



Issue 3
Volume 1

December 2009

The Official Newsletter of Steel Horses Cruising Motorcycles Social Club Inc

The Steel Horse

Inside this issue

Who's who	2
Club Objectives	2
Membership	2
Monthly Meetings	2
Club Merchandise	2
Internet presence	2
Disclaimer	2
VIP dates	2
GM's Slant	3
Ynot's Blurb	3
Treasurer's Report	4
Minutes of Meeting	5
Ride—15 Nov '09	7
Mad man	7
Ride—21 Nov '09	8
Ride—29 Nov '09	10
Ride—1 Dec '09	11
Ride—2-3 Dec '09	12
Event Calendar	13
12 Days of Xmas	16
Christmas Cake	17
Techy Stuff	18
Patch & Insignia	19

Deadline
2nd Tuesday of every
month



Merry Christmas everybody!

The day after the November meeting,
the Club received a Certificate stating that
on 13 November 2009 it was

Incorporated !!!

So we can OFFICIALLY use INC.

Who's who

Management Committee

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Ride Captain (South) - Yogi

See Event Calendar for details

Ride Captain (Central) - Sarge

See Event Calendar for details

Ride Captain (West) -

Sam / Cosmo

See Event Calendar for details

VIP dates

- ♦ 26/12/2009—Xmas day
- ♦ 26/01/2010—Australia Day
- ♦ 14/02/2010—Valentine's Day
- ♦ 1-4/4/2010—Baked beans Run
- ♦ 04/04/2010—Easter Sunday
- ♦ 25/04/2010—Anzac Day
- ♦ 09/05/2010—Mother's Day
- ♦ 12-13/6/2010—Hervey Bay
- ♦ 18/07/2010—Laverda
- ♦ 05/09/2010—Father's Day
- ♦ 27-29/9/2010—Mild Hogs Ride
- ♦ 5/10/? — Debbil's Birthday

Club objectives

The objects of the club are to encourage members to regularly meet, ride, and join together for social enjoyment

Membership

Membership is open to Riders and Pillions of Cruiser and Tourer motorcycles, as well as Social members.

The annual membership subscription is \$36 for Riders, \$24 for Pillions, and \$12 for Social Members.

There is also be a once only joining fee on top of the annual membership fee. This will cover the cost of Patch, Insignia, and other Club costs. These costs are currently \$30 for Riders and Pillions, and either \$20 or \$30 for Social Members depending on whether they elect to wear a Badge or a Vest.

Once the By-Laws have been developed, you will also be able to purchase a booklet of the Rules and Bylaws at cost.

Monthly Meetings

Steel Horses Cruising Motorcycles Social Club Inc meets every 3rd Tuesday at Broadway Hotel, Woolloongabba, Brisbane at 7.00 pm. The Broadway Hotel is at the intersection of Logan Rd, Wellington Rd, and Balaclava St, Woolloongabba.

Club Merchandise

Steel Horses Cruising Motorcycles Social Club Inc is in the process of organising merchandise and clothing for sale to members.

Internet presence

THE CLUB WEBSITE IS:

steelhorsesinc.com

(steel horses inc dot com)

Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are personal opinions and are not necessarily those held by SHCMSC Inc.

Sarge's Slant

Sarge's Slant – December 2009

I have just finished cleaning up after the first Christmas party of the Steel Horses CMSC and what a night it was.

I won't tell any stories here but everyone seemed to have fun and enjoyed themselves, and after drinking about a Gallon of water this morning I felt well enough to write this report.

It's hard to believe that it's been less than 3 months since the Club was born and we seem to have come such a long way. We have been formally certified as an incorporated club and we're progressing towards having the 12-month Event Calendar in the next newsletter and posted onto the Web site.

Speaking of Calendars, Debbil has done an excellent job on the Steel Horse 2010 Calendar so be sure to get one of these for the New Year ahead.

I won't write a lot in this report because I'm feeling a little tired and unwell but I would like to thank each and every one of you for your support of our new Club and encourage you to participate in the rides and events as much as practical. Don't forget to hand out the ride invite Cards to prospective members!

As Christmas is almost upon us, Sugar and I wish each of you and your families the very best for the season and look forward to the adventures, events, rides and challenges the New Year will bring.

New Years resolution for Sarge = "Ensure that Tink gets to see only my tailpipes and not my headlight!"

See Ya on the next one.

Sarge

Ynot's Blurb—December 2009

Hi all,

The progress of our club's development is still moving along at a rapid pace. Everybody is committed to ensuring that the club is a success, and all events are well attended.

As Sarge has reported, the club is now incorporated, and the 12-month event calendar is in the advanced stages of production. The By-Laws are steadily progressing and we are currently discussing the desired format for production with a goal to ensure that they are as easy to read and understand as possible. The By-Laws completed so far have yet to be presented to the committee for approval prior to releasing them to the general membership. There never seems to be enough time to hold the required number of committee meetings and attend events as well. Maybe this will improve when I retire, Debbil assures me it will.

I was reminded by Debbil that the number of riding members is rapidly approaching the magic number of 20. This is the number at which we will be requiring a Riders' Delegate to join the management committee, so I had to rapidly produce a role description for this position. As soon as the number of Riders reaches 20, I will ask for nominations for the position. Rule 19(7) states that "Any member may be nominated for Riders' Delegate provided: (a) both the proposer and seconder are riders: and (b) the association has a minimum of 20 financial riders." If any member wants to nominate for the position they can contact me for a draft copy of the role description so that they can see what is required of them. If more than one person nominates for the position we will hold a secret exhaustive ballot of financial Riders to decide the outcome.

The finances of the club are being closely controlled by our Treasurer, Kmac. He was ably assisted by Sugar during his recent absence. Now that we have gained incorporation, we have opened a club bank account. The Treasurer's report will in future, be reconciled to the bank statement as soon as we get one. In the meantime an accurate account of income and expenses has been maintained. We are still in the black, thanks to some generous donations from Loges (ride invitations and graphic design), Cougar and Jenny (raffle prizes), Apples (salads for Christmas party), Sarge and Sugar (venue for Christmas party), Huffy (drinks for Christmas party), and all those members who are donating their time in behind-the-scenes assistance. Your generosity is much appreciated. I apologise if I missed anybody.

