

# Shaft Drive Lines

November 2014

[www.bmwccact.org.au](http://www.bmwccact.org.au)



## What's On

30 November	Monthly Club Meeting, Murray's Crossing BBQs Paddys River Road.
5 December	Club Awards Night & Christmas Dinner at the Mawson Club, Mawson
7 December	Alternative Breakfast, Poppy's at the Australian War Memorial
28 December	There is <b><u>NO</u></b> Club monthly meeting in December
23-25 January	AMCN Phillip Island Classic Bike Racing, Phillip Island



## SHAFT DRIVE LINES VOLUME 34, NOVEMBER 2014

### 2014-15 COMMITTEE

#### President:

Martin Robertson - R1200R, R80Rc  
0409 329 270 & Husqvarna 630



[President@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:President@bmwmccact.org.au)

#### Vice President:

David Prest - K75  
0423327912 (text is best)



[Vicepres@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Vicepres@bmwmccact.org.au)

#### Ride Coordinator

Garry Smee - R1200ST / F800GS  
0400 264 372 R100RS



[Rides@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Rides@bmwmccact.org.au)

#### Secretary:

Dennis Littame - R1200GSA



[Secretary@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Secretary@bmwmccact.org.au)

#### Treasurer:

Bob Ellison - F800GS



[Treasurer@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Treasurer@bmwmccact.org.au)

#### Membership Secretary:

Bruce Barter - R1150GS



[Members@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Members@bmwmccact.org.au)

#### Social Secretary:

Steve Hay, R1200GS  
0422 006 727



[Social@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Social@bmwmccact.org.au)

#### Editor:

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[Editor@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Editor@bmwmccact.org.au)

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0422 006 727

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#### Webmaster:

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0409 329 270 & Husqvarna 610



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#### BMW Clubs Australia Delegate:

Garry Smee



[BMWCA@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:BMWCA@bmwmccact.org.au)



**Cover Photo:** Chai and Robert cross the Queanbeyan River (headwaters) on [Tinderry Road](#).  
G. Smee

## ABOUT THE CLUB

**Membership:** You can apply to join the BMWCCACT Inc. online from the Club's website <http://bmwmccact.org.au>. Members can update their personal details by logging on to the Club webpage.

**Meetings:** Club meetings are on the fourth Sunday each month at different locations across the ACT; currently Parks with BBQ's and following a cooked breakfast from 0830. The location and details are posted to the websites *What's On* and email reminders sent to members beforehand.

**Activities:** The Club's *What's On* web page details Club rides, social and other organised events. Members can email suggested rides and social events directly to the Ride Coordinator ([rides@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:rides@bmwmccact.org.au)) and Social Secretary ([social@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:social@bmwmccact.org.au)) respectively.

The Club's webpage has the most current information. The Ride Coordinator and Social Secretary will email members reminders and late changes to events. Email is the principal means of communicating with Club members; it is up to you to ensure that your email contact address is up to date and mailbox not so full that messages do not get through.

You can also join our Yahoo group ACTGravel surfers: <https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/ACTGravelsurfing/>

**Charity Support:** Profits from the Club's *Kosciuszko Rally*, held each October, are donated to a nominated charity. Unfortunately, there was no profit in 2013 due to low numbers.

### PRIVACY OF CLUB MEMBER INFORMATION

The Club's *Privacy & Spam* policy is available on the webpage or on request.

### SHAFT DRIVE LINES

Whilst the Editor has absolute discretion, the Club welcomes contributions to our magazine 'Shaft Drive Lines'. Emailed content is preferred to the [editor@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:editor@bmwmccact.org.au) or by @mail to:

The Editor, Shaft Drive Lines  
BMWCCACT  
PO Box 4042  
WESTON CREEK ACT 2611

For emails, do not embed pictures or compress their size to less than 200 dpi.

## BMWCCACT INC. RISK STATEMENT

Participants in BMWCCACT Incorporated (the Club) activities do so at their own risk as is obeying the law. The Club, Committee and members are not responsible for personal injury or loss arising from or through any Club activity. Remember your riding style impacts on the enjoyment and safety of other road users.

The opinions, articles and pictures published in this magazine are those of the individual writer and not the BMWCCACT Incorporated, Editor or BMW Motorrad. Technical articles and other such information where provided is for use at the discretion of the individual and are not intended to detract from genuine BMW spares, service and warranty.

BMW Clubs  
Australia



BMW Clubs  
International Council



<http://www.clubs.bmw.com.au/scripts/main.asp?PageID=12927>  
<http://www.bmw-clubs-international.com>

## PRESIDENT'S BANTER

Hi fellow members,

With Christmas and family get-togethers filling our social calendars, the Club has plenty to keep you busy as well. Most important is the Club's Christmas Dinner and Awards Night, details are in this magazine and I am sure many of you will get the email reminders.

Please come along for a great social get together with all your BMW friends and your partner can meet all those riding mates that you tell colourful stories about. There will also be prizes for those that entered their bike in the Club Concourse and some brain-twisting quizzes and a raffle or two.

As you would have read in last month's SDL, we had two very successful rallies in October. The *BMW Clubs Australia Motorrad Rally 2014* at Lake Cargelligo was the first bike-only BMW Rally sponsored by BMW Clubs Australia and our organising group was unsure if we would attract sufficient numbers from our compatriots in the other BMW Clubs to make the event a financial success. Fortunately, we did much better than break-even and with our annual *Kosciuszko Rally* also attracting a good rollup we have sufficient funds to make a donation to a charity or two. So we are seeking suggestions for a worthy cause to receive the benefits from these two rallies; please let me or one of the Committee know your thoughts. This donation is in addition to the \$500.00 and Birko urn (total of \$750) that the Club has given to the Lake Cargelligo Curlew Hospital Auxiliary.

