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IFMR - Australia NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP OF MOTORCYCLING ROTARIANS Australian Chapter

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President Claus Weber

Presidents Message

Spring is here at last, and the good weather for motorcycle riding is fast approaching. How many people are thinking of a new bike? I have thought about it but the Suzuki Bandit is going as strong as ever and I cannot justify the money for a new bike that is not a whole lot better than the Bandit, although the new Honda VFR800 crossover 2015 looks tempting.

I did manage a 700 kilometre day ride when Taylor and I met some of the Woomera Ride participants at Burra and rode with them to Port Augusta and then rode back home. I was sore and Taylor was sore our first big ride for the season. Next is the ride to Swan Hill for the AGM, not quite as far but still a big ride, the bike is due for new tyres and an oil and filter change.

I am planning my holiday next year, Isle of Man TT races and it looks like I will be catching up with the French president and some of his members and we will be going for a ride through the French Riviera and Swiss alps for a week. Up north into Germany and meet the IFMR World Secretary Hans Dieter Reimer, and maybe a World Superbike or Moto GP weekend somewhere.

I bought myself an old 1984 Honda VF500F to play with and have been spending a few hours in the shed, fixing a few things and cleaning bits. Today was the day of truth, registered and ready to

ride, everything went really well no problems. I think that I will sell it and look for my next project, step daughter wants to get her motorcycle licence so maybe I can find something for her to learn on.

A few photos of my shed neatly packed, and when a mate came over and we replaced the clutch cover on the VF500. The bike stand certainly saves the old back when bending over all the time, I found the bike stand on Ebay for \$320 delivered although it is the small version, the bandit fits just on, the 500 nice and easy. The stand is on wheels and is easy to move without a bike on it and goes solid once a bike is on the stand.



Take care on the roads and hope to meet you soon.
President Claus

Inside this issue:

AGM 2014 Activities	2
Vale: Jim Gorey	2
Woomera Ride Report	3
Woomera Ride Photo's	4
Woomera Ride Photo's	5
Vincent Team	6
Welcome to New Members	6
IFMR— The Big Ride	7

**International
Fellowship of
Motorcycling
Rotarians**



2014 AGM - Swan Hill Vic

AGM ACTIVITIES**SWAN HILL 21st to 23rd November**

Friday: Casual Meet-and-Greet at the Commercial (Bistro)

Saturday: Ride to country Pub , approx 200 k's

Official Dinner at the Commercial 6.00 pm

followed by AGM at 9.00 pm.

Sunday: Farewell breakfast available

(N.B. : all meals at your cost)

DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS GREAT WEEKEND

REGISTER NOW at: Info@ifmraustralia.org

VALE: Jim Gorey

9 Dec. 1946 — 30 Sept. 2014

It is with great sadness we report the passing of former IFMR member Jim Gorey.

Jim joined IFMR in 1994 during the period when he was the owner of a motorcycle dealership in Port Pirie and he was an active Member of the Fellowship being Technical Director in 1997/98. Amongst other activities he participated in the now famous 1997 Sand Dragon Ride across the Simpson Desert accompanied by his son Carl.

In 2000 Jim retired from the Fellowship when a change of career took him to the Northern Territory and Western Australia where he worked in Managerial roles in indigenous communities.

Early this year he returned to South Australia to live in Nelshaby, a few kilometres east of Port Pirie, and it was here on 30th September whilst riding his motorcycle that he was killed in a collision with a trailer being towed by a local farmer.

President Claus and all Members of the IFMR express our sincere condolences to Jim's family.

Ride to Woomera, October 3rd to 7th

It all started with the upcoming long weekend in October in South Australia, and a suggestion from Port Pirie Rotacyclist Bryant Chivell that this would be a good opportunity for a ride to Woomera. Bryant had spent much of his youth in the Woomera area and had an extensive knowledge of its history, particularly related to the atomic and rocket tests.

The idea created some interest and as some of the Ballarat members had been looking for an opportunity for a longer ride the three-day weekend was extended to 5 days and a round trip of approximately 2500 km. Day one, Friday, would be approximately 600 km to Loxton then a similar distance on Saturday to Woomera. The idea spread, resulting in seven riders from Victoria, three from Ballarat, two from Horsham, one from Portland, and one from Phillip Island. There was also one from Lockhart in New South Wales.

10 riders left from Loxton on Saturday morning, travelled to Burra to meet other riders from South Australia, and after a short stop journeyed on through the Claire Valley to the Stuart Highway and north to a lunch stop at Port Augusta. The monotony of the remaining 180 km to the Woomera township was thankfully broken by several stops where Bryant pointed out the points of geographical and historical interest.

