

BMW Club

April
2005

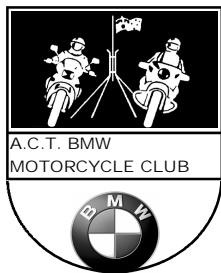
Shaft Drive Lines



ACT BMW MotorCycle Club Inc.

Member of the International Council of BMW Clubs





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'Shaft Drive Lines' – April 2005 – Volume 25 No.3

Meetings:

When: 7.45 pm, fourth Monday of each month except for AGM. See below

Where: Italo Australian Club, 78 Franklin St FORREST

Next Meeting: Annual General Meeting Monday 4 April 2005

Membership:

Membership fee is \$40 per year. A small joining fee applies to new members and includes your membership badge. A membership form appears in the back pages of this magazine, or you can obtain one by writing to :

The Membership Secretary
ACTBMWMCC
PO Box 1042 WODEN ACT 2606

Please advise the Membership Secretary
of changes to your contact details.

Activities:

Club runs and social events are detailed in the *What's On* page in this magazine. The Club endeavours to have at least one organized run per month. Suggestions for runs and activities are welcome to the Ride Coordinator or the Social Secretary.

Every effort is made to make the information on the *What's On* page accurate but changes to meeting times and places etc can occur between publication dates. Members will be reminded of rides, activities and general information by email. If your email address has been changed or your box is full, we can't contact you, so advise the Ride Coordinator of changes to your contact details. The most up-to-date information will be posted on our website <http://www.actbmwmcc.org.au>

Participants in Club activities are advised and reminded that they do so at their own risk and are fully responsible for their own riding. Please obey the law at all times and ride with your safety and the safety of others in mind.

Charity Support:

This club proudly supports the Cardio-Thoracic Unit of The Canberra Hospital.

Web Site:

<http://www.actbmwmcc.org.au>

Check the web site for updates of rides and social events.

About 'Shaft Drive Lines':

Relevant Contributions to this Club Journal are most welcome, and should be directed to the Committee at any general meeting, or posted to:

The Editor, Shaft Drive Lines
ACTBMWMCC
PO Box 1042
WODEN ACT 2606

or email to editor@actbmwmcc.org.au

The deadline 10 days is before the next meeting. All disks & photos etc. will be returned upon request.

Articles and photos sent as attachments to be in Word format or JPEG format respectively. Please keep photos separate and do not embed them in your document. When you send attachments to emails please use the alternative address: editoractbmwmcc@yahoo.com.au

Disclaimer:

The opinions published in this Club Journal are those of the individual correspondents, and are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the ACT BMW Motor Cycle Club Inc.

Technical articles, and other such information where provided, are for use at the discretion of the individual members, after warranty, and are not intended to detract from genuine BMW spares or accessories.

Privacy of Club Member Information

The Club is aware that privacy of personal information is an issue of growing concern and for that reason has a declared policy as regards *Privacy* and *Spam*.

Details of the Club's policy were given in our May 2004 Newsletter

Any members who have queries should contact the Club President in the first instance, or alternatively, raise these issues at the Club's monthly meeting.

This month's cover:

Claire, Leena, Sue, Alison, Pam & Fiona try out the new R1200RT's and R1200ST's at Bungendore.

(Ed: they insisted on being the cover girls)

The Presidential Hooah



By the time you read this Easter will have come and gone and we will be thinking about putting the linings back in our jackets – well some of us will. I loved the ride to work the other day in the pouring rain – had a bit of a slide on some of that new pedestrian line marking – very exciting and more dry cleaning. But it has been a great break what with Canberra Day and Easter back-to-back to provide some extra leave. I haven't heard too many new ride reports of late. I guess the proximity of the two holidays and associated festivities have provided other opportunities.

I did hear from Mark Edwards that a small group from the club covered many kms on some nice back roads over the long weekend up to Gulgong and back. We had planned a ride down to Bright for the Canberra Day weekend but as we didn't have any starters this did not proceed. Bright is a lovely place to stay for both the riders and pillions with lots of interesting shops, wineries and other tourist attractions and there are some great roads to get there and back with lots of twisty bits. We will have to try for later in the year perhaps. Our next major ride is on the ANZAC Day long weekend, an overnigher to Buchan caves which I understand was a regular destination for the club in the past. This ride will also give the gravel surfers an opportunity to practice their craft on some of the other roads in the area.

One recent highlight was getting to sample the new R1200 RT and R1200 ST at the conclusion of the Ulysses AGM. Due to the good work that Colin Ward and John McKinnon and other club volunteers did to assist BMW with their participation with the event, we were allowed to ride some of the demo bikes out to breakfast. Wow you can really notice the difference. The new 1200 motor and gearbox is a lovely combination and they really perform with 110 PS on tap and significantly less weight to carry. The ergonomics are also very nice with plenty of adjustability, plus other creature comforts like cruise control and heated seats!