In spite of my efforts over the past month, the club still does not have public liability insurance. I have several leads that I am currently pursuing. The MRA was not very fruitful, with lots of buck passing, and my latest email going unanswered. I am currently talking to TCIS Insurance Brokers, who were referred by Shannons. In the meantime I again remind you that the Steel Horses Cruising Motorcycles Social Club is not in any way liable for any damage or injury in whatever form you may incur whilst attending a club event.

Loges the merchandiser has been busy organising a range of products that will be available for sale in the future. Because of our limited available funds we will not be keeping stock, and products will only be purchased as and when required and paid for by the purchaser prior to placing an order. A catalogue of products will be forthcoming.

Another reminder to contact the coordinator - Sugar - if you have any ideas for inclusion in the Event Calendar. There are lots of opportunities to add to the events calendar through the pillion's choice and rider's choice days. The more you get involved, the more you will enjoy the club.

The turnout to our Christmas party was excellent. Lots of food and drink was consumed and the usual rendition of the Rawhide floorshow was delivered by Sugar. I think I recall the disc containing the Rawhide song ending up in the pool. Please let this be true!! Sarge and Sam did a masterful job on the cooking ranges. Thanks once again Sarge and Sugar for your wonderful hospitality.

A merry Christmas and a happy New Year to you all. Hope to see you all again on some rides and events in the near future.

YNOT

Christmas greeting



Treasurer's statement of Income & Expenditure

SUMMARY - INCOME AND EXPENSE DETAILS FINANCIAL YEAR 2009 - 2010

INCOME			EXPENSE		
DATE	INCOME DETAIL	AMOUNT	DATE	EXPENSE DETAIL	AMOUNT
20/10/2009	Membership fees	\$1,305.00	20/10/2009	Patches	\$662.75
	Raffle	\$91.55	30/10/2009	Patches	\$80.85
			31/10/2009	Stationary	\$4.99
				Stationary	\$11.64
				Domain Name	\$19.95
				Web Hosting	\$191.40
				Incorporation Fee	\$117.00
	Cash on hand 1/11/2009	\$307.97		(rounded)	
17/11/2009	Christmas Party Fees (27)	\$351.00	2/11/2009	Patch (Apples)	\$5.50
	Raffle	\$112.00	4/12/2009	Card Display Stands	\$30.70
			7/12/2009	Purchases- Christmas Party	\$354.50
	Membership Fees	\$151.00			
	Donations from Calendars	\$90.50			
	Cash on hand 7th. Dec 2009	\$621.75		Banked 7th.Dec 2009	

Minutes of meeting—17 November 2009 @ Broadway

- Meeting Opened:** ☐ 7.14 pm by Ynot.
- Attendance:** ☐ 16 members attended. They were: Apples, Barney, Cougar, Debbil, Drastic, Gers, Ginger, Jenny, Jewles, Loges, Rowdy, Sparra, Steiny, Sugar, Ynot, and Yogi.
- Visitors:** ☐ There were 5 visitors. They were: Boots, Lace, MG, Tink, and Wingman.
- Apologies:** ☐ 9 people sent apologies. They were: Cosmo, Helen, Huffy, Kaz, Kmac, Phil, Princess, Sam, and Sarge.
- Minutes of Previous Meeting:** ☐ **Yogi** moved that the minutes of the previous meeting published in the November Newsletter and distributed to all members be accepted as true and accurate, Sparra seconded the motion. 12 were in favour; 0 against: motion was carried.
- Business arising from minutes:** ☐ **Debbil** spoke on the progress of the Club's Application for Incorporation.
☐ **Ynot** spoke on Insignia, and "Original" vs "Year" Insignia. Anyone who joins in 2009 will be an "Original" member and will wear an "Original" insignia. Those who join after 2009 will get a "year" insignia. NOTE: these two Insignia are NOT worn in the same place on the vest
☐ **Debbil** spoke about the website – how to find it, and it's content.
☐ **Ynot** acknowledged Loges contribution in organising the Ride Invitations, and that he had donated 1,000 of them. He then thanked Loges for his work and for his donation.
☐ **Jewles** spoke about the Business Register. Debbil mentioned that all suitable businesses could be linked to the website through the Links page.
☐ **Ynot** said that all Vests must be black and were to be of suitable material.
☐ He also said that Social members could elect, when joining, to wear either a vest or a badge.
- Correspondence in:** **Debbil** listed:
☐ a Certificate of Registration of Domain name from Netregistry.
☐ a receipt for application to Incorporate from Office of Fair Trading.
☐ a letter from Office of Fair Trading stating that Rule 5 needed to be amended to provide for the entry requirements for each class of membership; and that Rule 34 needed to be amended to comply with section 57A of the Act, in that it should say "at least the number of members elected or appointed to the management committee plus 1", and not "at least 50% of the number of members elected or appointed to the management committee plus 1".
- Correspondence out:** **Debbil** listed:
☐ an Application to Incorporate to Office of Fair Trading.
☐ an amended Application to Incorporate to Office of Fair Trading.
- Business arising from Correspondence:** ☐ Nil
- 1. Ride reports:** ☐ **Sparra** spoke about his South ride.
☐ **Debbil** spoke about Sarge's WET ride.
☐ **Loges** spoke about the UMC ride which he and Sarge had attended.
☐ **Debbil** spoke about Sam's DAM ride.

