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Mar_Apr 10

**Official Journal of the
British Motorcycle Owners Association Incorporated of Mackay**



TAPPET
RATTLE

Editors Ravings

Rowan Bond – Editor

Good day for another magazine. *The first thing I want to plug is the Blue River Rally in June. This is being held in Mackay under the auspices of the Historical Motorcycle Club of Queensland, Rockhampton Branch. If you have ever been to one of the excellent rallies at Rockhampton or Gladstone, then this is the same format – only you don't have to travel to take part. A number of members of BMOA of Mackay Inc are also members of the HMCCQ, and have put in quite a bit of effort to organise what should be a first class rally, so please support it. Nothing like seeing some new bikes in the town either as there is a fair bit of interest from our southern neighbours. Entry forms and flyers will be available electronically with this magazine, and will also be available in paper copy at the meetings. Secretaries of other clubs that get this magazine – will you please make the entry forms and flyers available to your members by whatever means. Thank you for that.*

How did everyone fare with the Cyclone Ului? We had been over the Perth visiting our son and attending the Ulysses AGM only to return to the start of the cyclone preparations. Was back at work straight away and ended up working on the Saturday night. When I got home Sunday morning, there was the garden shed looking like some kind of plan view, and the contents scattered, soaked or both. Lucky Keizer arrived soon after for a look, and with the help of a neighbour, the shed was sort of put back together with zip ties for the moment. That lasted 24 hours and now it is a tarped pile of tin. Unfortunately some treasured bike parts and spares were soaked and quite a bit had to be binned (you know those collections of oil and air filters, electrical bits and pieces etc). That's my story – how did you go. I trust that the same damage that occurred after the floods in 2008 didn't happen again with ruined bikes.

You will see that I have written a bit about my trip to WA last month. Any of you who have had the pleasure of meeting bike riders from the club at WA will vouch what a friendly bunch they are. I know that some members from this Club attended a Wheels West rally several years ago (probably 10 years ago now) and I did the 1987 rally over there. It is great to see some of the same faces are still around and looking chipper still.

The submission of articles for this magazine has virtually dried up. It is exceedingly difficult to write the whole thing myself, and many thanks to Keith for his bit about Easter race preparations. Please – if you have anything to say, or have been on a good ride, take a photo or 2, and put some words together. There does not have to be too much – four decent paragraphs fill one of these pages. Any assistance will be appreciated. See you on the road and

Keep the black side down

Rowan

THE RUST BIN

For Sale – Replica **Manx Norton** Featherbed Frame locally made and to original dimensions. Contact **Lucky Keiser 0419 787620** for details

For Sale – Manx spec featherbed frame (no engine) which was built to take a Hinkley Bonneville engine / swinging arm. Would make a very unusual / nice modern Triton \$2000 Contact **Lucky Keiser 0419 787620** for details.

For Sale 1957 BSA Golden Flash 650cc twin Plunger suspension model Beautiful restoration inc full mechanical **also 1954 Matchless G9 500cc twin** also fully restored inc mechanicals **Call Lloyd 49593452**

For sale 1964 Matchless 650 CSR. Norton forks and wheels standard. Motor all new and disassembled for inspection. New exhausts and guards. You only need to paint and assemble for a great usable bike **Call Lloyd 49593452**

For Sale:- Suzuki SV650 V twin Black 2003 model Very good condition Roadworthy and Rego ready to go. Comes with a Ventura rack and bag, and Yoshimura Muffler as well as the original muffler Perfect for commuting or touring, a very sought after model. \$6,900 ono Phone Ross (Rowan's son) 0407483286 Bike in Townsville

WANTED-AJS 500 running condition contact **Bruce Read 49422481 / 0408779134**

For sale 2005 Triumph Sprint ST blue in colour 3500km only. VGC **Phone Mick on 0428194102.** \$10 500 ono.