Well the AGM is upon us again. Most of the existing Committee will be happy to stay on but do give us a few nominations for the night as well and come along and give us some feedback on how we are going and what you might like to see the club do for you and other members. I won't be staying on, so would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank the Committee for their past efforts. They have been a hard working group of volunteers who have the best interests of the club in mind. It has been a pleasure working with them.

We discussed a number of other events we would like to try again, including a club technical day (we need someone to volunteer their bike so we can dismantle a few bits – perhaps one of the K1200 LTs) and an invitation ride and bar-b-q - like we arranged for the 80th anniversary - to see if we can get a few BMW riders (not necessarily members) out with their old bikes. For rides we were thinking of an overnigher in Tumbarumba and also perhaps up Berry/Nowra/Jamberoo way.

Anyhow enough from me finally, get your leg over, and come on out for a ride and a chat.

Safe riding
Peter

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Welcome to recent new members:

Arne Andersen—F650GS
Richard and Ellen Blackwell—K100RT
Walter Burgstaller and Lisa Lennox—
K1200RS and Yamaha Virago
Daryl and Trina Hancock—K1100LT
Ian and Michelle Jones—R1150RT
Graham and Linda Marwick—R1200GS
and Suzuki GS1000
David and Glenda Twemlow—K750S
and Honda GL1500SE
John White—R100RT
Ray Berketta—R1100S
Gareth Eley and Bianca Redden—
R1100GS
Graeme Carey and Patricia Van
Steenwyk—R1100S, Yamahas 250
and 400
Colin Dickson—R1150R
Dallas Lamson—R1000GS, Honda
VFR800 and Vespa 125
Greg Moores—K100



What's On - Rides, Events & Meetings

- **Annual General Meeting is on Monday 4 April 2005, at the Italo-Australian Club, Forrest**
- **Membership renewals—if you haven't yet done so—are now overdue**

As Easter Monday is the 4th Monday of the month, there is no meeting in March. The AGM will be held on Monday 4th April 2005 at the Italo-Australian Club, Forrest

April 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May 2005

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- Alternative Sunday breakfast— Royal Hotel, Gundaroo
- Annual General Meeting 7.45 pm, Italo-Australia Club, Forrest
- Chomp and Chat—Turk'Oz Pide House, Shop 6, 26 Challis Street, Dickson at 6.30 pm
- BMW Owners Ride and Barbecue. Meet at Old Parliament House at 10.30 am
- Committee Meeting
- 23—25 Weekend trip to Buchan Caves
- General Meeting, Italo—Australia Club, Forrest (note this is on **Tuesday** night)

- Alternative Sunday Breakfast - to be advised
- Chomp and Chat = tba
- Mothers Day Ride to Araluen
- Committee Meeting
- MRA Blanket Run
- General Meeting, Italo-Australia Club, Forrest 7.45 pm

It may be starting to get cool in the mornings ... but it's a great time of the year in Canberra, so all the more reason for a brisk ride on a Sunday morning, followed by a hot breakfast, coffee or hot chocolate

So ... join us at the Arté Café, Bungendore -

Every Sunday morning, with an optional 'special' ride/breakfast on the first Sunday of each month. Make your own way, or depart Shell Gateway Service Station, Mitchell, or 'Red Rooster' (top end of Queanbeyan), at 8.30am

More What's On

3 April - Alternative Sunday Breakfast

9.30am at the Royal Hotel, Gundaroo. Meet at the usual places at 8.30 am.

4 April - Annual General Meeting

7.45pm at the Italo—Australian Club, Forrest.

6 April - Chomp and Chat

Something a bit different this month; it's Turk'Oz at shop 6, 26 Challis Street Dickson at 6.30pm. RSVP to Leah McKinnon by 1 April 2005.

9 April - BMW Owners ride & barbecue

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the GS, all BMW owners are invited to come along on a ride and barbecue sponsored by our club. Leave from Old Parliament House at 10.30am.

23—25 April—ANZAC Day weekend

Weekend trip to Buchan caves. Buchan Caves is inland from Orbost in Victoria and was a favoured destination for the club in past years.

See gippsland.com/web/ParksVictoriaBuchanCaves/ for more info. It will also lead to an accommodation link which will give you an idea of what is on offer other than camping at the caves.

Buchan is on the Victorian end of the Barry Way which should suit the dirt riders.

If you are interested in this weekend, please contact John McKinnon as soon as possible.

Tuesday 26 April - General Meeting

The first meeting with the new committee.

1 May - Alternative Sunday Breakfast

To be advised—but most likely at Captain's Flat

4 May - Chomp and Chat—to be advised.

8 May - Mothers Day ride and lunch

Put mum on her bike or on the back of the bike and bring her along for a lovely ride to Araluen and a casual lunch at a local venue. More details in the next newsletter.

14 May - Blanket Run

The annual MRA Blanket Run leaves from Old Parliament House at 10am. Last year we won the trophy for the best club attendance so let's make it two in a row and support a worthy cause. Donations of blankets, money and non-perishable food most welcome.

Editor's apologies for his error in omitting mention of the BMW Clubs Nationals at Stanthorpe over Easter.

