

Member of the International Council of BMW Clubs

Newsletter

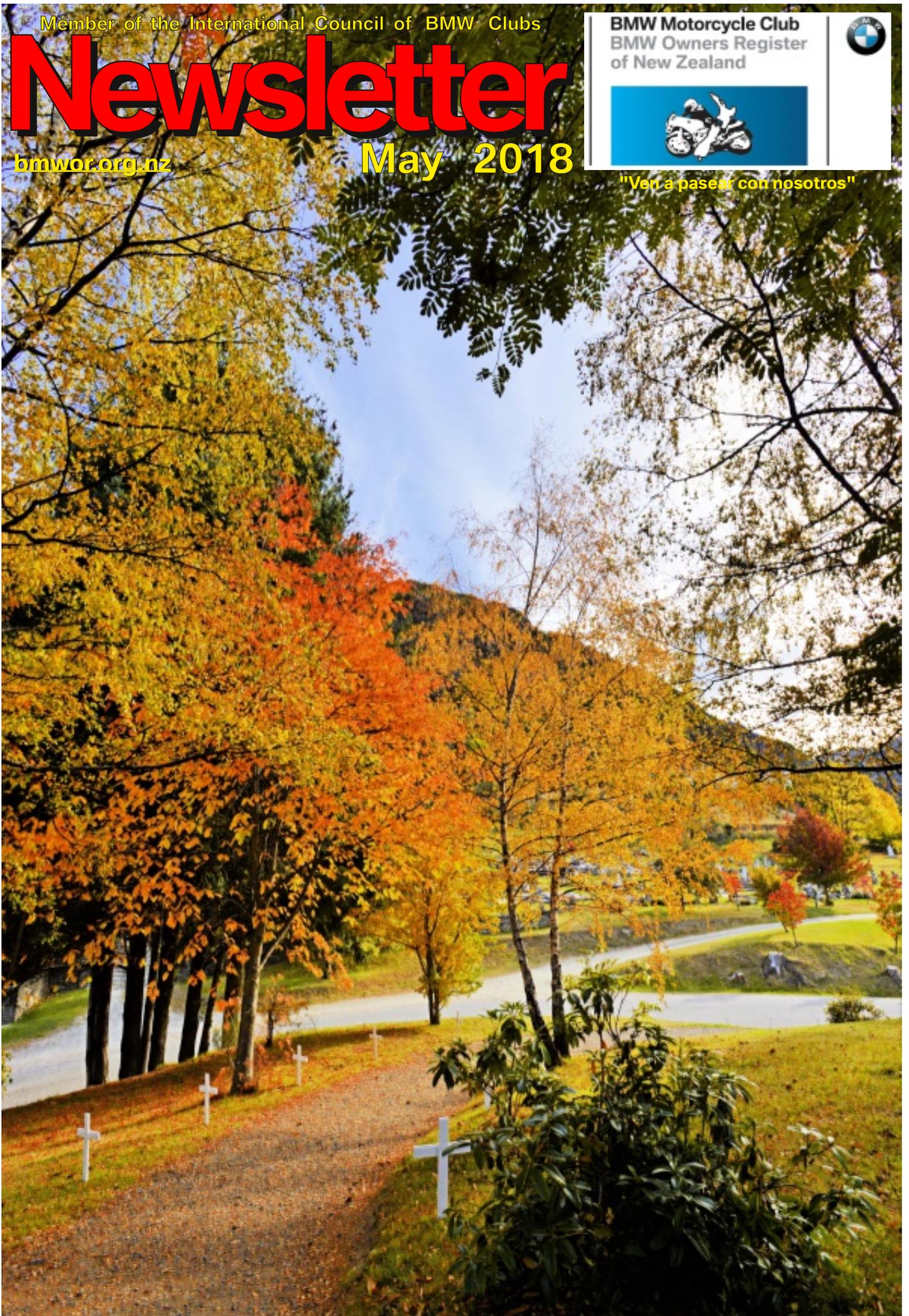
bmwor.org.nz

May 2018

BMW Motorcycle Club
BMW Owners Register
of New Zealand



"Ven a pasear con nosotros"





A clone lacks the original's spirit.

If the cost was roughly the same, for obvious reasons, you'd choose the original over the clone.