Friday's conditions had commenced with freezing weather in the south but gradually heating up as we journeyed north we shed our heavy jackets, eventually replacing them with flow-through summer jackets with very little underneath as the temperature climbed to the 30s. A further challenge was the constant headwinds, some of the Southerners finding these conditions very difficult.

A psychological difficulty faced by the riders from the south was the obvious failure of vast areas of crops in the Wimmera and the Mallee, the very dry conditions between the Riverland and Burra, and the extremes of the country surrounding the Stewart Highway. The contrast of the lush conditions and very successful crops in the Clare Valley lifted our spirits.

Woomera itself is isolated and surrounded by desert and although it has a small population the township has the potential to house perhaps 2000 residents and being owned by the Commonwealth is very well maintained apparently in constant readiness for re-population. It has public facilities which would be the envy of many small towns including two excellent museums relating to its history as an atomic and rocket testing facility.

On Sunday Bryant led us on a walking tour of the town explaining the many points of interest and giving us the benefit of his personal knowledge of the activities and history which considerably enhanced our appreciation of the area. After lunch he then led a 45 km ride out to lake Hart, a huge salt pan which was the base for all the testing.

Our return on Monday and Tuesday was a reversal of the first two days however hopes for a following wind were dashed when it turned out to be an almost gale force battering crosswind for the whole of the journey. Unfortunately, like many of the Woomera rockets, Steve's Rocket failed to proceed past Port Augusta and we had to leave him in the very capable hands of the RAA and the RACV. We Southerners journeyed on and again were very thankful for the hospitality of Tony Moyle on Monday night.

To say that the ride was a challenge is probably understating the feelings of some of the riders but while I certainly won't be returning to Woomera, I look forward to the next long run with members of our Fellowship. It was just under 2500 km Buninyong to Buninyong and whilst we missed rain both in South Australia and back in Victoria, it was freezing in Buninyong and I was glad to be home.

Many thanks to Bryant and Tony for their organisation Robin



***Waiting for Steve-
grabbing a nap!***

Ride to Woomera, October 3rd to 7th



Victorians invade Moyle Ranch, SA and set up semi-permanent camp



The total group gather for a welcome breather at Burra Burra, SA



Bryant Chivell tells us stories of the extensive salt flats north of Port Augusta

Ride to Woomera, October 3rd to 7th



Bryant explains the Rocket display



Why did they choose this desolate area ??



The group that journeyed a further 45 k's to hear Bryant's story of "Lake" Hart !



Steve's Rocket failed at Port Augusta & he returned to Portland courtesy RACV

Vincent Team Return Triumphant

Rotacyclists,

Remember Ken Horner & the Irving Vincent Motorcycles at last years AGM ! well, we received this from Ken Horner & his article is certainly well worth looking at...



The Vincent team have returned to Australia after winning the Goodwood Revival 2014 Barry Sheene Memorial Trophy!

Our 1948 Vincent Rapide, ridden by Beau Beaton and Craig McMartin, successfully competed against world class riders in the event and put on two great races for the spectators.

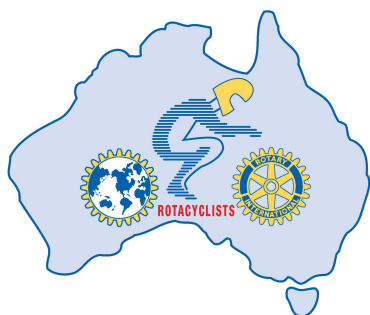
The highlights of the two races can be seen at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MZ9YEzcN2Fs> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXS7hjvmozE>

The full footage of the event can be seen at <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=3HIU1OZ8WQO>

The Goodwood Revival is a brilliant event that we were very proud to be a part of this year.

