.

**Activities:** The Club's *What's On* web page details Club rides, social and other organised events. Members can email suggested rides and social events directly to the Ride Coordinator ([rides@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:rides@bmwmccact.org.au)) and Social Secretary ([social@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:social@bmwmccact.org.au)) respectively.

The Club's webpage has the most current information. The Ride Coordinator and Social Secretary will email members reminders and late changes to events. Email is the principal means of communicating with Club members; it is up to you to ensure that your email contact address is up to date and mailbox not so full that messages do not get through.

You can also join our Yahoo group ACTGravel surfers: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ACTGravelsurfing/>

**Charity Support:** Profits from the Club's *Kosciuszko Rally*, held each October, are donated to a nominated charity. Unfortunately, there was no profit in 2013 due to low numbers.

### PRIVACY OF CLUB MEMBER INFORMATION

The Club's *Privacy & Spam* policy is available on the webpage or on request.

### SHAFT DRIVE LINES

Whilst the Editor has absolute discretion, the Club welcomes contributions to our magazine 'Shaft Drive Lines'. Emailed content is preferred to the [editor@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:editor@bmwmccact.org.au) or by @mail to:

The Editor, Shaft Drive Lines  
BMW MCCA ACT  
PO Box 4042  
WESTON CREEK ACT 2611

For emails, do not embed pictures or compress their size to less than 200 dpi.

## BMW MCCA ACT INCORPORATED RISK STATEMENT

**Participants in BMW MCCA ACT Incorporated (the Club) activities do so at their own risk as is obeying the law. The Club, Committee and members are not responsible for personal injury or loss arising from or through any Club activity. Remember your riding style impacts on the enjoyment and safety of other road users.**

**The opinions, articles and pictures published in this magazine are those of the individual writer and not the BMW MCCA ACT Incorporated, Editor or BMW Motorrad. Technical articles and other such information where provided is for use at the discretion of the individual and are not intended to detract from genuine BMW spares, service and warranty.**



<http://www.clubs.bmw.com.au/scripts/main.asp?PageID=12927>  
<http://www.bmw-clubs-international.com>

## PRESIDENT'S BANTER

Hi fellow members,

This is my last President's Banter as the Club has a new president to grip the Club's handlebars. Please welcome a familiar face, Garry Smee, to the top job, I am sure Garry will guide the Club as effectively as he has managed his previous roles as Editor and Ride Coordinator.

Please read the summary of the AGM discussions in this issue of SDL, which will be the last for several months, as we do not have an Editor. At the AGM we discussed options for the Club's communications and the short-term solution is to encourage members to utilise the Forum / Blog facility available on our website to post message, comments and ride reports.

Most of the committee positions have been filled with familiar faces, so there won't be much change in how we do things, but Garry will be encouraging you all to attend his favourite rallies.

I will be taking over the Social Secretary role from Steve Hay, who has left me with a pre-planned calendar. Thanks Steve you have done a great job for several years.

A new face on the committee is Wayne Higgins, who has put his hand up to manage the Blog posts, so make his job easier and actually send in those posts.

Whether you have just tried out some new equipment, test ridden a new bike or are planning a trip, put your fingers to the keyboard and let us all know your thoughts.

Lastly, I stated last month that now is the best riding time of the year and the weather has been near perfect for two-wheeled adventures. Clear skies, not too hot and fuel prices are at reasonable levels, is there any reason that you can't come to the next event?

To further encourage you all; have a read of our recent weekend ride through the Kosciuszko National Park to the Blue Water Holes campsite.

Ride Safely

Martin Robertson

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Roy Chamberlain & Fiona Cameron, R1200GS

Kyle Rollinson & Mary Jordon, R65LS

Phillip Cantwell & Cheryl Jackson, R1200S

*We look forward to meeting you on a ride or at a Club event*

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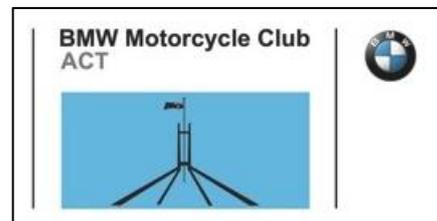
## WHAT'S ON

The Club webpage <http://bmwmccact.org.au> and 'What's On' tab details Club rides and activities, as does the [Ride Coordinator](#) by email to members. Do not forget an article and pictures of your ride for the magazine! Send those to the [Editor](#).