The team at Star Motorcycle has been building custom motorcycle insurance from the ground up for over 30-years. We're home to kindred riders who help protect serious motorcycle enthusiasts, free spirits, and original design lovers. We insure more motorcycles than anyone else. Period.

Everyone here can make the call on your policy without forcing you to wait on a third party's decision. Our personal inhouse team is an added benefit of dealing with NZ's original, specialist motorcycle insurance provider.

Originals lead. Clones follow. Ride with leaders at Star Motorcycle.

Find us online: starinsure.co.nz

Call us: **0800 250 600**

Don't forget to ask about the John Baker special.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Baker".





bmwor.org.nz

Send editorial copy to:

The Editor
Dave Morris
editor@bmwor.org.nz

All other correspondence to:

The Secretary
BMWOR of NZ
P O Box 109-245
Newmarket
AUCKLAND 1149
NEW ZEALAND

PRESIDENT

Garry Williams
03 312 8204 or 027 242 7799
president@bmwor.org.nz

VICE PRESIDENT

Grant Aislabie
021 989 303 or 09 529 0229
vicepresident@bmwor.org.nz

SECRETARY

David Ross
04 461 7078 or 027 645 8236
secretary@bmwor.org.nz

TREASURER

Robin Wood
021 724 859.
treasurer@bmwor.org.nz

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Chris Souness
021 494 952
membership@bmwor.org.nz

MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE

Dale Grover
03 546 9771 or 027 297 1759
memberrep@bmwor.org.nz

BMWOR GEAR

Ian Sowden
regalia@bmwor.org.nz

ARCHIVIST

Paul Edlington
(09) 478 3903
pauledlington@xtra.co.nz

Please Note

Any material intended for publication in the newsletter should reach the Editor no later than the 15th day of the month preceding publication. The newsletter is an open forum for all members. Views expressed by members may not necessarily represent the views of BMWOR of NZ. Publication of all material is subject to the Editor's discretion. Photos are courtesy of article authors unless otherwise specified.

CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| President's Podium | 5 |
| Events Calendar | 6 |
| Area Reports | 7 |
| Into The Hills | 9 |
| Annual Rally Announcement | 10 |
| I've Been Everywhere, Man | 12 |
| A Ride Out of New Orlaens | 14 |
| Minutes from Board Meeting - March | 20 |
| Indiana Joe | 22 |

NEW MEMBERS

We hope you'll take part in many of your local and national events. Your Area Rep will be pleased to introduce you to other members in your area.

Our monthly newsletter is an open forum for all members. If you fancy having a story (and photos) published about your ride, the rebuild of your bike, a book you might have read or a movie you have seen lately, or just want to get something off your chest about how the club is going, then get in touch with the Editor no later than the 15th day of the month preceding publication. We welcome your contribution.

| | | |
|--------|-------------|-----------|
| Mary | KERR | Tauranga |
| Phil | WATT | Manawatu |
| Heidi | WATT | Manawatu |
| David | FOX-SPENCER | Manawatu |
| Robert | MIEDEMA | Greymouth |