- 2. Treasurer's report** ☐ **Ynot** gave the current figures: Income - Membership Fees \$1,305, Raffle \$91.55. Costs – Patches and Insignia \$743.60, Stationary \$16.63, web host and domain name \$211.35, Incorporation application \$117. This left a balance of \$307.97. Debbil moved that the report be accepted. Loges seconded the motion. 16 were in favour; 0 against: motion was carried.
- 3. Christmas party arrangements, costs and numbers:** ☐ **Ynot** announced that the Club's Christmas Party will be on December 5 at Sarge's place. Cost will be \$13 per head, and it will start at 6.00 pm.
☐ **Sugar** described the food that would be available.
☐ **Ynot** said that Huffy's employer – Thirsty Camel – was donating 2 cartons of beer and 6 bottles of wine.
- 4. Ideas for Social Events:** ☐ **Sugar** asked for all members to submit ideas for social events to the Ride Captains or to her as Coordinator.
☐ **Jewles** offered their place (Jewles and Gers) at Reedy Creek for a BBQ after the South ride on Sunday 13 December.
- 5. Patches and Insignia:** ☐ **Sugar** distributed Insignia and Patches.
- 6. Ride Invitations:** ☐ **Sugar** said that she had purchased Business Card Holders and had placed them with Ride Invitations at businesses in Moss St.
☐ **Debbil** said that he had done the same at the Mt Glorious Cafe.
- 7. Merchandiser:** ☐ **Ynot** told the meeting the club was seeking volunteers for this position and that Loges had volunteered.
☐ **Ynot** then appointed Loges as Merchandiser and gave him a Role Description.
- 8. Riders' Choice 29/11/09:** ☐ **Debbil** explained that he was taking the Riders' Choice on Sunday 29 November. It would be a repeat of his Invitation Only Ride and this time was open to everybody. The start point would be different and is to be Maccas at Upper Mt Gravatt.
- 9. Status of Social Members' Badge:** ☐ **Debbil** said that The Trophy Super Store at Underwood was able to provide gold cases for Badge borders, so they were commissioned to design a badge. He said that they now had a file for future ones. Jenny modelled the first one.
- 10. Role of Coordinator and Ride Captains:** ☐ **Ynot** said that Kaz had resigned from her position as Joint Coordinator but had made it clear that she was happy to assist Sugar when needed.
☐ He then spoke on the role of Coordinator and the role of Ride Captain.
☐ He made it clear that Ride Captains develop the events, and the Coordinator then assembles the Event Calendar from their data.
☐ **Yogi** spoke about plans for an overnight ride to Stanthorpe.
☐ **Ynot** then spoke about the status of the draft role descriptions.
- 11. Public Liability Insurance :** ☐ **Ynot** said that he had not been able to do it through MRA yet, but would do so.
- 12. Development of By-Laws:** ☐ **Ynot** said that the Rules were developed to obtain Incorporation from Fair Trading, but that By-Laws were necessary for the running of the club.
☐ He explained how the work load to develop the By-Laws had been distributed and that most of this work had been done, but had not yet been approved by the Management Committee.
- Other Business (without notice):** ☐ **Ynot** welcomed Wingman and MG to the Club, and said that Wingman was the Club's first Tourer rider. Wingman gave the meeting a short description of himself and MG.
☐ **Debbil** showed members a 2010 Calendar he had developed under Jenny's guidance. It was available for \$5.00. Rowdy immediately claimed the demonstration one, and at least 10 others were ordered.
☐ **Sugar** said that the ride Sarge was taking as "a tour of the bay" on Saturday 21 November was now to be a "Ride to the Mountains".
- Raffle:** ☐ Steiny won the top Christmas Hamper that Cougar had assembled and donated.
- Next meeting date:** ☐ 15 December 2009
- Meeting closed at:** ☐ 8.39 pm

Ride— Sunday, 15 November 2009

The time was 8.15 am Sunday morning; I was parked at Cleveland Shell servo after having just filled my tank and was waiting to meet up with Steiny when, after a call on my mobile, I realised I was at the wrong servo. Oops my mistake, communication breakdown on my part. Then I thought to myself “This is not a good start for a ride leader”.

Anyway, we finally met up and headed for Exit 38 at Yatala and arrived with 5 minutes to go before the 9.00 am departure. There to meet us were Sarge, Ynot, Debbil, Sam, Huffy, Boots and Hooter – sorry Hooch.

Ynot assisted me with the mandatory pre-ride speech and from there I lead the pack off in the direction of Nerang and into the Numinbah Valley to a little country Cafe for our first bum break, smoke for those who need one and a coffee. After leaving there we headed towards Murwillumbah; very scenic and quite popular with motorcycle enthusiasts.

As we entered the township of Murwillumbah, unknown to my fellow riders I devised a Baldric-type cunning plan where I would take the group along an earlier travelled route just to make sure rival clubs weren't following us, which I could tell impressed a few riders.

After performing my manoeuvre with stealth-like precision we stopped at the Murwillumbah pub for a drink and to put the chaff bag on. Just on that note – put your hand up who noticed the circus tent in the showgrounds the second time round and did anyone spot the clown? Oh well, not to worry.

After a relaxing lunch break we mounted out STEEL HORSES and headed toward what I thought was the little highway township of Mooball. A special thanks to Sarge and Debbil for putting me straight. We [finally—Editor] crossed the bridge heading out of Murwillumbah and on to Mooball where we stopped before crossing the railway line to gather up the troops.

Somewhere along the way Hooter and Boots peeled off – I don't know but I think it was something to do with low fuel – anyone would think we'd been riding around in circles – probably just needed a good service!

After crossing the railway line it was onto Pottsville and Hastings Point where a cool coastal breeze was appreciated. A stopover in Hastings Point to feed our horses and we were on the road again towards the Pacific Highway and the M1 for the run home.

Final stop was at Jacobs Well turnoff where we said our goodbyes until the meeting on the following Tuesday night.

A personal thanks to everyone who helped me make it an enjoyable ride.

Sparra and Steiny

Rantings of a Mad Man

Rantings of a Mad Man

As you all know I sent out an email saying that I wasn't joining the Steel Horsemen; well other club members have beat some sense into me and I have joined.

Today [Sunday, November 29] I was on the ride with the man from Barky. Yes it was Debbil and as always we were in safe hands and I realised what a huge mistake I would have made had I not joined.

So now that the bumps have gone down and the scars have healed, a big thank you to those who changed my mind.

I hope that everyone will realise as I have, that the club is not about meetings; it is not about where we ride; it's about the people in the club. And Sarge, that offer of unconditional love if I joined, well I don't think I can drink that much beer.

See you round like a rissole.

Cosmo

Ride— Saturday, 21 November 2009

Once again I found myself at Upper Mt Gravatt Maccas waiting for the crew. Individually they drifted in over the next 40 minutes with happy looks and full tanks of fuel.

We had Phil, Ynot, Debbil, Loges, BC, Popeye, Wingman and MG, Rowdy, Boots and I sipping coffee and waiting the 9 am departure bell.