23 May - General Meeting

7.45pm Italo-Australia Club, Forrest

25 June - Christmas in June

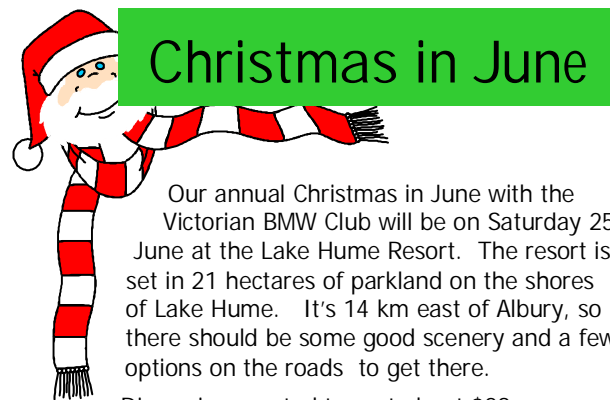
See below for details.

Stay Upright Masters Courses —

Stay Upright are running two courses (9/10 April and 18/19 June) which consist of 3 hours theory in the evening and a full day under supervision on the track.

These are excellent courses for those that would like to refresh their bike/road skills and to learn and practice new skills. The course is also great value at \$110. (Half normal cost through a subsidy by the ACT Govt and the NRMA)

Phone 6241-3963 for bookings



Christmas in June

Our annual Christmas in June with the Victorian BMW Club will be on Saturday 25 June at the Lake Hume Resort. The resort is set in 21 hectares of parkland on the shores of Lake Hume. It's 14 km east of Albury, so there should be some good scenery and a few options on the roads to get there.

Dinner is expected to cost about \$28 per person with drinks at bar prices.

On site accommodation is in cottages (BYO bed and bath linen or hire it from the resort) or motel style. Prices range from about \$92 per night for a 3 bedroom cottage up to \$180 per night for something more ritzy and about \$92 for the motel. The resort is offering a 15% discount if there are more than 30 people. Please book your own accommodation direct with the resort and mention that you're part of the BMW Motorcycle group.

For more details on the resort see:

www.lakehumeresort.com.au

Email: reservations@lakehumeresort.com.au

Phone (02) 6026 4444

Fax (02) 6026 4572

We had a great time last year with the friendly Victorians, so come along and enjoy a mid-winter Christmas.

If you're interested in going to the dinner, please contact Pam on 6255 8045 or email editorl@actbmwmcc.org.au

The Vice Report

I haven't really thought about the year that was as there seems to be so much to do today. I haven't been on a lot of trips this year but there were a couple of memorable ones. The ranges ride to Queensland was the highlight for me. I had never been on many of the roads between here and the Queensland border. I still remember a sign on the Oxley Highway from Walcha to Port Macquarie which read "88kms of winding road". At the time I was behind Warren Gilchrist. Wow!

The weather for the Geehi weekend was kind to us this year and the roads and company most enjoyable. The Christmas in July to Corowa was great and the distance just about right for a weekend away. I noticed that the Victorian Club is keen to pursue this option and have suggested Lake Hume Resort. (See details in *What's On*.) The Christmas party at the Botanical Gardens was one of the best in the 6 or so years I have been a member of the Club.

How do we top this I hear you ask? We'd love to hear from you if you have any ideas. And there must be plenty of you who do, as we seem to have many of the same faces at all of these events. Now is your opportunity to be part of the management of the Club; there are a number of positions on the committee which will be declared vacant. The committee meetings and social activities are lots of fun; no real work around except for possibly the Editor, Secretary and Treasurer, all of whom have put their hands up for a second term.

A few of us had a wonderful opportunity during the Ulysses AGM to assist BMW with the test rides for the new R1200RT and the R1200ST. Both bikes are fabulous, especially the ST which replaces the R1150RS and is at least two generations ahead of its predecessor. I was fortunate to get the last ride on an R1200 GS and I have to say this is my preferred option. What a great time to be considering a new bike. In addition to these bikes there is the K1200S which, after a couple of teething problems, is due for release in Australia in the next couple of months.

I would like to thank Mac McMath and Cameron Cuthill from BMW Motorrad for providing the opportunity to ride these new bikes, especially on the Sunday morning out to Bungendore; (well actually the ride was from Natex to the Crowne Plaza.) Thanks guys!

On the Saturday at the Ulysses AGM, I was fortunate enough to catch-up with Shirley Hardy-Rix and Brian Rix, the authors of the recent book *Two for the Road*. I have since been in touch with Shirley and she will let me know when they are able to do a presentation at one of our meetings. They will bring books for sale which can be autographed as required. More about this in a future issue.

One more thing before I close, indications are that the next Safari will be in July/August 2006 and could be to North Queensland. I would like to make this a 'serious' club event and propose that we promote the Safari accordingly (making sure everyone who is going knows about the arrangements).

Thanks for your support of the committee for the past year and I would like to wish the next committee all the best and seek continued support for them.