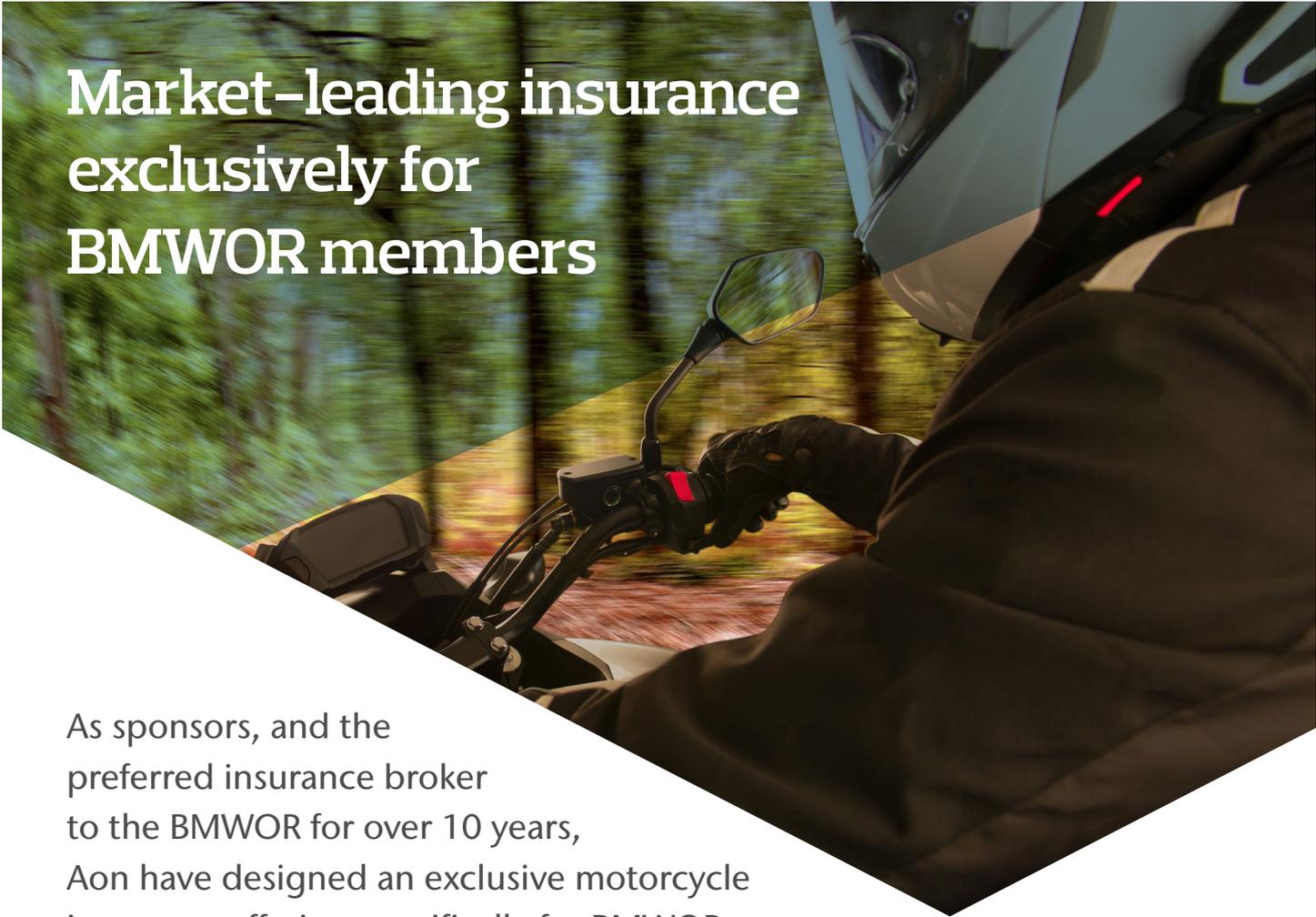
New Rangitikei member Dave demonstrates correct way to mount a GS.
See Area Reports, page 7.

"Ven a pasear con nosotros" - Come ride with us. (Spanish)



Cover;

Autumn in Arrowtown. Sounding like a romantic song title, the splendor of the falling season has been captured by member Neville Tamplin. Arrowtown is known for its goldmining in colonial days and is close to Lake Wakatipu and Queenstown.



Market-leading insurance exclusively for BMWOR members

As sponsors, and the preferred insurance broker to the BMWOR for over 10 years, Aon have designed an exclusive motorcycle insurance offering specifically for BMWOR members which includes discounted rates and enhanced policy cover.

Aon's insurance offer provides cover for all types of on-road motorcycles including 3 wheelers, and off-road motorcycles including quad bikes, competition motorcycles (not covered whilst racing), motorcycle collections and classic/vintage motorcycles.

For more information, please contact Leonie Steedman

0800 65 62 64
leonie.steedman@aon.com

AON

Empower Results®

aon.co.nz

Key features include:

- Reduced policy excesses
- Age, multiple bike, loyalty, trike, Named Rider and Restricted Usage discounts available
- New replacement motorcycle for total loss within 24 months of registration as a new motorcycle up to 30,000km
- Windscreen/shield, headlights or tail lights covered with nil excess
- Roadside assistance for comprehensive cover
- Automatic Riding Apparel cover
- Optional Replacement Riding Apparel cover
- Nil excess for one claim within 12 months with a Ride Forever training course certificate



President's Podium

I had 10 days off over the Easter break so was looking forward to getting jobs done around the house as well as taking some time out on the bike, especially while it was still warm and sunny. Instead, our Doberman Fergus stopped eating on Easter Sunday so we spent the next few days in and out of the Rangiora Vet Centre while the team was figuring out what was wrong. Sadly, whatever made our wee guy so sick got the better of him and we lost him the following Thursday night. On top of that, I've had my own health issues that put a stop to any riding for the

best part of the month. Pretty average holiday all round really.