I had a long ride planned so we headed off on time towards Beaudesert where I planned the first stop. We took the back roads via Underwood to traverse across from Mt Gravatt to Beaudesert Road. Unfortunately I couldn't find a way without traffic lights so we did the best we could and wound slowly through the Saturday morning traffic constantly stopping for red lights. Eventually we made the main road and after some roadwork we moved up to the speed limit and started to get the breeze through our warm shirts.

The traffic managed to separate us once but despite the efforts of some nit in a white Van that wouldn't give way and pushed in, we stayed together for most of the ride to Beaudesert.

We stopped at the Caltex on the Southern side of the town and met up with members of the Gold Coast Cruiser Club who were also having a quick rest before heading off further South West.



After a drink and quick re-fuel we mounted up and rode on to Rathdowney. Much to Boot's dismay we didn't stop at the Rathdowney Pub. We still had a few hundred kilometres to go and time was getting on.

A quick turn right after Rathdowney found us winding back towards Boonah. This road is reasonable but narrow with some very tight turns so it's not to be taken lightly. I managed to find the Queen Mary Falls turn off before we got all the way to Boonah (phew!) We turned onto this road just behind a couple of other Bikes and a scooter that looked very like a Vespa.

Now as we proceeded along I noticed that the Vespa was doing a very brisk pace and despite doing 100 on the nose I was not drawing any nearer. I made a mental note to

make a New Years resolution that from now on no Scooter was ever going to pass or leave me behind again but I would let this one go.

We stopped at the bottom of the range for a little rest and for me to provide a verbal warning for all those who had never been up the mountain to Queen Mary Falls to be careful and to not underestimate the corners. It took about an hour but we eventually made it to the top of the range and stopped at a little Café for lunch but it had no beer and there wasn't a pub in sight.



Phil and I discussed cholesterol and I ate Ham and Lettuce sandwiches while he and the others dined well.

As we dined a group of bikes pulled up and Debbil made a point of making contact and handing out our Invite to Ride business cards. They were well received by the group who turned out to be Morgan and Wacker riders.

We left after a well-digested Lunch and headed down to Killarney for fuel. Arriving at Killarney we stopped at the one and only petrol station to find that it opens Saturday morning only. As some of us were running short of fuel, a detour into Warwick was the only logical choice. So we headed off on the only road that Ynot had expressed a desire not to travel (he – he!)

35 km later we arrived at Warwick and stopped for much needed fuel. The temperature was HOT DAM HOT, so a small amount of time was spent by some lingering in the air-conditioned fuel station office cooling down.

Loges had to leave us and indicated that he was heading straight back so he said goodbye to everyone.

We left Warwick but unknown to me we left a couple of us trailing behind due to traffic and I turned right off the highway and the last few didn't see this and stayed on the main highway so consequently we got separated.

I realized we had a few missing a couple of minutes after turning, but despite some serious effort didn't catch up.



We stopped at the Maryvale Pub for a quick drink as I couldn't take Boots past another Pub and the weather was very hot. As we were enjoying a cool sarsaparilla I got a call from Debbil and after establishing where we were, he told us to wait and arrived about 10 minutes later.

After a cool down and a natter we said our Goodbyes and all headed off to Brisbane.

A good ride with good company.

See ya on the next one.

Sarge

Seasons
Greetings



Ride— Sunday, 29 November 2009 (Riders' Choice)

Saturday 28 November! Yep, I can clean the car today; so while cleaning the car I thought "I'm taking a ride tomorrow – might clean the bike also". But I should have known better.

Sunday – hot, humid, cloud free! At 9.00 am at Maccas at Upper Mt Gravatt there were 7 bikes: Boots, Drastic, Rowdy, Sarge, Sparra on the smaller bike, Steiny, and me. So out of Maccas we went then we had a short run along Klumpp Rd to the SE Freeway inbound. We exited at Gaza Rd and took a tour through Tarragindi and up through Dutton Pk and Highgate Hill. From there we went down through Southbank where we took a little detour at QPAC onto Stanley St (under the Victoria Bridge) and came out past the Museum and State Library. We then crossed the river on the William Jolly Bridge (Grey St Bridge).

We took a left into Milton Rd then left again into Cribb Street and onto Coronation Drive for a run out to University of Qld. Around the Uni we went, then down to the river and along The Esplanade, and past the Indooroopilly Golf Links. We crossed the river again heading south on Walter Taylor Bridge, then stayed on Honour Avenue. Steiny left us here to visit rellies while we continued onto Sherwood Rd. We then headed along Oxley Rd to Seventeen Miles Rock Rd where we followed its twists and turns and eventually crossed over the Brisbane River on the Centenary Highway Bridge—this time heading north.

Boots showed us a much better (and more scenic) route which bypassed Kenmore. We then headed for Bellbowrie and stopped for a bum break at Birkin Rd park overlooking the river. Somehow or other there was Cosmo waiting for us. I think he's a mystic but he reckons he'd been on the bike all morning and didn't want to get off, and thought we might stop there because we did last time (I must be a creature of habit). And just to make sure I didn't get confused with how many bikes there should be behind me, Boots decided he had to leave us.

We then headed up along Kangaroo Valley Rd to rejoin Mt Crosby Rd then headed west through Anstead, Karana Downs and Mt Crosby.

After doing the 'light fantastic' south over the river – again – at College's Crossing, we had a coffee break at Karalee Shopping Centre. It was Hot Hot Hot!

A few roundabouts after that we were on the Ipswich bypass heading west. Then we hung a left (and a left, and a left and a right) onto Pine Mountain Rd and the Brisbane Valley Highway. Just after Fernvale and a sharp left, we crossed the Brisbane River once more – heading west – on Wivenhoe Pocket Road. Eventually we came back to the Brisbane Valley Highway heading back towards Fernvale, but then we hung a left onto Wivenhoe-Somerset Road to Northbrook Parkway. We had a quick break here at the T-junction under the trees but bees had built a large nest and didn't like visitors so we continued on and headed up to Mt Glorious.