By the time you read this, several of us will have been on the ride to visit the CSIRO Radio Telescope at Parkes. The ride report will be in December's issue of *Shaft Drive Lines*. So if you missed that ride, go directly to the [What's On](#) section of the website and pick a ride that could suit your riding style and availability. And if you just need motivation and some travelling companions, drop our Ride Coordinator, Garry Smee, a note and he will offer some geographical advice and try to find you some company

That's all from me, I'm off for a ride, now do I go via dirt or bitumen?

Ride Safely

Martin Robertson

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Chaitanya (Chai) Sambrani, G650GS

Tony Davidson

Owen Gardner, R1150RT

Jan & Janine Marais-van Vuuren, R1200RT LC

*We look forward to meeting you on a ride or at a Club event*

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## WHAT'S ON

Club members meet for an informal breakfast each Sunday from 0845 at the [Thymes Thirty Three Café](#) 3/33 Ellendon Street Bungendore. Everyone is welcome from 0830-1000 and often an ad-hoc short ride is arranged on the day for afterwards. Please free up the tables from 1000 if you are not eating to make way for other customers.

The Clubs webpage <http://bmwmccact.org.au> and 'What's On' tab details Club rides and activities, as does the [Ride Coordinator](#) by email to members. Do not forget an article and pictures of your ride for the magazine! Send those to the [Editor](#)

Date	Detail	Contact
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday each month	Club monthly are held on the fourth Sunday at different locations. A BBQ breakfast from 0830 or lunch from 1200 (selected winter months) is available to members and visitors (\$5 for an egg & bacon roll and a coffee) beforehand and followed by a ride agreed on the day.	The President will advise the location by email and on the Club's website. Alternatively, you can contact the President directly at <a href="mailto:president@bmwmccact.org.au">president@bmwmccact.org.au</a> .
Riding events	Are listed on the <i>What's On</i> tab of the Clubs webpage <a href="http://bmwmccact.org.au">http://bmwmccact.org.au</a> and has the most up to date information. Periodic email reminders are sent to Club members. If you are planning on a ride and want company, then email the Ride Coordinator before hand with ride and contact details and he/she will send an email to members.	Contact the Ride Coordinator ( <a href="mailto:rides@bmwmccact.org.au">rides@bmwmccact.org.au</a> )
Social events	Are listed on the <i>What's On</i> tab of the Clubs webpage <a href="http://bmwmccact.org.au">http://bmwmccact.org.au</a> and has the most up to date information. Periodic email reminders are sent to members. If you are coming along or want to host a social event then email the Social Secretary of your attendance (for planning numbers) or details of your event and he/she will send an email to members.	Contact the Social Secretary ( <a href="mailto:social@bmwmccact.org.au">social@bmwmccact.org.au</a> )

## CLUB IDENTIFICATION

Looking for a sticker of the Club logo for your bike or badge to wear? Small Stickers \$0.50, large ones \$1.00 and enamel pin badges \$5.00. Send an email to [members@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:members@bmwmccact.org.au) to arrange for pickup, delivery and payment.



## CLUB 2014 RIDE & SOCIAL CALENDAR



Do you want the Club to ride somewhere or do something in particular during 2014?

Then send your ride event or idea to [rides@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:rides@bmwmccact.org.au) or Social event or idea to [social@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:social@bmwmccact.org.au).

## IMPROVING MEMBER RIDING SKILLS

One of the Club's objectives is to improve club members riding skills. In recent years, the Club has sponsored and organised rider skills training and first aid courses. This year the Committee has adopted a different approach where you book, pay and attend a selected rider-training program and on completion present your 'certificate' to the Treasurer who will reimburse you 45% of the course cost and maximum \$100. Sorry no reimbursement for travel, accommodation, meals or entertainment: only the training course.

The Committee has approved the following training providers and courses. If you find another one, please send the details to the [Committee@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Committee@bmwmccact.org.au) for consideration.

- [BMW Australia Off Road Rider Training](#), various locations,
- [Stay Upright ACT](#) @ Sutton,
- [Academy of Off Road Riding](#) @ Nelligen
- [Top Rider Motorcycle Rider Training](#) @ Marulan, (occasionally in Canberra, check the web).
- [California Superbike School \(Australia\)](#), various race track locations.

In anticipation of the massed enthusiasm, for 2014 the subsidy has a 20-member course cap. We will keep you up to date on where we are at and if you are concerned please email the [Treasurer@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Treasurer@bmwmccact.org.au) before booking your course.

The rules!

- You must be a current financial member of the BMW MCCA ACT Inc. Yes, we will check.
- You must book, pay and attend a course with one of the rider training organisations listed above.
- You, having successfully completed your course send a copy of your course completion certificate to the [Treasurer@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Treasurer@bmwmccact.org.au) with your contact email and bank details, and
- The Treasurer, having validated your details will then reimburse you \$100 (maximum).
- You can claim only one reimbursement for this program cycle, April 2014 to February 2015 AGM.

### CLUB SPOT



The Club has purchased a SPOT personal (or group) GPS tracker for financial Club member's limited use.