Wanted: Good T140 barrel and pistons to suit **Call Rowan 0419 775006**
No not going all Triumph all of a sudden – just trying to help a mate out.



WOG'S

in the bush rally

WOGS is Nth Queensland's the premium rally, now in its 12th yr

When:- First weekend in July 2nd-4th

* Good camping sites by the river *

* Food and drinks - (Fully Catered)*

Friday night to Sunday morning

* Gymkhana - Saturday afternoon *

* Usual rally awards *

Entry Pre paid \$20.00 At the

gate \$25.00 Includes Badge

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Final instalment of what those tools are really for:-

TWO-TON HYDRAULIC ENGINE HOIST:

A handy tool for testing the tensile strength of ground straps and brake lines you may have forgotten to disconnect.

CRAFTSMAN 1/2 x 16-INCH SCREWDRIVER:

A large motor mount prying tool that inexplicably has an accurately machined screwdriver tip on the end without the handle.

BATTERY ELECTROLYTE

TESTER: A handy tool for transferring sulfuric acid from a car battery to the inside of your toolbox after determining that your battery is dead as a

doornail, just as you thought.

TROUBLE LIGHT: The mechanic's own tanning booth. Sometimes called a drop light, it is a good source of vitamin D, "the sunshine vitamin," which is not otherwise found under motorcycles at night. Health benefits aside, its main purpose is to consume 40-watt light bulbs at about the same rate that 105-mm howitzer shells might be used during, say, the first few hours of the Battle of the Bulge. More often dark than light, its name is somewhat misleading.

PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER: Normally used to stab the lids of old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splash oil on your shirt; can also be used, as the name implies, to round off Phillips screw heads.

AIR COMPRESSOR: A machine that takes energy produced in a coal-burning power plant 200 miles away and transforms it into compressed air that travels by hose to a Chicago Pneumatic impact wrench that grips rusty bolts last tightened 60 years ago by someone in Springfield, and rounds them off.

PRY BAR: A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part.

HOSE CUTTER: A tool used to cut hoses 1/2 inch too short.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BLUE RIVER 2 day RALLY

Queens Birthday Weekend 12-13 June. The more entrants the better the rally – please make the commitment to attend.

Enquiries: Bob Inkson **0418 728 273** or Phil DeKnock **0403 460 040**

Ramblings around Western Australia

I took a spot of holidays in March and flew to WA on the pretext of visiting my son in the Army, and attending the Ulysses AGM in Albany. We took the opportunity to catch up with a number of people in the old bike fraternity in WA whilst we were there as well. This included a very pleasant couple of days staying with Neil and Robin Bromilow who allowed us to use their home as base for the Ulysses AGM visits and spent many an hour discussing the pros and cons of all things motorcycle. Neil is very well known in the veteran mc circles and we first met in about 1983 when he rode a 1922 Martinsyde Vtwin around Australia. What a great effort.

We were delighted that we were introduced to many other people in the Albany area with the same motorcycle affliction including viewing of many tasty models from Britain, Germany and Italy in particular. They certainly have a keen club catering for their classic motorcycle needs. Robyn fell in love with a BMW R69S with Steib sidecar which was breathtaking. I was very impressed as well until I learnt that the sidecar actually was found in Rockhampton and spirited away to WA some years ago. Didn't know about that one but it goes to show that there is still lots of nice bits to be found.

The AGM was its usual well organised event, although there were less trade stalls at Albany – possibly because of the distance from 'back east', but there were no shortage of bargains to be had.

We set off from Albany with a list of people to visit and places to see between there and Perth. Someone must have told them that I am a flat tank Norton lover, as everyone we visited on the way to Perth had a flat tank Norton, and an OHV for that matter.

I was like a kid in the lolly shop in some of these places. The owners were probably a



bit concerned and for good reason. Seriously, the standard of classic motorcycling in WA is astounding with a large number really exotic bikes in the area. The owners are truly enthusiastic and we basked in the incredible hospitality of everyone we met. Many thanks to Neil and Robin for putting up with us – our son Glynn had to put up with us as well and had done a special spring clean just for Mum. A great 2 weeks away, and thanks to everyone who made it a special holiday.