After a lunch break at Marilyn's Cafe we chatted for while and the clouds started to roll in. Nah – not a chance – it won't rain! Hell, it looks like it might. So to avoid the rain away we went. Cosmo went down the back way as it was closer to home. So for the rest of us of course, from the Samford junction to Mt Nebo, the heavens opened. BUGGER! Oh well at least it's cooler. I thought I'd lost Drastic somewhere in the Esses but he'd only stopped to keep his new Blackberry dry (he reckoned his boss might not have been too forgiving if it carked it as he'd only had it a week - aaah what people will do for work! Anyway we then continued down to the Settlement Rd Mobil Servo at The Gap where we said our goodbyes.

It was a seriously top ride even if we did get wet. But as Sarge would say, "What rain? I don't remember getting wet!" The following Tuesday Marilyn told me that it hadn't rained at Mt Glorious at all that day.

Debbil

Ride— Tuesday, 1 December 2009, around Brisbane

Sarge was on leave, so when I asked if he wanted to trip around Brisbane on Tuesday while I did some Steel Horses chores, and finish up with Coffee at Mt Glorious, I was almost knocked over by his eagerness to say “Yes”.

So, at the civilised hour of 9.30 am he rocked up and away we went. First stop was at Embroidery Excellence at Tingalpa to collect some Insignia for new members, and then we were off over the Gateway Bridge and onto the old motorway and up Nudgee Rd to Toombul Rd. From there we turned right on Sandgate Rd and dropped into Team Moto just outbound of Robinson Rd. I talked to the Parts Manager and he was very happy to take one of our Business Card Holders and a bunch of Ride Invitations.

We headed off but I soon realized that the scenery looked wrong so we turned around, went back to Robinson Rd and after a few blocks looking for 115 got thoroughly confused. It seems that 115 is between 129 and 151 and on the other side of the street there are 138 and 146. Seriously! I stopped and phoned the place we were looking for – Bikers World – and Alan said “No worries, can you see the big flag on a high pole?” “Yep!” “Well, that’s 151. Turn in just before there and Unit 22 is waaaay down the back.”

Alan was right. Once there we found that Alan wasn’t, but son Harry from Unit 18 was. He knew all about us (seems he does Dad’s website) so he and I discussed the placement of a Business Card Holder and I gave him a bunch of Ride Invitations as well. While I was doing Steel Horses business, Sarge was trying to spend money – seems Sugar is slowly influencing him – and he bought a tool caddy for a really good price AND IT CAME WITH A DISCOUNT (and FRINGES which Sugar won’t let him cut off). Sarge and I also got some free goodies.

From there we headed out through Albany Creek and onto to Samford where we took the road up to Mt Glorious. After coffee and a bit to eat we headed home.

It was another good day.

Debbil



Ride— Wed-Thu, 2-3 December 2009

Jenny suggested that Sarge and I might like to go on an overnight ride somewhere, so while we were having a bite to eat at Mt Glorious on the Tuesday, I asked him.

"Sounds good", he said. "Where?" "I'll give that some thought. How about Glen Innes, across to Grafton and back through Kyogle – say 8.30 am tomorrow at Maccas Goodna?" "We're on" he replies.

So at 8.20 am I arrived at the meeting point and of course Sarge was waiting. As I approached Goodna I had been eyeing the heavy black clouds. "Nah, it won't rain," I said to myself. We shook hands; I wandered into Maccas for some ride preparation and came out into a light sprinkle. Sarge, the weather forecaster says, "It won't rain, we're heading south and we'll ride out of it". Right!

We hit the Ipswich Motorway headed west and the light sprinkle soon turned to drizzle, then rain, so at the first overpass on the Cunningham Highway we pulled up for wet gear. While we were stopped, every truck in Queensland went past showering us with spray and crap.

By Aratula the rain had petered out but it had got colder. As soon as we topped Cunningham's Gap however, the rain came back with a vengeance and the temperature dropped to near freezing.

While we were re-fuelling at the truck stop at Warwick a bloke riding a HD and looking very miserable asked about the weather as he was riding from Sydney to Brisbane. He had no luggage, no wet gear, and was NOT happy. Sarge suggested a garbage bag under his jacket. I'm still trying to work out if he'd just started riding; it was his first time out of Sydney; or he'd never ridden in the rain before.



We continued on and after a bum break at Wallangarra we arrived at the Servo on the northern outskirts of Glen Innes. The woman behind the counter gave me a really good tip about bypassing the town. This turned out to be a first class bit of road.

After lunch we headed off on the Gwydir Highway to Grafton. We avoided the HUGE road kill roo, and negotiated our way through about 4 kays of well-trained and unsupervised cattle and continued on (and up) into the Gibraltar Ranges. We found this lookout about 1 kay off the road but with sealed access – called Raspberry Lookout that overlooked an immense area of ranges. It was totally surreal and fabulous with all the valleys full of mist. That was when we decided this trip had to be an away trip for the Event Calendar.

Later we entered Washpool National Park and followed the Mann River for a long way. We saw enormous rock faces and incredible rocky rapids as we rode.

Finally we arrived in Grafton and found very good but basic accommodation at the Crown Hotel and Motel right on the banks of the Clarence River. They looked after us well and we had a good night.

Next morning we were away by 7.30 our time (bloody New South Welshman do everything an hour earlier) and we headed north through Casino and onto Kyogle. After a Coffee we continued on through Rathdowney to Beaudesert where we had lunch. Now Beaudesert has only 1 set of traffic lights – so how could anyone get lost there? We did a bit of too and froing around the gardens looking for somewhere to park, back through the lights, left, left – oh Bugger, where's Sarge? I

quickly parked the bike (silly move) and walked back to look for him – oh good, here he comes.

After lunch I found that I had parked in a really steeep parking bay – do you think I could get it off the side stand? Nevermind, I hopped on, Sarge helped me get my pride back, and then we headed towards Brisbane. Around the corner the friendly local police were asking drivers if they had enjoyed their Christmas Cheer so I got ready to blow in the bag but nah! They weren't interested in two obviously very well travelled cruisers. So we continued on, and after a chat and a handshake just before the road works near Sarge's place, we split up and went our way.

It was a really top ride – as Sarge said "I've forgotten the cold and the wet already".

Debbil

Event Calendar

Eventually, this will be a "rolling" 12-month calendar, and will change every 3 months.

Where it says "**Rider's Choice**" or "**Pillion's Choice**"

We would like you to volunteer to lead a ride along your favourite roads.