We've had our first real taste of winter early with many areas across the country struggling in single digits; in fact, many of our higher altitude towns in North Canterbury got quite a bit of snow. Crazy, and very unusual for early April. Fortunately our new fireplace is in, which was put to good use.

It sounds like it was an exceptionally rough night in Auckland on Tuesday 10 April with well over 150 power outages and hundreds of thousands of people left in the dark. I trust everyone got thought that okay. I was stuck in Wellington airport the following evening after a hail storm closed the runway for two hours, then a lightning strike knocked the runway lights out grounding 20 flights with no flights landing either. Fortunately, the flight I was booked home on was one of the few not cancelled although took off four hours later than scheduled so I missed our monthly social gathering. Getting home at midnight on a work day isn't that much fun.

I did manage to get away on the bike eventually. Justin, Grant and I headed over to Hokitika to help out with Rounds 2 and 3 of the Calder Stewart Elite Cycle Series over the weekend of 14/15 April. (See photo right.) Saturday was a glorious day and each class of riders covered between 3 and 5 32 km laps starting from Cass Square heading south along SH6 to Ruatapu and back across Woodstock-Rimu Road then along Kanieri Road following the Hokitika River back to town. Unfortunately, just before the race start I lost the air in my front tyre and it wasn't a puncture I could just simply fix. I pumped it up, crossed my fingers and headed over to Bridgestone Tyres in Greymouth (nothing else open in Hokitika) where we figured out it was just crap trapped between rim and tyre and it was just bleeding around the bead. The guys at Bridgestone cleaned the rim up and refitted the tyre, problem solved. In true West Coast spirit there was no charge for that, cheers Bridgestone!

The second day of the double header weekend started again from Cass Square this time for one 58 km loop heading east out of town through Kokatahi and toward Lake Kanieri. Dorothy Falls Road behind the lake is dirt for around 10 km and, with a bit of rain overnight making it quite slippery, proved to be challenging for some. A great deal of fun for the three of us though. Along with the weekend marshalling, the ride to and from the West Coast was just what I needed to regain my sanity.

I mentioned in my March podium that the Board is keen to hear your thoughts in relation to a suggestion around changing the name of the BMW Owners Register amongst other things. If the email address we hold for you in our membership database is up to date you will have received the survey. Please take the opportunity to let us know what you think. If you have not received the survey and would like to participate get in touch with Chris at membership@bmwor.org.nz

I'm looking forward to catching up with our Area Reps and the Board over the weekend of 26/27 May and also to the biennial Tranz Alpine Scooter Safari on the 19th. The club has a keen team riding a 50cc step-through scooter to support this charity event. I'll be in the Ranger as support driver - just saying.

I'm sure there are plenty of other local events planned over the next couple of months. If you're a relatively new member, don't be shy! Get out to one of these events, pitch in, enjoy yourself and let us get to know you. We are, above all, a social motorcycle club dedicated to the BMW marque.

Where ever you travels take you this month - be safe and make good decisions.

Garry



BMW Owners Register Risk Management Plan

Introduction:

The BMW Owners Register is an organisation whose members join together for rides to nominated venues and for other social occasions. The organiser nominates the destination and regrouping stages along the way, but otherwise has no influence upon the way that riders behave on the road. There is no element of organised competition in the rides.

Riding Code:

1. All register members on register rides shall do so as individuals responsible for their own safety and shall take into account the safety of others they encounter on the ride.
2. Register members are responsible for ensuring that their motorcycles are in a safe and legal condition, the minimum being to Warrant of Fitness standards.
3. Riders, pillion, and sidecar passengers where required, shall have as a minimum Standards New Zealand approved motorcycle helmets, and stout footwear, gloves and clothing that will be capable of protecting their body in the event of a mishap.
4. Register members are to go to the aid of any others suffering a mishap.