Rowan

Preparations for Barry Sheene Festival of Speed weekend. Keith Wood

Garages: Nothing was really organized this time but the Allendale Sidecar Club of N.S.W. wants all the sidecars in one area so it is up to them to make arrangements. I do not like being in this position but I really cannot do much about it. I guess we just trust the New South Welshmen and hope for the best. Roylene and Scott Sheils are trying to get a car port and have asked if I want to share, I think I would rather be in with the others, those who know Roylene would know what I mean.

Queenslanders: Not many of us going this time in the sidecar fraternity, Paul Jacobs in his LCR, Allan McArdle, Roylene Sheils and us. A bit disappointing, I hope there will be a lot of other interstateers to play with. Not sure who from QEMSC (solos) will be there but they usually get a good roll up. **Preparation:** Dale's BSA Gold Star has had new tyres fitted and wheel



bearings installed. Just needs wheels re fitted, wheel alignment done, re wiring and we will more than likely take it out to the Habana test track and give it one more test ride. The rear wheel is receiving a bit of attention, it is a little buckled and runs a little tight, Bernie is burning the midnight oil on this issue. The clutch seems better now after some fiddling, I could not

get neutral previously which would pose a huge problem when gridding up, this appears to be working well now

Sidecar needs wheel alignment, especially the sidecar wheel. Jeff Brown (NSW) was following us at the Lakeside meeting and told us our sidecar wheel was way out. Was surprised he told us as we were dicing with him for podium finish at the time. Some wiring, drain the radiator and replace with clear water, oil change, bit of a look over, test run at the same Habana facility and it should be all good. To say the least, Bernie is flat out most weekends.

I have finally received my Comp licence, so you should have yours Pete, or it will be on its way. Still do not have the Log Book for the BSA, hope there is no problems there.

Bernie and Bev depart around 23rd March and are towing their caravan down, visiting wine regions on the way. (Be sure to be well stocked with red's)

I depart Sat 27th, stay with Peter and Ralph on Saturday night, partake in some social Rum drinking, hit Brisbane on Sunday, pick up Ann who is coming over from WA, and head for Sydney. May be meet up with Bev and Bernie on Wed night at Mudgee for the trek in to Sydney. We plan to unload on Thursday PM at the track in preparation for practice on Friday. I hope they do scrutineering on Friday as well. It is a real hassle trying to get in excess of 300 bikes n people scrutineered, attend Riders Briefing, rent transponders, and prepare for racing on Saturday morning, it is a real stressful time, especially if eligibility or scrutineering pick something untoward.

Support Apart from the normal support crew, Ross, Val and Family, as well as miscellaneous members of the Bike club will be there, (Dale, Andy, Bruce, Gary, not sure of the others) hopefully to assist where necessary with pushing etc, amazing how quickly people disappear when you need a push. As confirmed previously, my Son Tyson has been nominated Team Manager, he has not accepted as yet but holds the title. It is anticipated that over 250 competitors on over 300 machines will be competing. Other activities include Legends Parade Lap, Show n Shine, and Trade & Club displays. The Norton Owners Club are sponsoring the up and coming Period 4 Formula 750 class, see the Norton's beat the Ducati's. I hear Kevin Magee will be there, I knew Kevin in his Bob Brown Ducati days, will be good to catch up, that is if he remembers me.

Another first for classic racing is prize money, I do not expect to receive any, but there is \$20,000.00 up for grabs, not sure what effect that will have on competitors. There is also a rumour that racing will be televised on free to air TV and a HD DVD will be produced, seems as though we are getting a little recognition these days



That's about it, "the plan seems to be working", we do not really know until Sunday when racing is finished and bikes all tucked away, then there is the trip home ROLL ON EASTER