**You will need to provide the response mobile phone number or email address that SPOT uses to communicate too. The Club will not be monitoring the SPOT or responding to any request for assistance.**

The Club member borrowing the SPOT is required to leave a refundable cash security deposit of \$50 and also responsible for providing the 4 AAA batteries (if/as required).

The SPOT comes with instructions on its use and preformatted messages.

You can read more about SPOT [here](#).

Contact Garry Smee [rides@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:rides@bmwmccact.org.au) before you're next 'off grid' ride and let someone know where you are.

### BMW MOTORCYCLE & PART RECALLS

Here is a list of recent BMW Motorcycle and motorcycle related product recalls listed on the ACCC [Product Safety Recalls Australia](#) website:

BMW Motorcycles: <http://www.recalls.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/952852>.

Motorcycle Parts & Accessories: <http://www.recalls.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/952853>.

Note: Not all importers choose to list their recalled motorcycle parts and accessories under this sub-heading, so a general search may be required ☹

### CLUB WEBSITE, ACCOUNT, LOGIN & EMAILS

You can select what emails you want to receive from the Club by logging in to your account and 'viewing your profile'. From here you can edit personal details, describe yourself, bikes or interests and importantly select what communications you want to get from the club including ride notices, event announcements and the Club magazine *Shaft Drive Lines*. Some things you cannot deselect including membership notices like renewals and reminders.

If you not getting emails, maybe it is because your account is full or locked or you've changed email providers. These are all within your control and need to be changed by you. Lost your password? Then send an email to the [web@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:web@bmwmccact.org.au)

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### EDITOR'S FILL

The calendar is full of rides to different locations, but remember if the Club isn't going to a location you want then let me as Ride Coordinator know ([rides@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:rides@bmwmccact.org.au)) or one of the other Committee Members. November's alternate breakfast to the *Snowy Mountain Gourmet Café* in Bredbo was one of my most successful with 12 members including several new ones.

The webpage is the most important communication tools used by the committee to inform members, prospective members and the wider public of club activities. It is important that you keep us informed of your email address and check back to see *What's On* and not just rely on the email reminders. Forgotten your login? Then send an email to the [webmaster@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:webmaster@bmwmccact.org.au)

We have added some new pages and content to the website, firstly is a public page [Riding Around the ACT, Our Rides](#) of local rides and links to Google Maps, the second is the [Members Only](#) area that includes e-mags received from other BMW Clubs. Some Clubs place restrictions on the availability of their magazines, so please respect this requirement and read – not share – their magazines. If you find something of interest, then refer others to the respective Club website. Our magazine *Shaft Drive Lines* is available free online to anyone who cares to read it. The Club is a member of BMW Clubs Australia and part of BMW Clubs International who had their annual meeting in Tokyo during October; read the report of what went on.

Next year, BMW Clubs International Committee will meet in Melbourne the week before the MotoGP. This is a big event and opportunity for Clubs Australia members to showcase Australia so expect an invite to contribute and support to this event. Lastly, 2016 is BMW's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and we see a global calendar of events and support to and from BMW Clubs. You are a member of a special and recognised group.

Enjoy the ride,

Garry Smee

Editor, Ride Coordinator & Clubs Australia Delegate



# THE MAWSON CLUB

CAFE • BALCONY • UNGE



Come and celebrate the Club Awards night and enjoy a Christmas dinner at The Mawson Club, Heard Street, Mawson from 6pm on Friday 5 December 2014. Event details here <http://bmwmccact.org.au/event-830199>.

You can navigate there using your bike's navigator or Google Map link [here](#) and an easy day's ride for members north of the lake, 5 minutes ride for members south of the lake or at their leisure for those members who live further out of town or interstate.

For **\$60** per person, you will get a 3-course meal (alternate serves) and buy your own drinks at Club prices. If you have special dietary requirements please let the Social Secretary Steve Hay know in advance.

To come along you need to pre-book preferably [on-line](#) or with Social Secretary Steve Hay by email [social@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:social@bmwmccact.org.au) and pay Steve in cash or EFT, include your name in the from tab, to the Club's account:

- Account name: BMWMCCACT
- BSB: 805022 (Community CPS Credit Union)
- Account number: 03318092



