



Chairman's Report

29th January 2025

Welcome

Welcome to 2025 with the month of January nearly over and February just 4 days away. I have noticed that during the recent heatwave, that some dedicated riders were not deterred from participating in their longer distance rides. These are the times when dehydration and fatigue can become a definite problem that is entirely manageable. Using evaporative vests to stay cool, drinking plenty of water, appropriate vented safety clothing and frequent rest stops can be a big help in rider safety. The Australian Government has confirmed that 2024 was the deadliest year on Australian roads since 2012. As it looks like there are more hot days to come, plan your trip ahead of time and stay safe.

Activities:

28th November 2024, Motorcycle Safety Advisory Group meeting (MSAG).

The MSAG meeting now includes the Western Australian Local Government Association (WALGA) Manager Road Safety, as well as the RSC, MRDWA, DOT, Police and MCWA. The action list from the previous meeting and the agenda items will be circulated at the meeting. Dave W. attended the meeting and will give an update in the safety report.

December 2024

- I applied for an Australian Company Number (ACN), however the application was refused as I did not have a tax file number (TFN) for the MCWA. Unfortunately, the application process did not advise of the requirement for a TFN until after the process was completed and the \$75 processing fee had been paid. I have decided to wear the cost of the application as the mistake was mine.
- The Position Statement has been updated to revision 3 with a Section 2 (e) being added as per the action list from the Minutes of General Meeting (AGM) 28/08/2024. The updated copy has been sent to all committee members.

January 2025

- A meeting was held on the 28th January 2025 with the WALGA Manager Road Safety. The aim of the meeting was to advise on the modernisation of their "Making Roads Motorcycle Friendly Guide". The old guide will be circulated at the meeting. Dave W. attended the meeting and will give an update in the safety report.
- I have approached the mayor of the Vincent Council regarding the restarting of a safety focussed roadwise group. My concern is that the safety focus of roadwise groups has been diluted. The email sent and the reply will be circulated at this meeting.
- I have requested the costing of Cloth Patches of the chosen design from the agreed manufacturer. I am still waiting for a reply for the costs of the patches.
- I have received a price from Lapel Pins.
- The Bunnings Sausage Sizzle for the Australia day long weekend was a non-starter due to the Bunnings organiser being ill. The notice we received that we could have the date was too close to the weekend and I had already sent out an email cancelling the event. A new date is currently being organised, so stay tuned, volunteers will be required.

Upcoming:

- WALGA does not support the original model for roadwise groups, which is more than the likely reason why the committees have been disappearing from various councils. I will request a meeting from the WALGA Manager Road Safety on the possibility of restarting these roadwise safety groups, as the current model from councils has diluted their effectiveness.



- The York Motorcycle Festival is coming up on the 6th April and we will be calling for volunteers to assist in a sub-committee and on the day in York to help make this a successful day. I have sent the committee members a report to be discussed and voted on.
- I shall be applying for a TFN and a CAN to facilitate future grant applications.

New Membership

The Open Road Motorcycle Touring Club (ORMTC) has indicated that it will be joining the MCWA in the near future. The ORMTC currently has approximately forty members (of which I am one) and is the longest continuously running incorporated motorcycle group (50 years). They have written their own rules of engagement with the MCWA and have also nominated their two delegates, the first is their tourmaster Russell D. (Rusty) and the second is our own Chris M. I have sent them a nomination form, constitution, bylaws, code of conduct and position statement (revision 3) for their information.

MCWA Newsletter

1. The January 2025 newsletter will be sent out to committee members, delegates and other interested parties in the next week. I would ask delegates to distribute newsletters within their own groups to keep their members informed.

Social Media and Website

1. I have started to be a little more active on Facebook with a couple of posts.
2. The website has stalled again as I have put a low priority on it as it due to not been my focus over the last few months.

General Items

1. The government has announced that a review of motorcycle training and assessment requirements (along with some other issues) is going to be undertaken by the Department of Transport: [New road safety measures for probationary drivers to save lives | Western Australian Government](https://www.wa.gov.au/government/media-statements/Cook-Labor-Government/New-road-safety-measures-for-probationary-drivers-to-save-lives-20241027) (<https://www.wa.gov.au/government/media-statements/Cook-Labor-Government/New-road-safety-measures-for-probationary-drivers-to-save-lives-20241027>). I would ask everyone to take the time to look at this proposal and make comment, as the MCWA will try to influence the outcome to best benefit rider safety rather than the message getting lost in a political agenda.
2. The MCWA will be developing a strategy going forward which will include 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.
3. The MCWA will need to start thinking about a succession plan for members of the management committee should a situation prevent the members from performing their duties.

Stay Safe

Jeff Thomas

Chairman