Date	Detail	Contact
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday each month	The Club has a ride to a nearby location for breakfast or brunch depending on the distance. A ride further afield often follows or you can return home with the group or make your own way.	Look on <i>What's On</i> or contact <a href="mailto:Social@bmwmccact.org.au">Social@bmwmccact.org.au</a>
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday each month	Club monthly meetings are held on the fourth Sunday at different locations. A BBQ breakfast from 0830 or lunch from 1200 (selected winter months) is available to members and visitors (\$5 for an egg & bacon roll and a coffee) beforehand and followed by a ride agreed on the day.	The President will advise the location by email and on the Club's website. Alternatively, you can contact the President directly at <a href="mailto:president@bmwmccact.org.au">president@bmwmccact.org.au</a> .
Riding events	Are listed on the <i>What's On</i> tab of the Clubs webpage <a href="http://bmwmccact.org.au">http://bmwmccact.org.au</a> and has the most up to date information. Periodic email reminders are sent to Club members. If you are planning on a ride and want company, then email the Ride Coordinator before hand with ride and contact details and he/she will send an email to members.	Contact the Ride Coordinator ( <a href="mailto:rides@bmwmccact.org.au">rides@bmwmccact.org.au</a> )
Social events	Are listed on the <i>What's On</i> tab of the Clubs webpage <a href="http://bmwmccact.org.au">http://bmwmccact.org.au</a> and has the most up to date information. Periodic email reminders are sent to members. If you are coming along or want to host a social event then email the Social Secretary of your attendance (for planning numbers) or details of your event and he/she will send an email to members.	Contact the Social Secretary ( <a href="mailto:social@bmwmccact.org.au">social@bmwmccact.org.au</a> )

## CLUB IDENTIFICATION

Looking for a sticker of the Club logo for your bike or badge to wear? Small Stickers \$0.50, large ones \$1.00 and enamel pin badges \$5.00. Send an email to [members@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:members@bmwmccact.org.au) to arrange for pickup or postage, delivery and payment.



## CLUB 2015 RIDE & SOCIAL CALENDAR



Do you want the Club to ride somewhere or do something in particular during 2015?

Then send your ride event or idea to [rides@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:rides@bmwmccact.org.au) or

Social event or idea to [social@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:social@bmwmccact.org.au).

## IMPROVING MEMBER RIDING SKILLS

One of the Club's objectives is to improve club members riding skills. In recent years, the Club has sponsored and organised rider skills training and motorcyclist first aid courses. This year the Committee has adopted a different approach where you book, pay and attend a selected rider-training program and on completion present your 'certificate' to the Treasurer who will reimburse you \$100 off the course cost. Sorry no reimbursement for travel, accommodation, meals or entertainment: only the training course.

The Committee has approved the following training providers and courses. If you find another one, please send the details to the [Committee@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Committee@bmwmccact.org.au) for consideration.

- [BMW Australia Off Road Rider Training](#), various locations,

- [Stay Upright ACT](#) @ Sutton,
- [Academy of Off Road Riding](#) @ Nelligen
- [Top Rider Motorcycle Rider Training](#) @ Marulan, (occasionally in Canberra, check the web).
- [California Superbike School \(Australia\)](#), various race track locations.

In anticipation of the massed enthusiasm, for 2014 the subsidy has a 20-member course cap. We will keep you up to date on where we are at and if you are concerned please email the [Treasurer@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Treasurer@bmwmccact.org.au) before booking your course.

The rules!