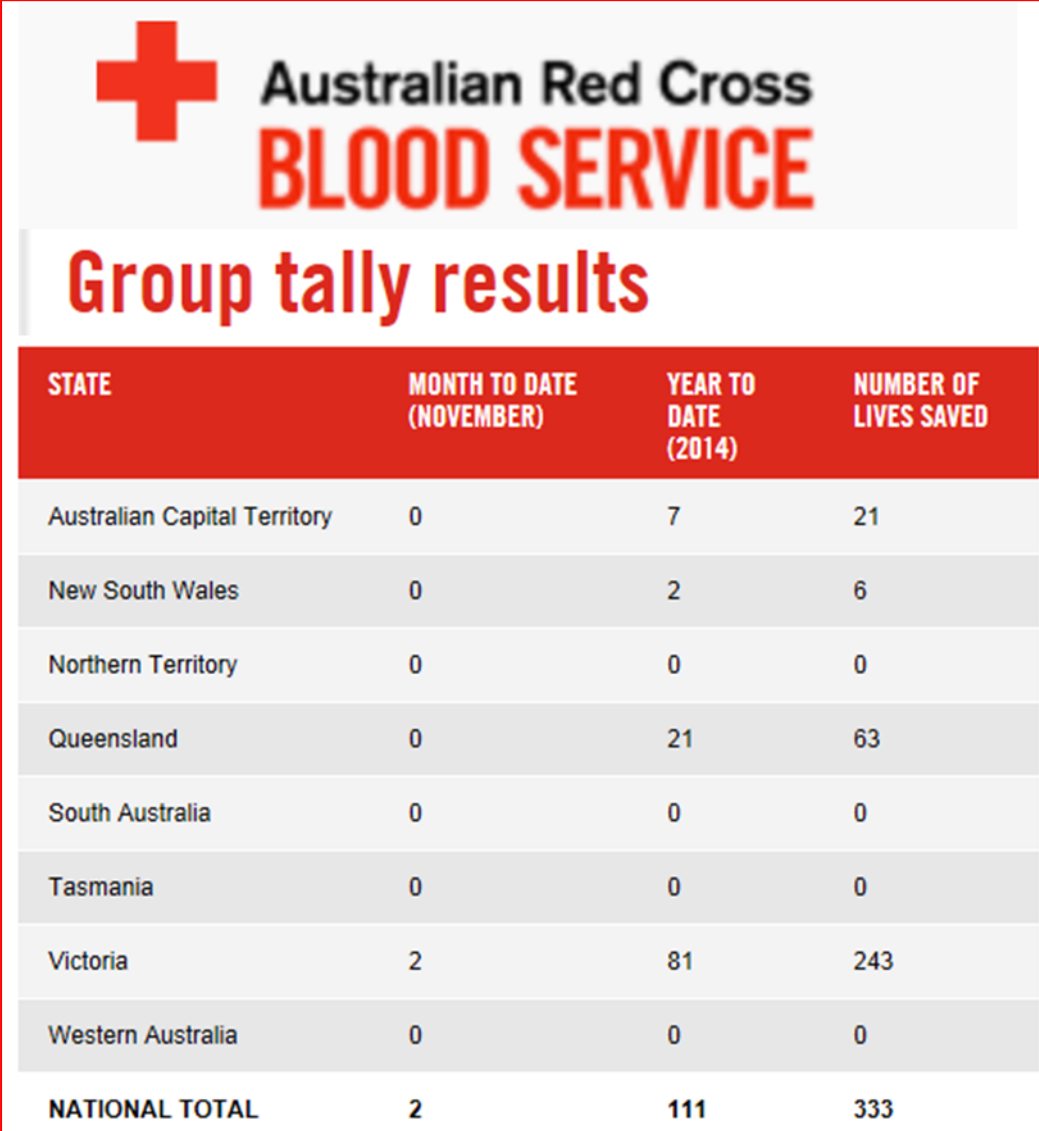
**Bookings must be finalised by Friday 28 November 2014.**



Watch out for BMW's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations beginning 7 March 2016!

Garry Smee

Feeling under the pump? Then imagine what it would feel like if you needed some blood; well the Red Cross is here to help. So why not take an hour off work, give the gardening a break or take that shorter than usual ride and go as far as the [Blood Bank at Woden](#) and donate to a worthy cause. You won't be able to claim this donation off your tax, but then you do get to read the newspaper and have a bite to eat for free and leave feeling warm and fuzzy that you have done something for the community. If that's dizzy, then go back inside you may need a longer rest. Give the Red Cross a call on 13 14 95 and don't forget to register your donation with the BMWCCACT



The image shows a graphic for the Australian Red Cross Blood Service. It features a red cross logo and the text 'Australian Red Cross BLOOD SERVICE'. Below this is the heading 'Group tally results' in a large, bold, red font. Underneath the heading is a table with four columns: STATE, MONTH TO DATE (NOVEMBER), YEAR TO DATE (2014), and NUMBER OF LIVES SAVED. The table lists data for various Australian states and territories, including a national total at the bottom.

STATE	MONTH TO DATE (NOVEMBER)	YEAR TO DATE (2014)	NUMBER OF LIVES SAVED
Australian Capital Territory	0	7	21
New South Wales	0	2	6
Northern Territory	0	0	0
Queensland	0	21	63
South Australia	0	0	0
Tasmania	0	0	0
Victoria	2	81	243
Western Australia	0	0	0
<b>NATIONAL TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>333</b>