Too many roads and now too many new Beemers to choose from.

Colin Ward

I'd like to leave you with a word from Kath and Kim: "Epponnee, stop whinging Epponnee, it's Mummy's turn..."



TJ's Tyres
Touring
Competition

**TJ's Competition
is now closed!**

All entries have been closely scrutinised, obvious forgeries, digital enhancements, etc. excluded, and points tallied.

WE HAVE A WINNER!
(to be announced at the AGM)

Previous issues have contained details of a proposed Club group tour of New Zealand in Feb/March 2006 by shipping our bikes using the services of 'Get Routed'

Not able to go to NZ in 2006?
... the rumour is that the next BMW Safari will be in North Queensland in July/August 2006.

NZ

2006

?

If you intend to go as part of our group, and nominate our own shipping dates, please contact John McKinnon by 1 April 2005.

Not a bad time of the year to be out of the ACT and in Nth Qld?

Good to go as a Club group, so pencil that period in on your calendar NOW!

Airheads Ride Schedule: April /May/June 2005

Airheads is a group of motorcycle enthusiasts who ride to different destinations in the district weekly or fortnightly depending on the season. The schedule includes short Saturday rides suitable for older Airheads alternating with longer rides and overnights more suitable for modern machines.

Where: All Airheads rides start from the Ampol Servo, cnr Federal Highway and Antill St. WATSON

When: Departure time: **April 9.00am - May 9.30am - June 10.00am**

Contacts: Peter Robleski - 0407 280 477

Saturday April 2: Harden

Ride to Harden via Barton Hwy, Bowning and Binalong -breakfast/morning tea at the "Ironhorse Café". Return to Canberra via Boorowa and the Barton Hwy.

Or

Tumut (overnight stay)

Ride to Tumut via Cooma, Adaminaby, Talbingo – overnight stay and return via Gundagai, Cootamundra, Harden, etc.

Saturday April 16: Weston Creek

Ride to Weston Creek via Federal Hwy, Majura Road, Monaro Hwy, Tharwa, Tidbinbilla Road, the Cotter and Uriarra Crossing. Breakfast/morning tea at Weston Creek and then select your route to return home.

Saturday April 30: Gunning

Ride to Gunning via Collector and Breadalbane, breakfast/ morning tea at Gunning; back to Canberra via Gundaroo and Sutton.

Saturday May 14: Bungendore

Ride via Barton Hwy, Murrumbateman and Bungendore Roads, (optional extended ride on to Tarago and to the Kings Hwy and back to Bungendore). Breakfast/morning tea at Bungendore and return via Kings Hwy, Queanbeyan, Sutton Road and then onto Canberra.

Saturday May 28: Goulburn/Crookwell

Ride to Crookwell via Bungendore, Tarago and Goulburn. Breakfast/morning tea at Goulburn. (optional ride to Crookwell and return). Return on to Canberra via Gunning and Gundaroo.

Or

Burrinjuck Dam via Yass Bowning and Illalong Road

Saturday June 11: Uriarra and Tidbinbilla

Ride to Uriarra, Cotter and Tidbinbilla Tracking Station. Morning tea at Moonrock Café and return via Tharwa and Conder.

Saturday June 25: Boorowa

Ride to Boorowa via Bowning and Binalong, breakfast/morning tea at the Clocktower Café; back to Canberra via direct route (Lachlan Valley Way and Barton Hwy).

* Airheads rides are also approved ACT Vintage Veteran and Classic club rides. This schedule can also be seen on the web at www.actbmwmcc.org.au. Note that rides may be changed by general agreement. Oilheads and Waterheads welcome!

The boys' days out

New bikes and who's to ride them? Your hardworking committee!

A couple of weeks ago, BMW Motorrad Australia asked the Club if we could help with their bike display at the Ulysses AGM site at Exhibition Park in March. The task? To provide some escort riders for those doing test rides on BMW's brand new bikes. BMW actually said they wanted "some reliable, sensible, trustworthy people who can handle a BMW motorcycle. Basically pillars of the community with bike prowess." The committee knew exactly what BMW was looking for, people just like themselves and had no hesitation in volunteering.

Three volunteers were required every day from Tuesday to Saturday from 9 to 5 to be lead and tail riders for the test riders on the circuit along the Federal Highway, Horse Park Drive and Flemington Road.

While BMW had a K1200R and a R1200GS on display, the focus was on the new arrivals—the R1200RT and the R1200ST—which were available to the Ulyssians for test riding.

The RT's were particularly popular with the test riders, although all those who test rode the ST's, (often when available rides on the RT's were booked-out), were very impressed. Our volunteer test ride 'escorts' rode a pair of ST's and were all smiles.

On Sunday morning Mac McMath, BMW's National Motorcycle Manager had asked for extra helpers to ferry the bikes back to the city. As a sweetener (not that one was needed) the riders could take the long way back to town via Mac's Reef Road to Bungendore to show the bikes to those having breakfast at the Arte Café. Luckily nobody was hurt when an idiot in a four wheel drive without stopping or looking, pulled out right in front of the group on the way.