5. Ride organisers shall nominate the destination for the ride as well as any regrouping locations or other stops. The organiser is not responsible for other riders' behaviour or safety.

6. Riders shall ride at a speed and in a way that is comfortable for them. Do not ride outside your personal comfort envelope.

7. If a rider is unfamiliar with the route, they shall arrange to follow another rider who does know the way and who travels at a comfortable pace.

8. Riders who decide to travel as a group shall adopt a staggered riding formation such that there is an accepted following distance to the rider immediately in front. A reasonable following distance is indicated by a time of two seconds between riders for dry conditions, and longer for inclement conditions and on loose surfaces.

9. The Organiser and or the Register are not responsible for participants' safety, and all participants participate at their own risk. All participants are aware that they are travelling on open public roads and are responsible for their own safety and compliance with all Road Rules and Laws.

Events Calendar

International

BMW Motorrad GS Trophy Central Asia

National

Annual Rally/AGM. Auckland. See page 10.

Check: <http://motoevents.nz/>

Northland

See Area Rep.

Auckland

May 6th Sunday Café run. Destination Lime Tree Café 370 Whitford Road (access down Whitford Wharf Road). Make your own way there for 10am.

May 14th Monday Monthly Meeting. Vintage and Veteran Clubrooms 39 Fairfax Ave Penrose 7.30pm. Another angle on the Staffords London to Beijing ride.

May 20th Sunday. Monthly ride. Destination Karapiro. Meet BP Service Centre Southern Motorway between Papakura and Drury off-ramps 9.00am for a 9.30 departure.

June 10th Sunday Café run. Note this is the second Sunday not the first Sunday as per norm due to Queens birthday weekend falling over the first Sunday. Destination The Riverhead 68 Queen St Riverhead. Make your own way there for 10am.

June 11th Monday. Monthly meeting. Vintage and Veteran Clubrooms 39 Fairfax Ave Penrose 7.30pm. Compass Expeditions will be presenting around their international touring opportunities.

June 17th Sunday. Monthly Ride Destination Whangarei Basin. Meet Starbucks Westgate 9.00am for 9.30 departure.

Waikato

Bay of Plenty

Taranaki

Rangitikei

East Coast

See Your Area Reps

Wellington

Note – In addition to the events noted here we also undertake 'Impromptu Rides' these are offered via email to the membership with a couple of days' notice when the weather looks like being favourable.

Sunday – 13 May – Destination Ride – Instincts Café – Eastbourne from 10am

Monday – 14 May - Club Social get together - Petone Working Men's Club from 6pm

Sunday – 20 May - Monthly Club Ride – Apiti for Lunch

Sunday – 10 June – Destination Ride – The Front Room Café – Waikanae from 10am

Monday – 11 June - Club Social get together - Petone Working Men's Club from 6pm

Sunday – 17 June – Monthly Club Ride – Lake Ferry Pub for lunch

Nelson

Marlborough

See Your Area Reps

Canterbury

Club Night - Papanui Club, 310 Sawyers Arms Road – 2nd Wednesday of the month

All members – new and old – are welcome – meet for a natter and dinner from 6.30 pm onwards in the Carvery / Club Bar – meals are a choice of carvery or a la carte. If not a member, ask nicely and one of our regulars will be able to sign you in as a guest.

Forward dates - 9 May; 13 June; 11 July; 8 August; 12 September; 10 October; 14 November; 12 December.

Otago & Southland

See Area Rep.

Area Reports

Auckland

Every now and then, in spite of every honest attempt, things just don't stay on track and so it was with the March ride to Paihia. I wasn't on the ride but if I had to pick where things came a little unstuck it would probably be just before Whangarei where riders need to turn off the main road and take a few direction changes to hook up with the Twin Bridges route. The short version of this is that the ride got split up with a bunch of riders not heading further north than Whangarei and in fact ending up spread between Waipu and Puhoi. Speaking with some who didn't end up in Paihia, they still had a good day out so the moral of the story is, if you're riding, chill because all the other stuff is just detail.