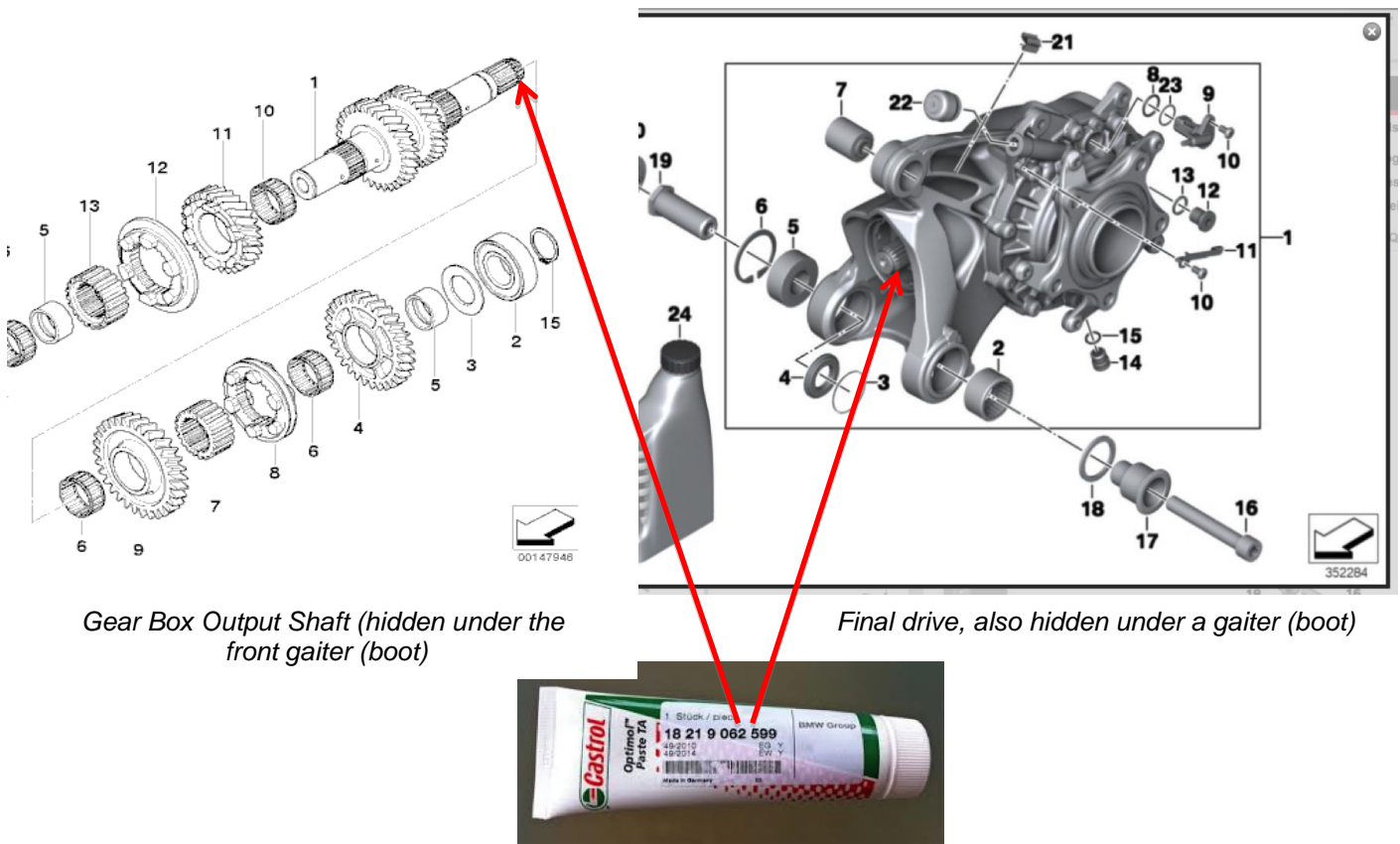


Garry Smee, R1200STf

This month I thought I would share with you a hard found tech tip. Long-term BMW owners will be familiar with the legendary low maintenance totally enclosed shaft drive within the swingarm connecting gearbox output to final drive housing via a splined drive shaft. Well, on the R1200's the final drive is open at the bottom allowing all manner of road grime to collect and water to wash out the Castrol Optimol Paste sliding spline lubricant. The front is slightly better protected, but nonetheless is open to the lubricant drying out over time. See the pictures courtesy of Real OEM and MaxBMW.

Now I wont bore you with the technical detail on how to remove, clean and lubricate the drive splines, as that's what Haynes manuals, You Tube or your preferred Motorrad dealer is there for, but if your into DIY home maintenance, then add this to one of the must do's when your next changing that 'sealed for life' final drive oil. The recommended lubricant is Castrol Optimol T paste.

Need to find yourself some Castrol Optimol T paste? Then try your friendly BMW spares counter local specialty auto store or any of these after market BMW suppliers [Munich Motorcycles](#) (WA), [Motor Works](#) (UK), [Moto-Bins](#) (UK) that stock and post it.



Now, if you own a chain drive bike like an F800GS you won't need to worry about this, but you will need to clean, adjust & lubricate the chain. Everything comes at a price.

## OCTOBER CLUB MEETING

Garry Smee, F800GS<sup>2</sup>

Octobers' monthly club meeting & optional \$5 breakfast was on the foreshore of [Googong Dam BBQ's](#). As this was our first outing to the satellite ACT, there was some confusion with bikes riding around in different directions before and eventually 13 members were assembled in the same spot. With well drilled precision the BBQ's were warming, generator set and espressos underway. You could only describe 'envy' as the fishers in the area were exposed to wafting smells of egg n' bacon rolls and quality coffee.

At 0920 Prez Martin called the assemble group and regaled us with the important going on's within the Club including Committee deliberations and actions, including purchasing the generator from Martin who had been donating its use to date to join the Club BBQ and Espresso machine, so we are steadily building our mobile capacity. Steve Hay gave a rundown on recent and future Social activities, the most important being our pre-registration for the Club Christmas dinner on 5 December at the Mawson Club; details [here](#).

Ride Coordinator Garry asked members to consider the planned ride to Parkes Radio Telescope and register their intention. The Club's website lists all planned events and for those events requiring more detailed planning the ability for members to register their intention to go. Those that require pre-payment will have that option, whilst others are used to indicate expected numbers and allow the Club or ride leader to contact them directly. Have a look when your next online.



*A few more turned up after this picture was taken. Garry Smee*

With nothing else to discuss and meeting closed, new Club member Chaitanya (Chai) Sambrani (G650GS), Robert Berry (F650GS) and me head south along the [dirt](#) to Burra, Michelago, Tinderry Road, Jerangle and into Bredbo for a cool drink at the Snowy Mountains Café. With afternoon appointments pressing, we optioned for the run back up the Monaro, saving the Shannons Flat and Bobeyan Road route for another day.