Quite a few jaws dropped as twelve brand new bikes roared (gently) into the carpark which soon resembled an outdoor bike showroom. Each model was sat on, inspected and admired. The test riders freely offered their opinions too. Mac joined us for breakfast and had a chance to meet some more members. Anyway, with the bikes checked out and breakfast eaten it was time to head back to town to drop off the bikes off ready for the dealers to see the following day. The keys were reluctantly handed back to Mac and it was time to get back on the "old faithfuls" and work out how best to tell the spouses that it was time to get a new bike!



... at the Ulysses AGM in Canberra



Colin Brammall leading out a group of test riders on new RTs and ST's



A great paint job on a K100 — you need to see this photo in our on-line newsletter to appreciate just how colourful!



On the oval at Dickson after the Ulysses AGM's Grand Parade through Canberra's streets.



We admired the engineering and the quality workmanship of this R1200CL to Trike conversion

Equipment Report

Murray Parker gives us the run down his latest purchases

I began commuting on my bike about two years ago. Many workplaces in Canberra cater for motorcycle parking, which makes it convenient and with a travelling time of about 20-25 minutes it's a good run for the bike too. I have over the years, collected a varied inventory of good riding apparel, which has served me well on many long distance journeys. Most of it though is geared toward the colder months, so when the weather started to warm up last November, my pleasurable commutes started to resemble steam baths! Even worse, I was only getting a day's use out of my undies instead of the usual week.....wot...?!!!!!!!?? Anyway, those who went will recall that last year's Toy Run was a particularly hot day. Ray and Louise Coxon turned up with their latest purchases of the RJays Supervent Jacket. I was so impressed; I bought the company.....well, at least a jacket exactly the same (only different)! I've been riding with it now since then, so thought I'd report some feedback, just in case others are looking for something similar too.



you tend not to take it off for those short stops, as you would be inclined to do with heavier jackets. It's a real winner.

I also purchased a pair of similar make pants, but these were from DriRider. I can't remember the name exactly, as it's not written on the tag and I can't find the receipt, but if you ask for "mesh" or "vent" pants, you should be OK. These are great too. They're not as bulky as my winter pants (even with me in them!) and the air gets around to all the right places on the move. They also have padding in the usual spots and while maybe not as strong as winter duds, they are better than jeans, trackydacs or the shorts I saw a bloke wearing the other day (luckily not a Club member).

I worried about spending the money on MORE riding gear that I may not get the use out of due to Canberra being mostly a cold place. But let me tell you, these things have paid for themselves in comfort many times over, and I've only had them about 4 months. Last weekend just gone, I went on a trip to The Entrance and back and it was 32°C!!! For about \$150 each, I figured these items were a good buy. You can get them most anywhere I suppose. I bought mine at Joe's in Fyshwick – no, I'm not a "spotter's fee"!

Safe riding and stay cool.

It's fairly new to the market and consists of a cordura and kevlar manufacture with lots of strong mesh panels that let the air flow through. It comes complete with removable liner, is nice and light, is pretty well equipped with body armour and pads in all the right places, is of a fashionable design (most important) and has a Gucci mobile phone pocket! Oh yeah....and it works too! It was even OK on some of the cooler mornings, like the one to Marulan for breakfast a couple of weeks ago, but as soon as it starts to warm up, you're glad you're wearing it. It comes in Red, Blue, Yellow (pick me!) and I think Black too. They are very comfortable and

'Four Devonshire Teas Please'

Canberra Day. A long weekend for the Nation's capital. Normally weekends, even long weekends, don't mean a real lot to me. However, there is one weekend a month where I have to fulfil my elected duties as editor. Between haranguing people for content and then rushing the disk off to the printer, I have the weekend to sit in front of the computer and put your newsletter together. This month my newsletter weekend was also the long weekend.

Mark Edwards several weeks ago floated the idea that seeing as we have the time and NSW roads shouldn't be too busy, we should go for a SERIOUS ride and tackle some of the best bike roads in the State – suggesting going through Goulburn and onto the Putty Road, staying somewhere around Gloucester/Dungog and next day doing Thunderbolt's Way & The Oxley Highway. This was an irresistible temptation and of course I signed up.

As the weekend approached Mark had four starters, ourselves plus Peter Oliver and Peter Horsburgh (Hoss), with Fiona coming along for the first leg. By the Friday evening the weather forecast for our intended destination was looking definitely dodgy. A phone conference determined that we didn't fancy riding those roads nor camping in the rain, so Plan B was invoked, i.e. head north but stay to the west of the ranges ... and NO frequent latte stops for us.

Early Saturday morning, with the 1150GS loaded, I took my usual city by-pass from Jerrabomberra, via Majura road and Gungahlin to the Hall lay-by. Problem 1: mud on the bike as a result of construction work out Gungahlin way. Had to explain that away as I'm under a strictly (Pam) enforced 'no-unsealed roads' ban.

