



Chairman's Report

26th August 2026

Welcome

Welcome to the third MCWA Annual General Meeting. The MCWA was incorporated on the 1st of August 2023 and opened the doors for business on the 1st of October 2023. We have come a long way since then, and I did wonder sometimes during that time if the government would ever take us seriously. I believe that we have proven ourselves to be a sensible, reliable and diplomatic safety partner and we have gained ever-increasing communications where it matters to make a difference. I am currently in South Australia caring for my elderly father who is experiencing some quite serious health issues. Travis Kean and Bruce Burgess will be running the AGM on my behalf, thank you to both of them and they have my delegated vote for any item raised during the meeting.

General News

- **Year to Date Fatalities**

The number of road fatalities shown on the RSC website up to the 20th August stands at 142 with the year-to-date 5-year average being 107, up 32.7%. They are categorised as follows :

1. Car Occupants:	88	(77 in July)
2. Motorcycle Riders:	23	(21 in July)
3. Pedestrians:	27	(25 in July)
4. Cyclists:	4	(4 in July)

It would be interesting to know how many of the pedestrians were actually walking and not on scooters etc., and how many were alcohol affected. W.A. statistical analysis does need to become more comprehensive to allow us to better understand the problems we face.

W.A. has a population of 3,076,528, which equates to 30.76 increments of population per 100,000 people. (142 deaths / increments / day No. of year (233)) * total days of year (365) equals an approximation of 7.23 deaths per 100,000 population for 2026. This is the highest rate that is shown on the RSC fatalities chart for 10 years. As of this writing, there have been 23 motorcycle fatalities so far in 2026, which is 16.2% of total fatalities, still far too many.

The moral to the story is: **Ride like your life depends on it.**

- **Chris Cobain**

Chris's funeral was held on the 31st of July. Unfortunately I could not attend as I was interstate, however we all knew Chris for a long time, from back to the committee days in the previous club. Chris was a foundering member and treasurer of the MCWA, after which he left to become President of the ORMTC. May his memory live on, we miss him.

Activities

- **FAFM Crash Management Courses**

The experience with Chris and Cathy Cobain has highlighted that although people hope to never have to use these skills, it does prove just how important such training is.

FAFM will be returning in September for the next round of courses. I have applied for a grant to provide a subsidy of \$100 to the cost of the course for 50 people.



The RSC replied that the grant was invalid because the timeline only gave the RSC 6 weeks to make a decision, whereas they require 12 weeks. After talking with FAFM, we have created another round of courses for late November, so the RSC will proceed with the application using those dates. This will mean that the September round of courses will be unsubsidised. I have also started to reach out to regional clubs to inquire whether they would be interested in the course. I have approached the Capel Riders Club Inc. and I am currently waiting for their response.

- **Australian Motorcycle Council Conference and AGM**

The AMC Conference and AGM were held in Melbourne on the 1st and 2nd of August. I travelled to Melbourne on a self-funded trip and I am happy to announce that I have been elected to the AMC committee. The minutes of meeting will be sent out when available.

There were two speakers at the conference, Chris Hurran, Associate Professor in Textile Research, Director of ARC Research Hub for Future Fibres, Deakin Institute for Frontier Materials at Deakin University. Chris is best known for his work on MotoCAP.

The second speaker was Dr Yao Yu, PhD in Materials Engineering, Australasian Motorcycle Clothing Assessment Facility, Institute for Frontier Materials (IFM) at Deakin University. Dr Yao highlighted the current disparities in protective performance between women's and men's riding gear. Ladies would be rightly concerned with the focus of their safety gear being on fashion and not their safety. I have received a copy of her presentation which is unfortunately too big to email. I will forward the presentation at a later date once I figure out how to shrink it down to email size.

Upcoming Events

- **New Minister for Road Safety**

Just when you start to build a relationship with a government minister, a new one is appointed. The Hon Jessica Stojkovski MLA is the new minister for Road Safety. Her portfolio consists of minister for Child Protection; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence; Road Safety; Multicultural Interests; Peel. I will be contacting her to request a "meet and greet" meeting so she knows who we are and what we stand for.

Minister.Stojkovski@dpc.wa.gov.au

- **3rd September – Road Safety Commission Marketing Meeting**

Alisia Mumby, the Campaigns Manager for the RSC has been communicating with me about two upcoming advertisements to promote safe riding. We have had several email exchanges and an online Teams meeting to discuss important aspects of motorcycle safety and culture. These two advertisements have been made available for my viewing and comment.

The RSC Strategic Communications Director has requested a meeting with the MCWA on the 3rd of September to discuss opportunities to collaborate with the MCWA on a launch for Speeding Shatters campaign and any additional motorcycle safety information in the future.

- **9th September – Motorcycle Safety Advisory Group Meeting**

The next meeting with the MSAG has been scheduled for the 9th of September. I have sent a list of agenda items I would like discussed at the meeting which is included in the meeting documents.

- **MCWA / Police Combined Community Ride**

I have not yet received a reply from the Deputy Commissioner of police regarding a combined ride with the police, so I have sent a reminder email and will wait for a reply. As WAPOL



representatives will present at the MSAG meeting, I will issue another reminder. If nothing eventuates, then so be it.

- **Insurance Commission of WA.**

I have not yet replied to the ICWA regarding their unsatisfactory reply to my letter. I will do this as soon as time permits which is quite short at the moment, although it is an action item.

- **Notice Motorcycle Campaigns**

The MCWA could in future promote campaigns to the RSC Marketing to advertise to the community the benefits of teaching people to notice motorcycles. Below are two examples:

1. The “Have You Seen GUS? “(Gear Up Safely) is a fun, meaningful, community-driven motorcycle awareness campaign designed to help drivers and the wider public notice motorcyclists sooner, especially at intersections, merges in busy traffic, and on country roads. When more people actively look for motorcycles, we can help reduce motorcycle crashes, incidents, and fatalities. Just as importantly, we can reduce the ripple effect on the wider community—the trauma and impact experienced by people who witness a crash, arrive first on scene, or are involved in the aftermath.

Review the following link: <https://www.fafm.org.au/have-you-seen-gus>.

2. The “SPOTTO, FROGGO, MOTTO” campaign proposal has come out of Queensland but is a good proposition to put before the RSC Marketing Department. The document has been included in the AGM documents.

- **Motorcycle Safety Week**

Another proposal worth considering is the revival of the “Motorcycle Safety Week”. The MSW would best be run in conjunction with another event such as the York Motorcycle Festival next March. The MCWA could get the involvement of the RSC Marketing, Main Roads freeway signs, the YMF management company, AMX, Police community ride etc. To organise, we would require a subcommittee to manage. This can be discussed further in upcoming meetings, but if you agree, raise your hands.

- **Membership Renewals**

Thank you to all the following clubs who have renewed their membership:

- Gorgeous Ladies on Wheels.
- Ducati Club of Western Australia Inc.
- Motorcycle Men’s Shed – Perth W.A. Inc.
- Bikes Unlimited Inc.
- Rockingham and Surrounding Areas Riders.
- British Motorcycle Enthusiasts Club Inc.
- Open Road Motorcycle Touring Club Inc.
- First Aid for Motorcyclists Inc.

- **Membership Renewals Outstanding**

- Ulysses Inc.
- W.A. Womens Motorcycle Riders Inc.
- Moto Guzzi Owners Club of W.A.

That is all for now:

Stay Safe
Jeff Thomas
Chairman