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<sup>2</sup> Farkled



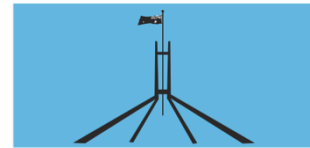
## MOTORRAD & KOSCIUSZKO RALLY THANK-YOU LETTERS

Official BMW Club

19 November 2014  
Emily  
Royal Hotel  
Mount Hope NSW 2877

Dear Emily

BMW Motorcycle Club  
ACT



### BMW Clubs Australia National Motorrad Rally 2014

On behalf of the President and members of the BMW MCCA ACT and participants in the Rally, please accept this framed photograph as a token of our appreciation for you and team Royal's support and hospitality during our visit 4 October 2014.

Everyone had a great time; enjoyed the food, frosty beer and friendly staff along with the ride from Lake Cargelligo to Mount Hope and return.

I have also enclosed a complimentary copy of the Club's October magazine *Shaft Drive Lines* that you can access online here <http://bmwmccact.org.au/newsletters>.

Best regards

Garry Smee  
Ride Coordinator  
BMW MCCA ACT

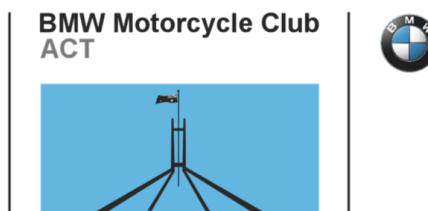




**Official BMW Club**

31 October 2014

BMW Group Australia  
Attention: Ms Erin Burl  
[Sent by email]



**BMW Group Australia 2014 PESP Support and  
BMW CA National Motorrad Rally 2014**

Dear Erin

On behalf of the members of the BMW MCCA ACT I would like to thank BMW Group Australia for its generous 2014 PESP support to the Club of a BMW System 6 EVO helmet. Additionally, I, on behalf of all the BMW Motorcycle Clubs wish to express our thanks for the generous support of the BMW Clubs Australia National Motorrad Rally 2014.

The BMW System 6 EVO helmet was the major prize in a raffle held at our Club's *Kosciuszko Rally* held in October 2014. There were over 60 attendees at the rally, well up on the previous two years, many no doubt attracted to the generous prize offered. The winner was Mr Steve Murray, a member of the BMW MCCA ACT. The Club will arrange a presentation of the helmet to Steve when we receive the actual helmet, expected to arrive soon.

The BMW Clubs Australia National Motorrad Rally 2014 had 66 registered attendees from BMW TC NSW, BMW MCC VIC, BMW OCSA, BMW MCC QLD, BMW MCC GC and BMW MCCA ACT. All who attended greatly enjoyed this national event, with many expressing their intent to participate in the next rally if it is held in 2016. The \$2000 initial funding from BMW Group Australia was critical in kick-starting this event and the committee and supporters of the BMW MCCA ACT could not have achieved such a successful rally without this assistance. The town of Lake Cargelligo welcomed and appreciated our group as a good boost to their local economy.

At the rally dinner, the major raffle prize was a copy of the *BMW 90 Years Motorrad* coffee table book. The winner, The 90 Year Book was won by Paul Hughes of BMW MCC QLD, also expressed his thanks to BMW Group Australia for the prize and support for the rally. This raffle allowed us to donate a \$250 Birko Urn to the *Lake Cargelligo Curlew Hospital Auxiliary* for the hospital day-surgery unit along with a cheque for \$500 enabling the purchase of important and necessary ward appliances not provided by NSW Health. This level support is valued by any rural community and I am sure BMW riders will be welcome when visiting or passing through Lake Cargelligo.

Yours sincerely

Martin Robertson  
President BMW MCCA ACT



Winner of the BMW System 6 EVO helmet at the recent *Kosciuszko Rally*, Steve Murray receiving his voucher from President of BMW MCCA ACT, Martin Robertson.



The 90 Years BMW Motorrad book was won by Paul Hughes BMW MCCA QLD.



Most of the attendees of the BMW Clubs Australia National Motorrad Rally 2014 gathered at Lake Cargelligo.

Official BMW Club

BMW Motorcycle Club  
ACT



31 October 2014

Motohansa Pty Ltd  
Attention: Rob Dunston  
[Sent by email]

### BMW CA National Motorrad Rally 2014

Dear Rob

On behalf of all the BMW Motorcycle Clubs, I wish to express our thanks to *Motohansa* for the generous support of the recent BMW Clubs Australia National Motorrad Rally 2014 at Lake Cargelligo in October. The National Motorrad Rally 2014 was open to members of official BMW motorcycle clubs throughout Australia, with riders coming from every club except Western Australia. There were a total of 66 registered attendees from BMWTCNSW, BMWMCVIC, BMWOCSA, BMWMCQLD, BMWMCCGC and BMWMCCACT. All who attended greatly enjoyed this national event, with many expressing their intent to participate in the next rally in 2016.

Your generous donation of the choice of an AirMAN tyre repair and compressor kit or Multi Socket Ratchet Set to all registered entrants was greatly appreciated by all those who attended. I have had the opportunity to try out the AirMAN kit to repair a flat tyre recently and can vouch for the quality and efficiency of the air pump.