The five of us had an easy run up the highway and on to our first stop at Boorowa. Some gravel on the road due to roadworks, but I explained to Fiona that Pam allows small unavoidable exceptions. It's more a question of 'intent'. We found the bakery and a cafe and after a short break Fiona headed back to Canberra and we were on the road to Canowindra via Frogmore, Wyangala Dam and Woodstock. Great roads and very little traffic. A fuel stop, then on to Orange for lunch. The afternoon took us on to Mumbil, Wellington and then to our destination, Gulgong, mostly on minor roads, but all great riding.

A somewhat noisy stay overnight at the Henry Lawson Caravan Park – Mark did say that there was very little traffic at night? -- with perfect weather on the Sunday. After a traditional breakfast, on Peter's suggestion, we visited the Gulgong Museum. Highly recommended, as they have a very large and interesting collection. We were particularly interested in trying to figure out the operation of an engine in the collection - a flat twin used to directly drive the axle of a 1906 buggy.

(or ... 'Why Your Newsletter is Late')

Enough with the tourism!

On via a back road to Mudgee for a fuel stop and expensive lunches all round, (certainly expensive for sandwiches and milkshake/cokes). Out of Mudgee we headed to Rhyllstone and

then on to a brief stop at Sofala before going on to Bathurst. As it was the first time I'd been up this way I had to decide between sightseeing and 100% concentration on riding. Loved the countryside around Mudgee and onwards, so 'sightseeing' was my excuse for consistently lagging at the rear of our group. With rain forecast for Canberra on Monday afternoon we decided we didn't want to be too far from home, so it was to Cowra for our second night – at the 'Cowra Van Park'.

Unfortunately the Cowra Hotel doesn't do breakfasts any more, but we found our way to the Rose Gardens Cafe and one of us (not named) tackled a 'big breakfast' (chips included) that would rival that of the Central Cafe in Queanbeyan.

From Cowra we headed to Young (via Greenthorpe) and then to Boorowa for a final stop before heading home.

And the Devonshire teas?

At Boorowa the 'usual' pub/cafe still wasn't open, so I suggested we try the Courthouse tea rooms. The scones came highly recommended, so it was Devonshire teas all round. Absolutely no lattes for us!

With the weather threatening, it was home before the showers arrived. I covered 1100+ kms and it was my first experience of some really great roads. In all, a very enjoyable weekend in good company and I look forward to doing it again—and it was all on the bitumen!

... and that's why your newsletter is late.





We haven't done much gravel surfing recently but the ride to Cold Flame Rally held on the Barry Way covered some great dirt roads.

Timo and I set off Tharwa at 8.30 planning to have a leisurely ride to the rally. The ride through Namadgi Park was uneventful but we hit the first of the rain for the day with a light drizzle settling the dust for us. We soon reached Cooma but didn't stop and continued on to our lunch destination of Delegate. About 10kms out of Cooma I noticed that my tent had parted company with my bike - bummer!! Worse still I hadn't checked it since the start of the dirt road way back in Namadgi National Park.

Timo continued on and I back tracked in search of the missing tent. I covered the 70kms back to tar in Namadgi without finding it. I knew that if I headed home for the spare tent I may not leave again so decided to at least do the ride. If it was fine at the rally site I would stay, if not I could still head for home.

The run to Delegate was uneventful after I was soon onto McKillop's Bridge road. I also have to mention the quality of the Bonang Highway which runs from Delegate to Orbost. The short stretch I covered after Delegate was superb and the rest of the road is meant to be of similar quality. There is over 100 kms of corners making it a great way to travel to the Victorian coast. There is only about 15kms of excellent gravel and the rest is tar - keep it in mind for you next trip down that way.

The McKillop's Bridge road was in great condition. My timing was a bit off however as a storm passed through whilst I was covering the 10kms before McKillop's Bridge itself. The road surface was mostly gravel so the going was okay. Fortunately the sky cleared just as I got to the bridge providing a good opportunity for a short rest.

The road after leaving the bridge had more clay than gravel and was pretty slippery but it soon dried out and I quickly reached the Barry Way.

I then had about 60kms of great road and scenery as I wound my way through the ranges and then along the banks of the Snowy River.

I reached the rally site at around 4pm and the story of the lost tent soon provided some light entertainment but not much sympathy.

With another storm brewing I figured it was best to head for home as it didn't look like I would be able to camp under the stars and stay dry.

I arrived home at 8.00 pm after covering around 815 kms. The tent is still officially missing in action - joining my left hand pannier which suffered a similar fate on the 2001 BMW Safari. Someone has suggested that I have my own personal Bermuda triangle following my bike around - they may just be right.



The Kawasaki—Greg's 'formal bike' - and Fred's GS1150GS

Upcoming events and rallies:

I haven't got much organised in the way of local gravel surfing events so let me know if you have a suggestion.

2-3 April 2005 - Adventure Touring Bike Muster.

At Willandra National Park between Hillston and Ivanhoe. Contact Greg Aldis at g.aldis@unsw.edu.au or 0425 309975.