If you want to take a Riders Choice, email the nominated Ride Captain at least two weeks before to let him/her know the meeting point (you decide), the route, the distance, and approximate ride duration.

If everything is OK, the Ride Captain will approve it and let you know ASAP.

When the Ride Captain lets you know, you **MUST** then email all members to give them advanced notice of the ride details.
(if you can't do that, ask the Secretary to do it ASAP).

YOU must then lead the ride.

If nobody volunteers, the nominated Ride Captain will take the ride as usual.

You must phone the relevant Ride Captain by 7.30 pm the night before a ride to confirm you wish to do that ride.

Meeting Points & Ride Captains		
South	M1, Exit 38, Yatala (BP Service Centre)	Yogi — 11yogi11@gmail.com Mob: 0418 692 277; Ph: 07 3206 0440
West	McDonalds, 2 William St, Goodna	Sam —samhobden@hotmail.com Mob: 0419 174 201; Ph: 07 5464 1066 Cosmo —cutidea@bigpond.com.au Ph: 07 5464 5275
Central	McDonalds, Logan Rd & Norton St, Upper Mt Gravatt	Sarge —sarge44@bigpond.net.au Mob: 0417 636 425; Ph: 07 3272 5981

December 2009				
Sat 5	All	6.00 pm	Steel Horses Christmas Party	
Sun 13	South	9.00 am	A short ride with BBQ at Jewles and Ger's place at Reedy Creek	
Tue 15	All	7.00 pm	Meeting at Broadway Hotel, Woolloongabba	
Sat 19	Central	9.00 am	Members's Choice	
Fri 25	Family		Christmas Day	Presents
Sun 27	West	9.00 am	Rider's choice	
January 2010				
Fri 1			New Year's Day	Hangover
Sat 2	Central	9.00 am	Samford, Dayboro, Mt Mee, Maleny, Burpengary, Home	210 km 5 hours
Sun 10	West	9.00 am	Rosewood, Gatton, Murphys Creek, Hampton, Esk, Fernvale	
Sun 17	South	9.00 am	Beaudesert, Lions Road, Kyogle, Nimbin, Murwillumbah, Home	289 km 6 hours
Tue 19	All	7.00 pm	Meeting at Broadway Hotel, Woolloongabba	
Sun 24	Central	9.00 am	Blacksoil, Fernvale, Esk, Splyard Creek, Mt Glorious, Samford, Home	300 km 6.5 hours
Tue 26			Australia Day	
Sat 30	West	9.00 am	Pillion's Choice	
February 2010				
Sun 7	South	9.00 am	Yatala, Advance Town, Natural Bridge, Byron Bay, Home	306 km 5.5 hours
Sat 13	Central	9.00 am	Beaudesert, Boonah, Harrisville, Rosewood, Blacksoil, Home	320 km 6 hours
Sun 14	All	12.00	Valentine's Day – Family BBQ (Sausage Sizzle) Mt COOTHA Gold Coin donation	Roses
Tues 16	ALL	7.00 pm	Broadway Hotel Woolloongabba	
Sun 21	West	9.00 am	Peak Crossing, Boonah, Queen Mary Falls, Aratula, Ipswich	220 km
Sat 27	South	9.00 am	Rider's Choice	

March 2010				
Sun 6	All	6.30 pm	Ten Pin Bowling, Kessels Rd, McGregor, \$25 / game including gear. Drinks etc available	
Sun 7	Central	9.00 am	Grandchester, Laidley, Esk, Kilcoy, Home	280 km 6 hours
Sat 13	West	9.00 am	Brekkie Ride. Redbank Plains, Greenbank, North MacLean, Jimboomba, Mundoolun, Canungra	150 km
Tues 16	ALL	7.00 pm	Broadway Hotel Woolloongabba	
Sun 21	South	9.00 am	Yatala, Cleveland, Redland Bay, (tourist drive)	150 km 5 hours
Sat 27	Central	9.00 am	Beaudesert, Rathdowney, Queen Mary Falls, Killarney, Maryvale, Home	380 km 7 hours
April 2010				
Thu-Sun 1-4	Central	9.00 am	EASTER – Sarge's Baked Bean run. Starts Thursday 1: returns Sunday or Monday; going SOUTH	About 500 km / day
Sat 10	West	9.00 am	Peak Crossing, Boonah, Queen Mary Falls, Aratula, Ipswich	350 km
Sun 18	South	9.00 am	Tweed Heads, Kingscliff, Byron Bay, Lennox Head, Alstonville Pub (Lunch), Teven, Bangalow, Coomera	314 km
Tues 20	ALL	7.00 pm	Broadway Hotel Woolloongabba	
Sat 24	Central	9.00 am	Rider's Choice	
Sun 25	West		Anzac Day	
May 2010				
Sun 2	South	9.00 am	Mudgeeraba, Neranwood, Springbrook, Ingleside, Tallebudgera, Dungay, Murwillumbah, Tumbulgum, Coomera	204 km
Sat 8	Central	9.00 am	Grandchester, Laidley, Esk, Kilcoy, Home	280 km 6 hours
Sun 9			Mother's Day	
Sun 16	South	9.00 am	Yatala, Advance Town, Natural Bridge, Byron Bay, Home	306 km 5.5 hours
Tues 18	ALL	7.00 pm	Broadway Hotel Woolloongabba	
Sun 23	Central	9.00 am	Rider's Choice	
Sat 29	West	9.00 am	Pillion's Choice	
June 2010				
Sat 6	South	9.00 am	Yatala, Cleveland, Redland Bay, (tourist drive)	180 km 5 hours
Sat-Sun 12-13	Central	9.00 am	Hervey Bay Weekend away	500 km 2 days
Tues 15	ALL	7.00 pm	Broadway Hotel Woolloongabba	
Sat 20	West	9.00 am	Gatton, Toowoomba, Oakey, Goombungee, Hampton, Esk, Fernvale	278 km
Sun 27	South	9.00 am	Rider's Choice	
July 2010				
Sat 3	Central	9.00 am	Samford, Dayboro, Mt Mee, Maleny, Burpengary, Home	210 km 5 hours
Sun 11	West	9.00 am	Aratula, Maryvale, Allora, RUDDS Pub, Ma Ma Creek, Laidley, Walloon	280 km
Sun 18	South	Early	Laverda	
Tues 20	All	9.00 am	Broadway Hotel Woolloongabba	
Sat 24	Central	9.00 am	Rider's Choice	
Sun 01	West	9.00 am	Pillion's Choice	