Your donation of a BMW Pro tool kit was the major raffle prize at the rally dinner and was quickly garnered by the lucky winner. This raffle allowed us to donate a \$250 Birko Urn to the *Lake Cargelligo Curlew Hospital Auxiliary* for the hospital day-surgery unit along with a cheque for \$500 enabling the purchase of important and necessary ward appliances not provided by NSW Health.

Yours sincerely

Martin Robertson  
President BMWMCCACT

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BMWMCCTACT Incorporated ♦ PO Box 1042 Weston Creek ACT 2611  
[www.bwmccact.org.au](http://www.bwmccact.org.au)





The Motohansa Pro toolkit was won by Richard de Groot from the BMWTCNSW.



Most of the entrants at the BMW Clubs Australia National Motorrad Rally 2014 gathered at Lake Cargelligo.

BMWCCACT Incorporated ♦ PO Box 1042 Weston Creek ACT 2611

## ALTERNATIVE BREAKFAST 2 NOV 14 – SNOWY MOUNTAINS GOURMET CAFÉ

Garry Smee, F800GSf

My planned weekend riding to the *Trout Rally* at 3 Mile Dam was cancelled at the last minute by my riding companion and Saturday's forecast of high winds and thunderstorms throughout the Snowy Mountains. Rob's decision was vindicated when those that went endured 4+ hours of heavy cold rain and shivered through a cold night; as much to do with the fact most had packed 'spring' riding kit.

Sunday morning found me pensively gazing out the lounge room window towards Namadgi NP under clear blue skies, bright sun and mild temperatures; perfect Spring riding weather and had me pondering where to ride too.



*Ian Warren undertakes his pre-flight inspection and adjusts his take-off weight-distribution post 'big breakfast'. Just out of shot are two NSW Highway Patrol vehicles, checking up on returning Snowy Ride participants. As expected everything was in order.*

Simo's (R1200GSA LC) call to ask where I was for Sunday's planned ride to Bredbo broke my pondering and that Michael (F800GS) and he were waiting at the Chisholm BP. Righto, give me 10 minutes and I'll meet you there. Having fuelled up and reviewing the planned ride through Namadgi NP, Shannons Flat and across to Bredbo we were joined by Bill 'I don't do dirt' and his R1200RT.

With Bill happy to wait and see if anyone else turned up, the 3 of us headed off to Tharwa and Bobeyan Road passing 2 cars along the way. This road is in excellent condition and before long we had turned off onto Billilिंगra Road passing a kangaroo, number of smaller wallabies and two goats sporting an impressive set of horns.

Pulling into the Snowy Mountains Café car park I wasn't surprised by the number of bikes, given it was Snowy Ride weekend that usually attracts some 3000 riders, until closer inspection revealed a number of readily identified Club member's BMW's. Having parked, we walked in 'to a full café' of Club members, other riders and locals all vying for a table and ordering or waiting on orders. I apologise to those I miss but saw, new members Wayne & Dianne Higgins (R1100RT), Ian Warren (K1200GT), Prez Martin Robertson (R1200R), Social Sec Steve Hay (R1200GS), Peter Groves () along with us three and allegedly Treasurer Bob Ellison (F800GS) who had made an earlier appearance.

The staff did an admirable job and other than Ian's thrice ordered big breakfast, that eventually arrived having been one of the first ordered, we were fed and caffeinated. With the morning not yet over, Simo abandoned the planned return leg via Jerangle and Captains Flat joining the road crew and trip back up the Monaro. By now we had two NSW HP at the café, four more up near the park along with a couple of bikes doing random breath testing and licence checks on Snowy Ride riders and maybe the odd car.

Michael and I headed south and onto the Jerangle Road continuing our dirt ride back up the eastern side of the Tinderry's and into Captains Flat with no traffic and the road recently graded to boot. The diversion is still in place whilst the bridge is being replaced, so other than the 10 minute wait for the single road lights to change we had no delays. Michael and I parted ways at Queanbeyan before returning home with plenty of daylight left to consider mowing the grass.

Another great day's ride and thanks to everyone who came along making this my most successful ad-hoc, sort of cancelled, competing alternate and subsequently cancelled ride before being reinstated alternative breakfast ride yet as Ride Coordinator.

Have a ride idea or location? Then why not share it by emailing the route, location, name or contact details to [rides@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:rides@bmwmccact.org.au).



## IMPRESSIONS OF NORTH EAST USA - A ROAD TRIP

*Martin Robertson, on assignment*

Last September I, and my wife, Jill, toured the North East States of the USA to almost fulfil one of my bigger “bucket list” items. I say almost, as my desire was to see the autumn colours in Vermont but due to pressing BMW Club activities in October (the peak month for seeing the fall) we went in September. We did see some early autumn colours but I may have to visit again to get the complete show. Forget the coloured leaves, tell us about the bike riding I hear you ask, OK, here’s my impressions.

After a trans-pacific and trans-continental flight, we arrived in Boston in the fair state of Massachusetts. Boston is famous for those rebellious early settlers who threw a cargo of tea into Boston harbour in 1773. It turns out that the 46 tons of tea poisoned all the fish in Boston harbour for several years thereafter. The harbour and surrounding ocean has recovered and support a large fishing industry, so I ate one of Boston’s famous lobster rolls – looked like a shredded king prawn and tasted pretty good. Bostonians are proud of their conservative, Puritan founding fathers and the city has numerous, well-preserved old buildings, a large financial centre and no rubbish or graffiti to be seen. We then boarded our rental car, a black Chrysler 300C, to cruise through the other New England States. I felt a bit like a gangster in this car but it was loaded with technological features and was a very comfortable drive and economical too – 9.0 L/100 km overall.