6-7 May - Loaded Dog Rally at Tarago.

A great close to home rally run by the Struggletown Tourers. Camping at Tarago showground and entertainment at the Loaded Dog Hotel.

Remember to join the Yahoo e-mail group for more up to date information on all gravel surfing activities. <http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/ACTGravelsurfing/>

Or contact me on **0407 415 294** or upsidedowngreg@yahoo.com.au for more information.



On The Barry Way

New Staff ~ New Attitude ~ New Staff ~ New Attitude ~ New

Tom Byrne Motorcycles
(Part of the Procycles group)
140 princes Hwy, St Peters

9-16 April

SALE SALE

Old BMW Tanks, Foot Pegs,
Indicators, lots of stuff

New BMW Rider gear
10-30% off selected items

2nd Hand & Demo Bikes that have to go

Come and meet the new team

Staff ~ New Attitude ~ New Staff ~ New Attitude ~ New Staff ~ New Attitude ~ New Staff ~ New Attitude ~ New Staff ~ New Attitude ~ New



Looking for 'value for money' advertising coverage?

Advertise in 'Shaft Drive Lines'

The Club's aim is to increase the value of the newsletter to members by providing up-to-date information on events, technical issues, products and services.

Advertising space is available and the current rates are:

Per issue:

Full page \$35

Half page \$20

Annual rates (11 issues) :

Full page \$250

Half page \$150

Colour pages can be arranged at extra cost.
Contact the Editor for more information.

The Editor, Shaft Drive Lines

ACTBMWMCC

PO Box 1042

WODEN ACT 2606

or email to

editor@actbmwmcc.org.au

ACTBMWMCC Merchandise

The Club has for sale a range of good quality clothing (embroidered with the club logo—as at right) at very reasonable prices. Come along to the next club meeting to see the sample range. You can also purchase or place your order (cash or cheques only) at the meeting with our Merchandising Officer. Orders can be collected at the next meeting.



Polar fleece zip jacket (mens or womens available)	Black, navy or red	\$45
Polar fleece contrast vest (unisex)	Black/red, black/gold, black/grey, navy/red	\$40
Long sleeve denim shirt (unisex)	King Gee medium blue all cotton	\$35
Long sleeve chambray shirt (mens or womens available)	Light blue all cotton	\$48
Mens rugby top	Navy with denim collar	\$42
Ladies rugby top	Navy or red with white collar	\$30
Short sleeve polo shirt (unisex)	Black, charcoal or navy with contrast trim	\$35
Thinsulate beanie	Black or navy	\$25
Neck warmer	Black or navy	\$20
Peaked cap with club logo		\$20

Editors Note: Louise Coxon has done a great job as our Merchandising Officer by organising the supply and managing the sales of our range of Club clothing items. Unfortunately Lou isn't planning to nominate this year, so we're looking for a new Merchandising Officer to inherit a very well organised and smooth running system—thanks to Lou.

Ian Hahn, our Membership Secretary, recently tallied the bikes owned and sometimes operated by our club members...
... and the results are:

BMW R	187	Honda	12
BMW K	71	Kawasaki	8
BMW F	13	KTM	2
AJS	1	Rudge	1
Aprilia	1	Scott	1
Avanti	1	Suzuki	10
Botwell	1	Triumph	1
BSA	2	Velocette	1
Bultaco	1	Vespa	2
Cagiva	1	Vincent	1
Ducati	5	Waratah	1
Harley Davidson	1	Yamaha	15

With such diversity, it would be nice to see some more of these bikes out on Club rides.

Spanish Ancestors?



Did you see the segment on organised motorbike tours of Spain on "The Great Outdoors" recently? It was amusing to hear the reporter Sophie (did she really ride wearing those stilettos?) say:

..... "These guys know how to enjoy life. They cruise all day but love a bit of a joke and they can't see anything wrong with stopping for a four hour lunch not to mention stopping at every second bar for a coffee. Gotta love the Spanish lifestyle don't you?"

What was really funny was they were all riding GS's! Obviously there's a bit of Spanish blood in some (but definitely not all) of our members.

Sue Morgan features on this month's front cover with the new R1200RT's and ST's—however Sue is planning to move from pillion to front seat as she recently picked up her very own F650 (after buying it from Claire).

Sue will be going for her P's soon.



Wanted Second & Last month

The **alloy sidestand** on my **1981 R100RS** has broken where it bolts onto the bike and is, I suspect, irreparable. A new one from Rolfe costs \$338.20, so I am after a good second-hand item. I don't need the bolt, ball, spring etc but am happy to take them as part of a package. Call **Clive Banson 0417 103 467**

Recently purchased a **2004 R1200C Montauk** and seeking **original flip seat/backrest** to replace the narrow pillion seat. Contact **Shaun Bennetts - 0417 258426 or 62171439 (W)**,

Tank bag for R 1150 RT. I'm looking for a BMW tank bag at something less than the new part price or a suitable alternate. If you don't have one for sale I would appreciate feedback on recommended brands and styles. Call **David 0409055414** or email: rendell1@bigpond.net.au

Front crash bars to suit **1988 K100RT.** Contact **Mal Elliott** on **0410 491 948** or email malelyot@tpg.com.au

NEW ADVERTS ON PAGE 17

Adverts are run for 2 months, so please let the Editor know if you've sold or bought after your advert first appears.