August 2010				
Sun 8	South	9.00 am	Mt Tambourine, Canungra, O'Reilly's Rainforest Guesthouse, Canungra, Coomera	122 km
Sat 14	Central	9.00 am	Samford, Mt Glorious, Esk, Kilcoy, Home	300 km 6.5 hours
Tues 17	All	7.00 pm	Broadway Hotel Woolloongabba	
Sun 22	West	9.00 am	Flagstone Creek, Cambooya, Pittsworth, Oakey, Toowoomba, Gatton	352 km
Sun 29	South	9.00 am	Rider's Choice	
September 2010				
Sat 4	Central	9.00 am	Beaudesert, Mt Lindsay, Kyogle, Lions Road, Beaudesert, home	350km 6 hours
Sun 5	West		Father's Day	
Sun 12	South	9.00 am	Mullumbimby, Montecollum, Rosebank, The Channon, Koonorigan, Nimbin, Blue Knob, Kunghur, Murwillumbah, Tweed Heads, Coomera	317 km
Sun 19	Central	9.00 am	Beaudesert, Boonah, Harrisville, Rosewood, Black soil, Home	300 km 5.5 hours
Tues 21	All	7.00 pm	Broadway Hotel Woolloongabba	
Sat 25	West	9.00 am	Rider's Choice	
Mon-Wed 27-28-29	Debbil	9.00 am	Mild Hogs Ride	1,500 km 3 days
October 2010				
Sun 3	South	9.00 am	Short Ride: Breakfast at Springwood Suzuki then onto Moss Street for a bike shop crawl. Springwood Hotel for Lunch	50 km
Sat 9	Central	9.00 am	Esk, Yarraman, Nanango, Kingaroy, Kumbia, Bunya Mountains, Bensenville, Maidenwell, Blackbutt, Esk	550 km
Sun 17	West	9.00 am	Peak Crossing, Boonah, Queen Mary Falls, Killarney, Yangan, Clintonvale, Aratula, Ipswich	295 km
Tues 19	All	7.00 pm	Broadway Hotel Woolloongabba *** AGM ***	
Sun 24	South	9.00 am	Rider's Choice	
Sun 31	Central	9.00 am	Pillion's Choice	
November 2010				
Sat 6	West	9.00 am	Dinner Ride - Fernvale, Wivenhoe Dam, Esk, Lowood	123 km
Sun 14	South	9.00 am	Yatala, Beaudesert, Kyogle, Lismore, Bangalow, Coomera	350 km
Tues 16	All	7.00 pm	Broadway Hotel Woolloongabba	
Sat 20	Central	9.00 am	Landsborough, Nambour, Cooroy, Noosa, Caloundra, BP Service Centre Burpengary	295 km
Sun 28	West	9.00 am	Rider's Choice	
December 2010				
TBA			Christmas Party !!!!! on a date to be decided	
Sun 5	South	9.00 am	Mudgeeraba, Neranwood, Springbrook, Ingleside, Tallebudgera, Dungay, Murwillumbah, Tumbulgum, Coomera	204 km
Sun 12	Central	6.00pm	Mt Nebo, Glorious, Somerset, Kilcoy, Toogoolawah, Esk, Hampton, Toowoomba, Murphys Creek	400 km
Sat 18	West	9.00 am	Christmas Lights ride and Dinner	
Tues 21	All	7.00 pm	Broadway Hotel Woolloongabba	
Sun 25			Christmas Day	
Sun 26	South	9.00 am	Rider's Choice	

The 12 days of Christmas

December 14

My dearest darling John:

Who ever in the whole world would dream of getting a real Partridge in a Pear Tree? How can I ever express my pleasure? Thank you a hundred times for thinking of me this way. My love always,
Agnes

December 15

Dearest John:

Today the postman brought your very sweet gift. Just imagine two turtle doves. I'm just delighted at your very thoughtful gift. They are just adorable.
All my love,
Agnes

December 16

Dear John:

Oh! Aren't you the extravagant one? Now I must protest. I don't deserve such generosity; three French hens. They are just darling but I must insist, you've been too kind.
All my love,
Agnes

December 17

Dear John:

Today the postman delivered four calling birds. Now really, they are beautiful, but don't you think enough is enough. You are being too romantic.
Affectionately,
Agnes

December 18

Dearest John:

What a surprise. Today the postman delivered five golden rings, one for every finger. You're just impossible, but I love it. Frankly, all those birds squawking were getting on my nerves.
All my love,
Agnes

December 19

Dear John:

When I opened the door today there were actually six geese laying on my front steps. So you're back to the birds again huh? These geese are huge. Where will I ever keep them? The neighbours are complaining and I can't sleep through the racket. Please stop.
Cordially,
Agnes

December 20

John:

What's with you and those freaking birds? Seven swans a swimming. What kind of damn joke is this? There's bird poop all over the house and they never stop the racket. I can't sleep at night and I'm a nervous wreck. It's not funny. So stop those bloody birds.
Sincerely,
Agnes

December 21

O.K. Buster:

I think I prefer the birds. What the hell am I going to do with 8 maids a milking? It's not enough with all those birds and 8 maids a milking, but they had to bring their damn cows. There's manure all over the lawn and I can't move in my own house.
Just lay off me, smartarse.
Agnes

December 22

Hey Dickhead:

What are you? Some kind of sadist?
Now there're nine pipers playing. And Christ do they play! They've never stopped chasing those maids since they got here yesterday morning. The cows are getting upset and they're stepping all over those screeching birds.
What am I going to do? The neighbours have started a petition to evict me.
You'll get yours !
Agnes

December 23

You stupid Dropkick:

Now there're ten ladies dancing. I don't know why I call those sluts ladies. They've been humping those pipers all night long. Now the cows can't sleep and they've got diarrhoea. My living room is a river of shit. The City Council has subpoenaed me to give cause why the building shouldn't be condemned.
I'm calling the police on you !
Agnes

December 24

Listen you rotten Bastard:

What's with those eleven lords a leaping on those maids and ladies? Some of those broads will never walk again. Those pipers ran through the maids and have been committing sodomy with the cows. All twenty-three of the birds are dead. They've been trampled to death in the orgy.
I hope you're satisfied, you rotten vicious swine.
Your sworn enemy,
Agnes

December 25

Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge your latest gift of twelve fiddlers fiddling which you have seen fit to inflict on our client, Miss Agnes McHolstein.