- You must be a current financial member of the BMWCCACT Inc. Yes, we will check.
- You must book, pay and attend a course with one of the rider training organisations listed above.
- You, having successfully completed your course send a copy of your course completion certificate to the [Treasurer@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Treasurer@bmwmccact.org.au) with your contact email and bank details, and
- The Treasurer, having validated your details will then reimburse you \$100 (maximum).
- You can claim only one reimbursement for this program cycle, April 2014 to February 2015 AGM.

### CLUB SPOT



The Club has purchased a SPOT personal (or group) GPS tracker for financial Club members' limited use.

**You will need to provide the response mobile phone number or email address that SPOT uses to communicate too. The Club will not be monitoring the SPOT or responding to any request for assistance.**

The Club member borrowing the SPOT is required to leave a refundable cash security deposit of \$50 and responsible for providing the four AAA batteries (if/as required).

The SPOT comes with instructions on its use and preformatted messages. You can read more about SPOT [here](#).

Contact Garry Smee [rides@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:rides@bmwmccact.org.au) before your next 'off grid' ride and let someone know where you are or help location if required.

### BMW MOTORCYCLE & PART RECALLS

Here is a list of recent BMW Motorcycle and motorcycle related product recalls listed on the ACCC Product Safety Recalls Australia website:

BMW Motorcycles: <http://www.recalls.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/952852>.

Motorcycle Parts & Accessories: <http://www.recalls.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/952853>.

Note: Not all importers choose to list their recalled motorcycle parts and accessories under this sub-heading, so a general search may be required ☹

### ACCESSING THE CLUB WEBSITE: YOUR ACCOUNT, LOGIN & EMAILS

You can select what emails you want to receive from the Club by logging in to your account and 'viewing your profile'. From here, you can edit personal details, describe yourself, bikes or interests and importantly select what communications you want to get from the club including ride notices, event announcements and the Club magazine *Shaft Drive Lines*. Some things you cannot deselect including membership notices like renewals and reminders.

If you are not getting emails, maybe it is because your account is full or locked or you have changed email providers. These are all within your control and need to be changed by you. Lost your password? Then send an email to the [web@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:web@bmwmccact.org.au).

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**EDITORS FILL**

Welcome to another month's SDL,

You will be reading this after the 2015 AGM and after 5 years of editing *Shaft Drive Lines* will be my last. If the Committee's pre-AGM deliberations hold true then we won't have an Editor meaning a hiatus in SDL and require a different method of communicating Club information, welcoming new members, reporting on motorcycling related stories and retelling rides taken and you missed out on. Fortunately *Wild Apricot* will help in some areas.

It is a fact that volunteer Clubs require volunteer Committees and ours is no different. With over 100 members we struggle to attract nominees for positions and actual elections are rare for any Committee position. Personally I think it unhealthy for a few multi-role Committee members to deliberate on what the wider Club wants; so why not consider volunteering that few hours a month required as a Committee member. The benefits outweigh not getting paid and include having first pick of riding destinations!

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as Editor and hope you members and other readers have enjoyed the Club newsletter as much as I did in putting it together, but now is the time to explore other roles on the Committee, if fortunate to be elected, as well as keeping on riding.

I close in thanking all those who contributed articles over my tenure as Editor and others who passed on words of encouragement.

