



Chairman's Report

31st July 2024

Welcome

June and July have been relatively quiet months since our meeting with the Minister for Road Safety at the end of May, so there is not a lot to report on the government side. This meeting will be the last before the AGM, and all current committee members and delegates are encouraged to attend. As of the writing of this newsletter, there has been a good response to nominating for a committee position, although more office holder nominations would be advantages. The AGM will be held on Wednesday 28th August from 6:30pm for dinner with 7:30pm the meeting start.

Australian Motorcycle Council Conference and AGM

I will be travelling to Canberra from the 9th to 11th August for the AMC conference and AGM. It will be the first face to face conference held in five years and I am quite excited to meet the committee and delegates whose faces appear on the Zoom screen. There will be three external guests who will be speaking at the conference:

1. Loren Turnbull, Principal Policy & Stakeholder Advisor from the Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) will be there to speak about their Ride to Zero Program. Loren is a rider and has been a passionate motorcycle advocate even prior to joining TMR.
2. Sonia van den Berg, Founder and Managing Director of Riders Lane, a Canberra-based DIY motorcycle workshop and social enterprise. Something quite different.
3. Sanjiv Sathiah, the new Chief of Staff to Senator Carol Brown, the Assistant Minister for Infrastructure and Transport.

The My Drive School has been established by a Melbourne-based not-for-profit. It's an on-line simulation tool, that aims to improve road safety for novice and disadvantaged newer drivers. They are running a current survey about simulation driver training, asking general questions about experiences on the road. The AMC will be meeting with Lisa Scaife from My Drive School to talk more about how this could potentially be used to improve motorcycle safety. We encourage people to distribute and complete the survey, which can be found here: <https://mydriveschool.com/rswsurvey/>

At the recent AMC delegates meeting, it was brought to my attention that the Western Australian Government were planning to do ANCAP testing on motorcycles as part of their road safety strategy. The National Road Safety Annual Progress and Data Report 2023 page 19 states *"The ANCAP 2030 Strategic Plan will see ANCAP's consumer information program expanded to cover a wider range of vehicles including commercial vans, pickup utilities, light and medium trucks, heavy trucks and motorcycles."* More information will be given as it comes to hand.

The report page 73 states : *"In consultation with the Motorcycle Council of WA, Main Roads have identified around 1,600 km designated motorcycle routes on the state network and around 1,000 km of designated motorcycle routes on the local roads network."*



MCWA Newsletter

1. The July newsletter has been sent out to committee members, delegates and other interested parties.

Social Media and Website

1. I have started to be a little more active on Facebook with a couple of posts. A recent comment from a Facebook member stated that the MCWA “group only” model disenfranchises her. She suggested that we were not interested in people, and that we were just a boy’s club. I am still not a big fan of Facebook but will endeavour to do more to get our name out there.
2. I have not purchased patches or badges as discussed at the last meeting as we are only just getting the funds to cover costs.

General Items

1. The MCWA will be sitting down to develop a strategy going forward, including seeking a seat on committees to provide greater influence on the safety of motorcycling in Western Australia. Part of the strategy will be to increase our financial position with fund raisers and grants. All input is welcome.

Stay Safe

Jeff Thomas

Chairman