



Chairman's Report

30th July 2025

Welcome

We were unable to make a quorum for our June delegates' meeting due to the number of people on vacation or working away, however it was a good meeting anyway with many items discussed. Something that is not quite clear to me as there is no mention in any document, if there is not a quorum, is a Minutes of Meeting still required?

Advocacy News

I have been following up on our vice chair, Gary Pontifex's accident while he was riding on Henty Road in the Ferguson Valley. Henty road has quickly developed from a farmers' service road to a busy tourist drive, however the road infrastructure has not been developed to cope with the increase in traffic. I had requested a meeting with the Minister for Road Safety and information from the Main Roads department. The process to date has been as follows:

- The letter to the Minister for Road Safety was deflected to the Minister for Local Government. I have not heard anything from there yet, so a follow-up letter will soon be in order.
- I had sent several emails to the Road Safety Policy manager at Main Roads W.A. When he eventually replied, he said that he had forwarded my concerns to the Bunbury council, however I have heard nothing from the council.
- I sent an email to the Dardanup Shire council which Ferguson Valley is part of. They replied to the email quite fast stating that they have put Henty Road on the Black Spots program which releases Federal funds to start repairs on the road. They have also put shire funds into intermediate road repairs such as guidepost installation.
- 22nd July, Dave W. and I attended a meeting at WALGA with a short report to follow. After the meeting, I brought up Henty Road and the Dardanup Shire reply which will be distributed with this report. WALGA advised that the shire is a member of the RoadWise group. WALGA has since spoken with the Road Safety Advisor at Dardanup shire who advised that the shire may be in line for other funding (Regional Road Safety – Local Roads) to seal the shoulders and apply audible edge lines to Henty Road. It is good to see something is being done to stop preventable accidents from occurring.

Gary is now staying with family while his rehabilitation continues.

A committee member Tony Beeson has just undergone heart bypass surgery. I have spoken with Tony a couple of times and we went to the local Tavern for lunch in early July. Tony is looking happy and well and feeling lucky there will be no ongoing issues.

People may be aware of an accident where the rider (Dean English) and his pillion (Sharon) both lost their right leg, and the story has been featured on the news. I have spoken with Dean English who is rightly upset by the experience and the way he has been treated by the police investigator and the Insurance Council of W.A. I have emailed Dean for his permission to advocate on his and his partner's behalf. Dean has replied in the affirmative.

Activities:

- **30th April – Motorcycle Safety Advisory Group.**

The meeting was attended by Dave and myself and was focussed on the discussion of and review the "Graduated Licensing System Consultation Paper" created by DOT. As these documents are not yet finalised, the contents will remain confidential. However, at least a



motorcyclist's perspective has been added. These documents will be ready for further discussion within the Motorcycle Safety Advisory Group at the end of August.

- **22nd July - WALGA Meeting** to finalise the "Making Roads Motorcycle Friendly Resource". The meeting included Terri-Anne Pettet and Jaxon Ashley from WALGA, Ed Rose from MRWA, Dave W. and myself. The document has been successfully finalised with Dave providing updated photos to embed into the guide, laying the groundwork for the release of an updated road engineering guide. Dave has also suggested that a checklist be added to the end of the guide in the same vein as the Victorian guide. The MCWA logo will also feature on the new guide.
- **22nd July - Australian Motorcycle Council Delegates Meeting**
For the AMC delegates meeting, I had produced a report, however the meeting was cancelled due to ongoing issues with their email system. No delegate had received the invite to join the meeting even though Dave advised me earlier that the meeting was on. Intentions were good, perhaps next time.
- **8th to 10th August – Australian Motorcycle Council Conference and AGM**
I will be travelling to Brisbane on a self-funded trip to attend this year's AMC Conference and AGM. I am halfway through writing an annual report to present at the meeting which will detail our achievements and firsts (such as the YMCF). The MCWA will also be formally joining the AMC as a full member, with the membership fee kindly donated by Kean Legal. I will produce a report to be tabled at the next MCWA meeting. My wife will be travelling with me, and we will be staying on in Brisbane for a further 10 nights, returning to Perth late on the 20th August.

Upcoming:

Annual General Meeting.

Refer to the MCWA Constitution, Division 3 Rules 31 to 35 and Rule 50.

The dates for this year's AGM are as follows:

- 16th July – Notify all members of the AGM with invitation to nominate for the committee.
- 30th July – Committee nominations close.
- 20th August – Send out the AGM agenda and committee nominations.
- 27th August – Annual General Meeting.

The Chairman's Annual Report is currently being written and the Treasurer's Annual Report been completed to be ready for the AGM. These reports will then be included in the AGM Minutes of Meeting which is then submitted to DEMIRS as required by the Associations Incorporation Act 2015.

The AGM will operate as follows:

1. General Meeting.
 - a. Chairman's Annual Report plus Q & A.
 - b. Treasurer's Annual Report plus Q & A.
2. Declare all positions vacant.
3. Elect the AGM Chair.
4. Election of committee members.
5. General Business.

Renewed Membership

- Ducati Owners Club of Western Australia.
- Gorgeous Ladies on Wheels



New Membership

- The Open Road Motorcycle Touring Club (ORMTC).
- Moto Guzzi Club of Western Australia.

Possible New Membership

- Recreational Trailbike Riders Association of WA Inc.

First Responder First Aid Training

I am currently in discussion with the Director of Operations, First Aid for Motorcyclists, to conduct First Responder First Aid Training here in Perth. I will also be talking to government and other institutions regarding any subsidies that can be given to lighten the financial burden for participants. They are also happy to train someone local who possesses a TAE40110 certificate and would be keen on training for them here in W.A. The Road Safety Commission has responded to a funding request saying that they will assist the MCWA with an application in the next round of grants (possibly November).

The Stirling City Council has denied our request for training premises saying they are too busy for a 5 day schedule. The Vincent City Council did not answer our request. A possible venue could be the upstairs area of the Victoria Park Hotel. That may also solve the accommodation question without the requirement to hire a car.

Communications

1. **Minister for Local Government** – The letter I have sent to Hon. Reece Whitby MLA on the topic of Gary's accident has been forwarded to the Hon. Hanna Beazley MLA, Minister for Local Government. There has been no subsequent reply so I will send a reminder letter soon.
2. **Road Safety Commission** – I have sent an email to the Chair of the Motorcycle Safety Advisory Group requesting that item 6 on the MCWA Proposed Safety Measures to Improve Motorcycle Safety in W.A. This involves No Blame accident investigation and involve specialist investigators to determine why the accident happened to help prevent future repeat accidents.
3. **Minister for Transport** – I will be requesting a meeting with Hon. Rita Saffiotti MLA to discuss the ICWA legislation defining Catastrophic Injuries.
4. **Minister for Road Safety** - I will be sending a letter soon to Hon. Reece Whitby MLA on the following topics:
 - a. A meet and greet to let him know who we are and what we do.
 - b. To discuss among other items, Motorcycles in Bus lanes and unpainted curbing.

Electric Scooters

The recent death of a pedestrian in Perth city recently who was struck by an E-Scooter being driven by a person under the influence of alcohol. The Cities of Perth and Vincent then decided to temporarily ban these devices that are seen parked on many of our street corners. I am aware that the owners of these scooters are franchises, and this will affect their source of income. However, until suitable laws come into effect to limit the speed on these machines, then I support the ban.

Insurance

A discussion is required on whether the MCWA requires insurance, what are the types of risks we are exposed to and therefore the type of insurance that may be required.

Stay Safe

Jeff Thomas

Chairman