Looking forward to meeting you on that next ride,

Garry Smee  
Editor & Ride Coordinator  
BMW Clubs Australia Delegate



**BMWCCACT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
MINUTES 21 MARCH 2015**

**Official BMW Club**

**BMW Motorcycle Club  
ACT**



1. **Location:** Canberra Irish Club, Weston
2. **Date:** 21 March 2015
3. **Meeting Opened:** 1515 (3.15pm), with 22 members per the record of attendance.
4. **Welcome:** The President Martin Robertson welcomed members to the BMW Motorcycle Club ACT Incorporated (the Club) 2015 Annual General Meeting.
5. **Apologies:** Bruce Barter, Dennis Littame, Garry Smee, Dave & Sue Morgan and Bill Brown before the meeting. Martin Gilbert, Rob Berry by others at the meeting.
6. **Presidents Report – Martin Robertson:** Martin provided a rundown of the Club's activities over the previous 12 months. 2014/15 has been a good year for the club, with membership decline levelling out, at 100 odd members. Activities included General Meeting Breakfasts, alternate breakfasts, a variety of rides and destinations, some rallies and get-togethers including Ian Bramston's induction as a "friend of the Marque" sponsored by the BMW ACT Car Club and supported by BMW Clubs Australia, BMW Group Australia and BMW Clubs International. These events attracted many members with the highlights being;
  - 6.1. The *BMW Clubs Australia National Motorrad Rally* at Lake Cargelligo NSW last October. More to be said in the Ride Coordinator's Report.
  - 6.2. Our Club hosted the Christmas-in-Winter at Marlo with the BMWCCVIC - a most successful dinner and lots of fun. This year it is the Victorians turn to host the event.
  - 6.3. The Club's 33rd *Kosciuszko Rally* with a good turnout, great weather and firmly at the old Geehi site.
  - 6.4. The Murrumbidgee GS ride last April, was greatly enjoyed by those that went.
  - 6.5. Many thanks to those that attended and especially to the organising teams. Especially Garry Smee (the rally king) without whose super effort the National Rally would not have been the success that it was. Also thanks to Dave & Sue Morgan, Bill Brown, Jane Smee, David Prest, Bob Ellison, Bruce Barter and Steve Hay for their assistance in making our rallies such a success.
  - 6.6. Not to be forgotten is the support that these people had from their spouses especially Jane Smee selected as our Club Person of the Year. Martin presented a very surprised Jane with the CPOY trophy in-part recognition of her support at the National Rally.
7. **Ride Coordinator's Report – Garry Smee:** Martin read out Garry's report as he was away at Lake Gardiner South Australia for the 2015 Dry Lakes Racers Australia Speed Week.
  - 7.1. 2014/15 year saw the Club fully embrace Wild Apricot as our operating platform and principle means of communicating with members. As Ride Coordinator, events are easily planned and posted with automated reminders sent to members as the event approaches and for those who register it provides a quick and easy medium for the ride/event leader to contact them. Looking forward it will become more important that members register for rides or events as this makes their organisation so much easier.
  - 7.2. The 2014/15 Club calendar had 77 general events including the following 'Club Events':
    - 7.2.1. 10 Monthly Meetings and breakfasts. These have proven very popular with members, as has the ad-hoc day ride after the meeting.
    - 7.2.2. 10 alternate breakfasts at regional eateries.

7.2.3. 7 day rides / events catering to the 10 - 500km/day rider and pillion.

7.2.4. 8 overnight rides, that included a scenic route or tour of a local attraction.

7.2.5. 1 multi-day ride from source to mouth of the Murrumbidgee River. Dave Morgan can rightly take the credit for planning this ride and found a mix of interesting and 'roads less travelled' to lead the group on this journey.

7.3. Two successful rallies:

7.3.1. Firstly, the *BMW Clubs Australia National Motorrad Rally* at Lake Cargelligo saw 72 riders and pillions from all the BMW Motorcycle Clubs other than Western Australia; a tyranny of distance. Highlights included donating \$500 to the Lake Cargelligo Hospital Auxiliary along with a \$250 for a Birko electric urn for the day surgery unit and to support fund raising events, not to mention the collectable multi-tool to early registrants. What's more, when the service station attendant comments on how busy the town is, you know that you have made an impact with the collective group filling the Lake Cargelligo Bowling Club for Saturday night's 'all you could eat' Chinese buffet. The rally was touched with tragedy when Ian Horsburgh, BMWTCNSW Editor, hit an emu on a private ride to Mount Hope to join Saturday's group lunch, dying later from his injuries.

7.3.2. The Club's *33rd Kosciuszko Rally* saw an improvement in numbers to recent years with 60 riders from as far as Newcastle and western Victoria attend. This is your Club Rally and accessed from sealed roads in some of the best riding country to be found in Australia. Why not make a commitment to come along in 2015 or help in its planning.