Ken Horner

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

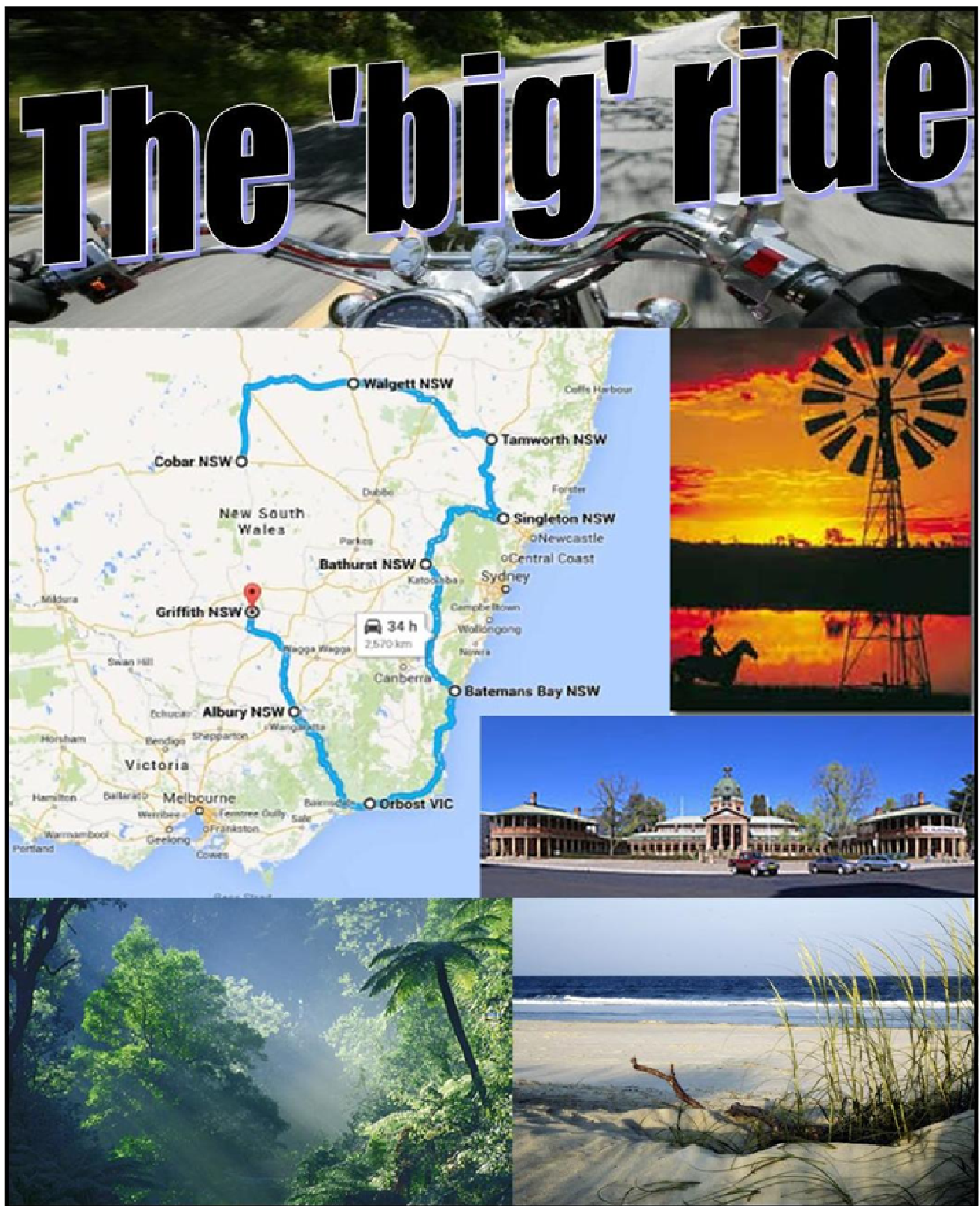


It gives me great pleasure to be able to again welcome Rotacyclists who have joined our Fellowship since the publication of our last Newsletter. Every 3 months brings an increase in Members but there are still many Rotarian motorcyclists who for some reason are not aware of IFMR so I urge you to talk to your colleagues and spread the good news !!

So, a special welcome to:

- ♦ **Colin Smith** of Paynesville, Victoria. Member of RC of Mitchell River (Bairnsdale) & rides a Triumph Rocket Tourer
- ♦ **Keith Driscoll** of Ballarat, Victoria. Member of RC of Wendouree Breakfast & Rides a BMW K1200
- ♦ **Don Rosenfeldt** of Elanora Heights, NSW. Member of RC of Dee Why Warringah & Rides a BMW 1200GT

*Welcome Colin, Keith & Don, Enjoy the opportunities our Fellowship can provide.
Ride often and stay upright!*



IFMR - The BIG RIDE - November 2015 is to take place over approx 10 Days, incorporating some coastal, some mountainous, and some outback experiences – total distance approx 2800kls all on bitumen, and all good riding.

For more upto date details follow the IFMR Ride Organizer Steve McKewen's (Belves Design)

link: http://www.belvesdesign.com/?page_id=83