*European Day at the Larz Anderson Motor Museum outside Boston, MA.*



*The USS Massachusetts at Battleship Cove.*

From Boston we headed south to check out the town of Plymouth and a replica of the Mayflower, as important to the Americans as Cook’s Endeavour is to us. From there we visited Battleship Cove, to crawl, duck and trip through the battleship USS Massachusetts, the destroyer USS Joseph P. Kennedy and a submarine, USS Lionfish. I was able to view the “breach end” of the USS Massachusetts 16 inch cannons and marvel at the support infrastructure required to feed, house and maintain the 115 officers and 1700 men. Jill, surprisingly, grew tired of looking at great grey ships, so we next called into Newport, Rhode Island, sometime home to the Americas Cup and lots of huge stately homes. The traffic there was unbelievable. It is a compact island with narrow streets filled with the usual oversized SUVs and utes competing for road space with helmetless, thong-



wearing hero's riding old minibikes and the smallest scooters and scooter-powered, two seater buggies to be seen. The local Police seemed unconcerned by it all.

The roads in this part of the world come in three varieties; multi-lane, barrier-divided, freeways with 55 to 65 mph speed limits with very wide verges which allow you (not me, because of the vigilant co-pilot) to travel 10mph over the speed limit to cover the gaps between cities easily and quickly. You usually don't get to see anything of interest because of the thick tree growth beyond the verge screens all the scenery. The State Routes are secondary roads and our favourite thoroughfare as these roads wended their way through every major town and numerous minor ones as well. The speed limit on State Routes varies from 55 to 45 to 30 to 35 to 45mph, often all five speeds in the space of a few miles. Apart from the constant speed changes, the driving was easy and the ever-changing scenery was fantastic. To Australian eyes, North America is very green, the grass is abundant and deep green, the cornfields were mid-green and the tightly packed trees are bright green. Only the well maintained home gardens broke the sea of green with prolific flowerbeds in every colour.



*Overview of the show*

What about the bikes you ask? I did include a visit to the European Motorcycle Day at the Larz Anderson Motor Museum one Sunday. The Museum is located in the outer suburbs of Boston and hosted approximately 240 bikes from several motorcycle clubs and a trade tent filled with Ducati's.



*One of 7 immaculately presented BMWs for the 50 & 60s on display*

The Yankee Beemers Club had the biggest showing with over 110 BM's ranging in age from the 50s to the latest LC R1200GS. The older bikes; R27, R50 and R69 models were all in concourse condition but most were ridden a moderate distance to the show. I had a great chat to the editor of their club magazine, Dana Lewis, about the challenges clubs face with an ageing rider population, declining membership and the shortage of members willing to join their committee. Some issues seem universal.

Other highlights at the show were several immaculate 70s Bultaco and Ossa trail bikes, a couple of rare Rickman and Seely-framed bikes, a new-perfect Triumph Hurricane triple and a K1100 with an actively suspended sidecar.



The Flexit articulated sidecar is considered by many to be the best engineering solution to the problem of making a sidecar that leans in unison with the motorcycle.

For the curious, here is a link to the Flexit design.

<http://bmwmotorcycletech.info/flexit.htm>

And a link to the Yankee Beemers magazine for October, note their lack of attention to the BMW Corporate Image rules – damn Yankees!

[http://www.yankeebeemers.org/boxershorts/BoxerShorts\\_Oct2013\\_online.pdf](http://www.yankeebeemers.org/boxershorts/BoxerShorts_Oct2013_online.pdf)

I saw numerous groups of 6 to 10 on touring bikes, nearly all were fully-equipped Harleys, with BMW RT models being the next most favourite bike. I did

notice that the Harley riders seemed to be satisfied with the factory-standard exhaust systems, unlike their Aussie brethren. Lastly, I would go back to ride the same part of the USA during their summer months as the challenge of riding on the right-side of the road and negotiating their road system was not as daunting as I first expected.

Cheers

Martin Robertson



*Unique, actively leaning sidecar.*



*Adventure riders in Vermont*



*Some members of the Yankee Beemers Club at the show.*



## THE TAIL LIGHT

Having difficulty in putting fingers to the keyboard or finding the words to accompany your riding picture? Well then, this is the section just for you. Send your picture to the [Editor@bmwmccact.org.au](mailto:Editor@bmwmccact.org.au) along with your name and a caption. If that is too hard, then your picture will go in without credit!



*Martin Robertson, on assignment*

During my recent trip to NE USA, I kept my eyes open for examples of valuable additions and mods that could enhance our BMWs, especially Adventure Bikes as they come unprepared from the factory.

Here is a picture of an F800GS that embodies the Adventure Rider spirit with numerous mods to enhance the riding pleasure.

I can list some of the major enhancements: Pivot Pegz, Sargent Seat, Metal Mule hard bags, Barkbusters, headlight guard, extended screen, Touratech bash plate, Touratech 20L additional fuel tank and the best part - antlers. Now the owner can rider anywhere knowing that he has the best-prepared bike for all conditions.

I did observe that this particular bike has a rusting chain, so maybe an upgrade to the driveline is required.

*Editor's suggestion:* [www.carbonforbikes.com](http://www.carbonforbikes.com)