7.4. The Club Ride calendar reflects the interests of the persons who plan it. If you're not seeing a ride type or location that suits you, then why not let the Ride Coordinator know in person or by email or consider leading a ride yourself?

7.5. Finally, I take this opportunity to thank Dave Morgan for his planning the Murrumbidgee Ride; Jane Smee, David Prest & his wagon and others who offered their assistance at Lake Cargelligo and all those members who came along for the ride.

8. **Membership Secretary Report - Bruce Barter:** Although Bruce was in attendance, his report was read by the President as Bruce was unable to speak due to a throat infection.

Current membership totalled 120, with 95 active and 21 renewals overdue. 5 New and 9 renewals pending.

9. **Social Secretary Report - Steve Hay:** Sunday Breakfasts will continue this year on the first Sunday in the month and will be held at various spots around Canberra with the new Club Banner being displayed to assist members in locating the venue;

9.1. Christmas in Winter is on 20 & 21 June and will be organised this year by the Victorian club and held in the attractive Victorian town of Bright;

9.2. This year's Christmas Party will be held in a Canberra Restaurant TBA in November or December and we hope to get many members to attend; and

9.3. Steve finished off with his announcement that he would not be re-standing as a committee member this year due to increasing work commitments of his own.

10. **Treasurer's Report - Bob Ellison:** Bob tabled copies of the 2014-15 annual financial report for members to peruse if they wished that have been available on the Club website for some time. Included in the report were donations to Beyond Blue for \$250 and a further \$250 to the Royal Flying Doctor Service paid from monies raised at the *Kosciuszko Rally*.

10.1. The Club has also purchased fixed assets for the including a portable gas BBQ, Club Flag (which was on display at the meeting) and Spot GPS Tracking Device. The Spot Tracker is available to any club member undertaking a ride and has been used on several rides already.

11. **Editor's Report - Garry Smee:** Martin read out Garry's report. Gary has advised that he would not be standing for the position of Editor and suggested some possible alternatives for the club to discuss in the absence of any nominations:

- 11.1. Don't have an Editor and just have a committee person add stories from members who supply them;
  - 11.2. Change to a Quarterly Shaft Drive Lines instead of monthly issues;
  - 11.3. Use the Blog facility that is a part of the Wild Apricot website we already use so members can post articles and have discussions.
  - 11.4. Garry said that the Blog could be a good way to go as we all have access and it could be used for members to add their own stories, photos and reports for other members to comment on.
12. A possible downside is that whenever an entry was made, an email would be sent to all club members, which could annoy some people.
13. A discussion of the SDL or Blog options then ensued.
- 13.1. Jeannette Hahn suggested that Wild Apricot may be able to run a Digest of activity that would go out to members' weekly or monthly to alert members of the activities of the blog instead of having a notification each time someone contributes to the blog which was thought to be a great idea.
  - 13.2. Wayne Higgins volunteered to act as a Club Moderator for posts to be scrutinized for any potential issues.
  - 13.3. Brian Weir spoke generally about the idea of a Blog being used as an alternative of the Magazine/Newsletter. Brian also suggested that possibly we could pay someone to put together the magazine.
  - 13.4. Ian Hahn said that the Queensland magazine, which is still a printed issue, is quite substantial and does have members' contribution stories and photos as well as lots of advertisements which help to pay for the magazine's printing and mailing.
14. Martin spoke about the downside of these alternative magazines funded by Ads and thought that the Blog was worth a try as an alternative.
15. It was moved by Brian Weir and seconded by Jeannette Hahn that "Unless we have someone apply to be Editor, that a 3 month trial of the Blog Facility on Wild Apricot Club Website for club member contributions and chats would be used". It was also agreed that the Blog would have Wayne Higgins as the Club Moderator during its trial instead of a Monthly Magazine for a few months to see how it works.
16. Martin urged members to use the facility and to contribute stories, photos and content for others to read to make this a success.
17. A further suggestion to buy a second Spot Tracker was put forward and this was discussed, but with the current one sitting unused most of the time it was not deemed to be necessary at the moment and members were encouraged to take advantage of the Spot Tracker and use it.
18. The General Meeting was concluded and a break was taken before the AGM.
19. Martin then handed over the meeting to Public Officer Steve Hay.
20. **2013-14 AGM Minutes**, Steve Proposed that the minutes be accepted, seconded by Mike Kelly.
21. **2015-16 Club Committee (Election):** Steve then formally dissolved the 2014-15 Club Committee and advised members of nominations received and invited those present to nominate from the floor for election to the 2015-16 Committee. Following a closely fought election, Public Officer Steve Hay declared the results and BMWCCACT Incorporated committee for the 2015-16 Club year as:
- President, Garry Smee,
  - Vice President, David Prest,
  - Secretary, Martin Robertson,
  - Treasurer, Bob Ellison,
  - Ride Coordinator, Garry Smee
  - Webmaster, Garry Smee,
  - Editor, vacant, Wayne Higgins as Forum / Blog moderator,
  - Social Secretary, Martin Robertson,
  - Public Officer, appointed by the President, Steve Hay and
  - BMW Clubs Australia Delegate, appointed by the President, Garry Smee.