The destruction, of course, was total. All correspondence should come to our attention. If you should attempt to reach Miss McHolstein at Happy Dale Sanatorium, the attendants have been instructed to shoot you on sight.
With this letter please find attached a warrant for your arrest.

Cordially,
James Choler
Legal Offices of Badger Bender & Choler

How to make a Christmas Cake

Ingredients:

- ☐ 1 cup of water
- ☐ 1 tsp baking soda
- ☐ 1 cup of sugar
- ☐ 1 tsp salt
- ☐ 1 cup of brown sugar
- ☐ lemon juice
- ☐ 4 large eggs
- ☐ nuts
- ☐ 1 bottle Vodka
- ☐ 2 cups of dried fruit

Method:

1. Sample the vodka to check its quality.
2. Take a large bowl, check the vodka again.
3. To be sure it is of the highest quality, pour one level cup and drink.
4. Repeat.
5. Turn on the electric mixer.
6. Beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl.
7. Add one teaspoon of sugar.
8. Beat again.
9. At this point it's best to make sure the vodka is shtill OK.
10. Try another cupjust in case.
11. Turn off the mixerer.
12. Break 2 leggs and add to the bowl and chuck in the cup of dried fruit. Pick fruit off floor.
13. Mix on the turner.
14. If the fried druit gets stuck in the beaterer spry it loose with a drewscriver.
15. Sample the vodka to check for tonsisticity.
16. Next, sift two cups of salt. Or something. Who giveshz a shit?
17. Check the vodka.
18. Now shift the lemon juice and strain your nuts.
19. Add one table.
20. Add a spoon of sugar, or somefink. Whatever you can find.
21. Greash the oven.
22. Turn the cake tin 360 degrees and try not to fall over.
23. Don't forget to beat off the turner.
24. Finally, throw the bowl through the window, finish the vodka and kick the cat.



Techy stuff—Honda VT400

Honda has released the VT400, a Learner Approved Motorcycle that is the same size as the popular VT750.

In fact, many people will think it's a VT750 simply because there is no discernible difference between the two.

Only the very knowledgeable will be able to pick them apart from the VT400's smaller muffler aperture.

So cunning is the disguise, riders will not only get extra street cred, but also a relaxed riding position on a bike that won't get buffeted around by trucks on the highway.

It looks lusciously low and wide with chrome pullback handlebars that require only a short and comfortable reach. Together with the low seat, it makes a perfect bike for shorter people and will perhaps hold added appeal to the female rider market.

However, taller riders are also well accommodated —although the forward foot controls are not as far forward as most cruisers. Pillions are also well roosted with a generous seat pad and seat-to-footpeg distance, but the bike could do with more than just a seat sash for grip.

The rider's seat is plump and soft, which feels fine at first but after a while your behind gets numb as you sink down to the supports underneath the seat.

Build quality is superb, as is expected from Honda, with plenty of clean-looking chrome, neat and simple styling, a traditional teardrop tank and bullet-type chromed headlight casing.

Controls and switchgear are conventional and functional. It is no wonder the VT750 has sold well. This cruiser handles better than most with a light steering input required for tight turns, quick turn-in and steady mid-corner handling.

It wallows only slightly over big bumps where the short rear suspension comes unstuck and there is marginal front-end dive under brakes.

Speaking of which — the front hydraulic brakes have plenty of progressive feel and more bite than most cruisers, while the rear brake is dull and wooden, but fine for steadying the ship. Cornering is aided by good clearance with the hero knobs getting a minimal workout until you start to push it.

The fuel-injected, liquid-cooled 398cc V-twin engine is soft and smooth, but torquy enough to pull in most gears so you don't have to tap-dance on the gear shift to get results.

It's quiet and you may think it's conked out at lights. Under hard acceleration there is a low groan from the pipes and you feel a little bit of character enter the engine's pulse.

Gears are typically super slick for a Honda bike with a good spread of five usable ratios suitable for the city and country, while neutral is easy to find with no false neutrals.

The VT400 comes with Honda's Ignition Security System, a strengthened handle lock mechanism and a heavy-duty key cylinder. There is a range of accessories available, including chrome backrest, chrome rear carrier, leather saddle bags, chrome ornaments for front and rear guards, backrest plate, body cover and windscreen.

It's available in silver or two-tone black and silver.



Honda VT400

Price: \$9990 (+ ORC)

Engine: 398cc, liquid-cooled, fuel-injected, 4-stroke, 3-valve, OHC V-twin

Transmission: 5-speed, wet clutch, chain drive

length 2510 mm

width 920 mm

height 1125 mm

wheelbase 1640 mm

seat height 660 mm

clearance 130 mm

wet weight 252 kg

tank 14 litre

Tyre front 120/90-17

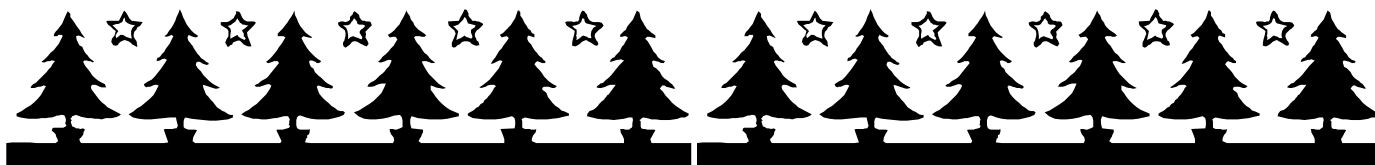
Tyre rear 160/80-15

Brake front hydraulic single disc

Brake rear drum

Fuel ULP

Mark Hinchliffe (The Courier-Mail, Saturday, August 22-23, Cars Guide, p.13)



How to wear your Patch and Insignia