For Sale Second & Last month

The Black Knight, aka **R100RS JPS**, a collector's special. 138,800kms, Koni shocks, Metzeler tyres, Staintune exhaust, sheepskin, full BMW toolkit, Krauser panniers. Regularly serviced by Doug; new steering head bearings, timing chain and guide, speedo repair and recalibrate, LH light switch assembly, battery and alternator. Voted by Jimbo as best sounding bike in the club. **Offers** not exceeding **\$6500** considered. Offers over \$6500 accepted without further discussion. **Contact Mal Elliott on 0410 491 948** or email malelyot@tpg.com.au



Comfort rider and pillion seat for BMW K1200 LT 2004. Used for about one month. Wiring for the riders seat modified so you do not have to remove the fairing to plug it in. Requires plug to be fitted to bike loom. Plug supplied. **Ian 02 6288 8126**

For Sale Second & Last month

BMW R650LS 1984 1st registered 1985. Excellent original condition around 85,000 km. Good tyres, sports mufflers. Light silver in colour. The LS has a small bikini fairing in matching colour. Much recent work (over \$1,000) including rear shocks, wheel bearings, clutch and throttle cables, battery, speedometer (over \$400!), seat and seatcover. Lovely condition, runs beautifully and looks great. **\$3200 ono.** Currently unregistered. Phone **Steve 6255 9114 home or work 6265 4877.**

R100 RT 1979 in pieces. 100% complete apart from front mag (I have wire wheel), cast iron discs, panniers, top box, Fournales air shocks with pumps, single seat.

R90 1976 modified for sidecar. Leading link 15 inch wheels/ car tyres, 33 litre tank; needs carbies and wiring loom.

R100RS near complete fairing. Plus extra panels and dashboards. Some parts new. Spares, tools etc.

Sell as a lot \$2500 ono. Touring Seat Brand New Corbin /7 style **\$350. Muffler.** Brand New 2 into 1 Stainless Steel Staintune Complete System to suit R100 Models. **\$500** (ideal for outfit). Phone **Colin 0416 000 458** (Newcastle)

BMW Sahara **Boots** size 44 (9.5), only worn a couple of times hence as new condition, cost \$450 sell **\$350.** Phone **Greg Knight on 0409 047 123**

R1150RT, Red, 2003 model with 32,000 kms. All the options including Bagster tank cover (red) and small tank bag, top box and panniers (all with BMW inner bags), 27Mhz radio and intercom system fitted with two System 4 helmets. Excellent condition, ACT reg to 05/05, full service history. **\$18500** - genuine offers considered. Also available, full set of clothing and assorted accessories. Contact **David:** email to dandmcompton@smartchat.net.au



BMW R90/6 1975 250, 000 km. Unregistered. **\$4000.** One owner since new. Rickman Polaris full fairing with radio cassette. Twin discs, Dyna electronic ignition, reinforced frame and sub frame, special seat with new foam and cover, Presley panniers, touring footpegs. Engine rebuild from big ends up 2000 km ago, reconditioned drive shaft, new final drive. Spares include complete gearbox with all new parts for a rebuild. Only needs front tyre for registration. Contact **Ian on 02 6288 8126**



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For Sale

K75RT 1996, Immaculate condition, electric screen, heated handgrips, radio, ABS brakes, top box, panniers, comfort seat, front and rear crash bars. 38000 km. Reduced to **\$10,500**.
Phone Colin on 6238 1060.



K1200 RS 1999 Charcoal grey. ABS Model with rear rack and bag, panniers, handle bar risers, two screens (sports and comfort), Auto comm Intercomm, good tyres, NSW registration to Aug 05. Excellent condition **\$14,000 ONO** Reg No WQB-75 **Phone Colin on (02) 6255 8998 or 0412 262 212**



Wanted

Top box to suit 1988 BMW K100RT or ideas on where to find a second hand one. Phone **John on 0403 778851** or email: traceyjohn63@optusnet.com.au

Stolen

K75S

Just informing as many people as I can, as on 16 March my much loved K 75S was stolen, maroon in colour also minus the bellypan. Anyone hearing of such a bike or parts becoming available, your help would be greatly appreciated. **Rego YIK 54. Phone Craig Hough (02) 4658 0985 home or work (02) 4646 1122.**

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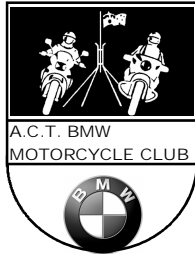
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Membership renewals and fees are due now.

To:

From: ACT BMW Motorcycle Club PO Box 1042 Woden ACT 2606