22. **AGM Business:** The Public Officer then put the following matters to members and voted on at the meeting;
- 22.1. That the audited 2014-15 Financial Statements be accepted. Proposed John Kemp; seconded Alison Gilbert; carried by show of hands.
  - 22.2. The Public Officer Steve Hay opened the floor for any new or additional General Business, and with none received, handed the meeting over to the incoming Secretary Martin Robertson.
23. **Meeting Closed:** With no further business and until the 2015 AGM, the Secretary Martin Robertson, thanked everyone for attending and declared the BMWCCACT 2015 AGM closed at 1720 (5.20pm).

## OUT WITH THE OLD AND IN WITH THE NEW

*Bruce Barter, R80RT / R1150GS / R1200GS*

I have been fiddling around and playing with a 1986 R80RT that I got last year, fitting new steering head bearings, new fork seals and a full LED headlight and tail light conversion from Ray Peake in QLD. A great source of help and knowledge via the Air Head Facebook site if you are ever stuck near Brisbane. I got new tyres and had good rides to Broadford and our BMW Motorrad Rally at Lake Cargelligo last year.

Over the Christmas School holidays, which I get as a high school teacher I had a few other chances to ride both my R1150GS and the R80RT and decided eventually that the R80 would need to go and just go back to one bike. I sold the R80RT to a guy from the coast and he is now a happy chappy.

Unfortunately when I was in Canberra I made the mistake of having a ride on Rolfe's demo 2014 R1200GS Wassa Boxer. Sales Executive Michael Andrews warned me that if I rode one I would want one. He offered me quite a good deal but no GPS and only the remainder of the new bike warranty. It did make me think seriously.

Well I lasted 6 weeks before I weakened and went to Albury to confirm the trade for my 1999 R1150GS that has 125,000kms on it. A \$3,500 trade was not good enough as they did not really want it so I did a no trade deal which saw a better price and a Navigator GPS thrown in by BMW as it was a 2014 model. The 2015 has a Quick Shifter for gear changes and a key-less ignition but is dearer.

When I got home after signing the paperwork on the deal I listed my R1150GS on Ebay for \$4750 and it sold within 3 hours. The chap from Newcastle paid via PayPal and has just collected it 2 weeks after the sale. He came down to Wagga Wagga on the train and I met him at 2:37am. He stayed in my Man Cave overnight in fine comfort (ask Martin about my shed). After breakfast, paper work for transferals and a fine flat white coffee I rode with him from Wagga Wagga to the Hume Highway and bid him a fond farewell.

The new R1200GS has all bells and whistles, full electronics package and Vario panniers.



I sourced and fitted the head light guard, radiator guards, a big foot for the side stand, crash bars as well as adventure rider foot pegs from [www.Motorradgarge.com.au](http://www.Motorradgarge.com.au) at a much better price than the optional BMW ones and fitted them myself.

I am still to fit the Crash bars as I have had to buy a set of Torx head spanners to do the job but will hopefully have them on this weekend.

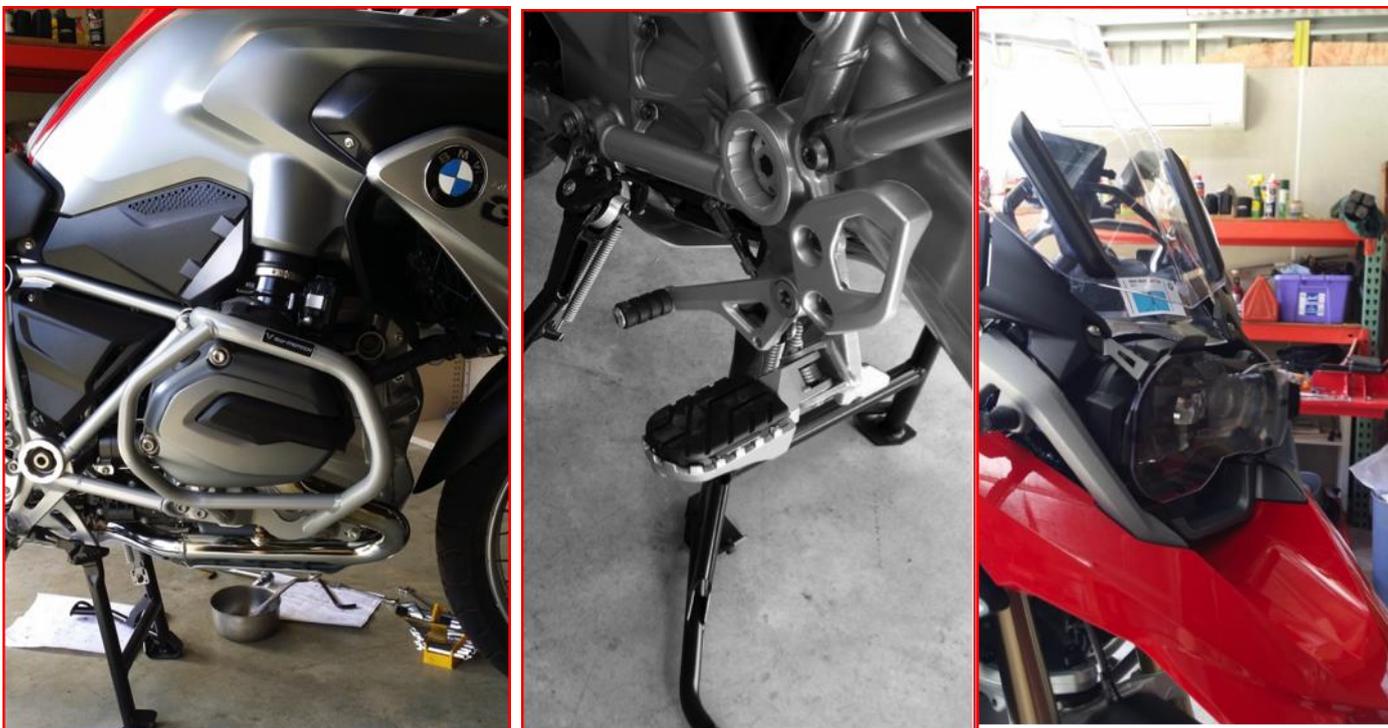
The only thing I can criticize with the new bike is the increased engine clatter but other than that it is **AWESOME!!!!**

The new manually adjustable screen is also a vast improvement over past standard items with no buffeting.

Great light clutch and throttle action and the exhaust note is great too.

Looking forward to getting to many more rides this year and riding to work has been fun. I am only 2 1/2 kms from my school and so far have done a 60, 100 and a 35km ride to get home after knock off. I wont use the cruise control until I have about 1000km on it as I want to do a proper and careful engine run in.

This will probably be my last new bike so I am going to make it last.



*What every new Beemer owner does, add farkles. (L-R) The all important engine guards, larger foot pegs (for that all-important attack stance on the dirt), and headlight protector, you don't want to know the price of a replacement headlight. Bruce has also added an enlarged side stand foot, handy for the soft ground.*



*I only went to have a look...really.*

## 15<sup>TH</sup> COLD FLAME RALLY, 2015

Garry Smee, F800GS

The *Cold Flame* is held on the banks of the Pinch River and Barry Way about 62km's south of Jindabyne; the last 32 are on dirt readily ridden by any bike provided you allow for the occasional slippery spot and increasingly convoys of 4WD's. Riding down to Adaminaby via the Bobeyan Road and returning via Jerangle meant a good mixture of dirt and bitumen. Click [here](#) for map.

NSWTC member Rob Lovett (project R80GS) and I left Canberra and clear and mild Autumn skies and once on Bobeyan rode had the benefit of a 4WD give us the raised finger as he proceeded the other way well over the centreline; hi and thanks to you mate – not.

Turning onto the Snowy Mountains Hwy we passed an ambulance and then NSWHP going the other way to Kiandra to attend we found later a motorcyclist going to the rally that had missed a corner and gone over the edge and down an embankment, with the (later) reported result of a broken leg. Other riders were forced off the road coming into the rally by other 4WDs and Rally organiser, past President and now Victorian resident Bob Coleman came across another missed-corner rider on his way home. Bob used his SPOT to call for assistance and eventually supported by two helicopters, one ambulance and Police on scene. You can read more on the Adventure Rider [forum](#).

Quite often the same rally crowd attend and this year was no different with some 98 badges sold (of ~120 attending) with proceeds (PS: \$1219.15) going to *Motor Neurone Disease Research*. Club member Steve Murray was also there having last crossed paths at the BMWTCNSW *Karuah River Rally* on his way to the Sunshine Coast and appointment with a largely spent, but plenty wet cyclone Marcia.

Those who enjoy close neighbours or live in apartments chose to camp along the creek banks, whilst others including me that enjoy more space chose to set up camp further up on the flats. With the housekeeping sorted it was time to wander by other camps to see who had come from where, riding what and compare cooking techniques, equipment and food preferences.

Under clear skies we enjoyed the New Moon before joining a keen midnight swimmer from the banks of the Pinch make a knee-deep excursion into the water. With air temps in the low teens and river in the single digits, it did not take long for the would-be swimmer to have a change of heart.

With a Sunday night BBQ, I was on the road by 0830; this stretch of the Barry Way rises from 250m to 894m ASL at the Wallace Craige lookout and offers a steady climb with spectacular views.

My return ride from Numeralla to Jerangle, Captains Flat, Queanbeyan and home started with a misplaced route and failure of my inertia-guidance system – left the map at home- but saw me ride some new and untraveller roads. Another great weekend of riding and company, so why not give it a go.



*Camping at the Pinch River is as relaxing as it gets. Grass, trees and swimming with basic amenities.*

## THE TAIL LIGHT

*Having difficulty in putting fingers to the keyboard or finding the words to accompany your riding picture? Well then, this is the section just for you. Send your picture to the [Editor@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Editor@bmwmccact.org.au) along with your name and a caption. If that is too hard, then your picture will go in without credit!*

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Dear (Editor) Garry,

I'm down here in Victoria at Lorne attending a scientific conference. <http://www.lornegenome.org>

This year I decided to come down on the bike, via Cooma, the Mornington Peninsula including a ferry trip from Sorrento to Queenscliff and taking in the first stretch of the Great Ocean Road to the coastal resort town of Lorne. My way back will be more direct, through Albury.

They're running a little photo competition here at the conference, involving the wearing of a lab coat in all sorts of other life pursuits. So someone took my picture outside the hotel entrance on my motorbike.

I thought I share it with you in case you are looking for material for the club newsletter.

All the best, Thomas Preiss

(February 2015)