Our April meeting turned into movie night (yes there was popcorn) and we settled in to watch the Bruce McLaren documentary/movie. Whenever the name of Bruce McLaren crops up we immediately conjure up images of glamorous motor racing success, his start in this world was however not so glamorous. His early childhood was most notable for illness and at one point being flat on his back for two years. This starting point makes his achievement on the world stage that much more of a testament to his passion, determination, and remarkable skill. His personal story confronts us with the reality that life's problems, and setbacks will only ever be as debilitating as we let them. It also begs the question, when my life gets to the bit where a full stop is added and folk take a wee look at who I've been, what is my personal legacy? Oh, and one other thing, the myth that nice guys finish last is busted.

A bunch of us committed to the North Island RAG Rally, for some of us this was our first attendance (including me) and what a great decision that was. I'm a tad ashamed to admit I don't properly comprehend who drives this event but whoever is involved in the chain of responsibility, thank you. The event seems on the surface to be "turn up in the middle of nowhere sometime Saturday, hang out, maybe a couple of drinks if you can limit yourself in that way, talk shit, have a laugh, eat food, have more laughs, go to sleep (with ear plugs), then bugger off on Sunday". But like an onion there's layers to this thing, networking is one layer and then there's the reunion aspect; other layers include the journey to and the journey from. By far the largest number of RAG Rally stories centre on the road trip to and from. Before I move on from the RAG Rally there's a couple of important statistics which you may not see published elsewhere; Auckland's Northland neighbours proudly laid claim to having (as I recall) 78% of their membership attend which is certainly admirable; Auckland on the other hand delivered up 100% of the female attendees. Admittedly life is not all about competition (yeah right) but I'm pretty sure 100% beats 78%.

The most notable news out of Auckland relates to Paerata 2019. Three of us finally managed to secure a meeting with our point of contact person at Wesley College. The meeting was a huge success and the pathway forward to the 2019 BMWOR annual rally and AGM is all green lights and full steam ahead. An amount of time was lost due to our contact person "going to ground" for a few months and now that we understand the daunting administrative pressure she faces up the front end of each year we're impressed that she's been able to discharge those responsibilities by now and work with us to establish the foundation we need to move forward. From our end Suzanne and Lynette will become names that you get used to going forward, they will be shouldering the administrative load around registrations, budgets, room allocations (best you be nice to them), compliance, program logistics, and site logistics. The knowledge that these foundation elements are in good hands has enabled me to do other even more important stuff like arrange for the sumo wrestling suits we'll need for the weekend. We have however had an early setback in that developers of the adjacent land have taken over use of a paddock which was to be used for barrel racing; it's early days so I'm confident of resolving this (Wesley College person went a bit dark when I started eying up their rugby field). Anyway, as we move forward the event details around Paerata 2019 will be seductively unveiled (cue Joe Cocker "You can keep your hat on").

That's it for now, Stephen.

Rangitikei

April ride: Nine motorbikes and fourteen members gathered on a very pleasant morning at BP Bulls with high anticipation of a pleasant days riding ahead. It was to be the first club ride for our new member, Dave FS, and there was interest in talking about his bike. Dave has ridden on several continents and owns a number of BMW motorcycles scattered around the globe. His choice for this ride was his favoured 1100GS, a bike he has owned from new and now boasts 360,000km on the clock. The only spanners that have been near it have just been for regular servicing.

Once the coffees were finished with we headed up SH1 to the Kakariki turnoff. Down to Halcombe then through to Makino Road, McKays Line and Cheltenham. As a much younger man around 1971 I can remember Manawatu Orion running flying quarters on the straight below the junction of McKays Line and the Vinegar Hill road. The riders would pour on the pace from the top of the hill heading down towards Cheltenham and cross the timing tapes down on the flat. 100mph was desirable but not very often achieved. No such dramas for us today!

Following a quick regroup at Cheltenham our next destination was Apiti where legs were stretched. The riding was most enjoyable and before long we were back on the bikes cruising through Rangiwahia to Mangaweka. These are great wee roads and with the autumn poplars starting to turn very scenic.

Lunch was taken at the Papa Cliff Café in Mangaweka followed by lots of discussion about possible routes to get back south. In the end it was down to Hunterville then west to Fordell where after farewells the riders split up to make their own way home.

Many thanks to those who were there for a really good day on the bikes.

Wellington

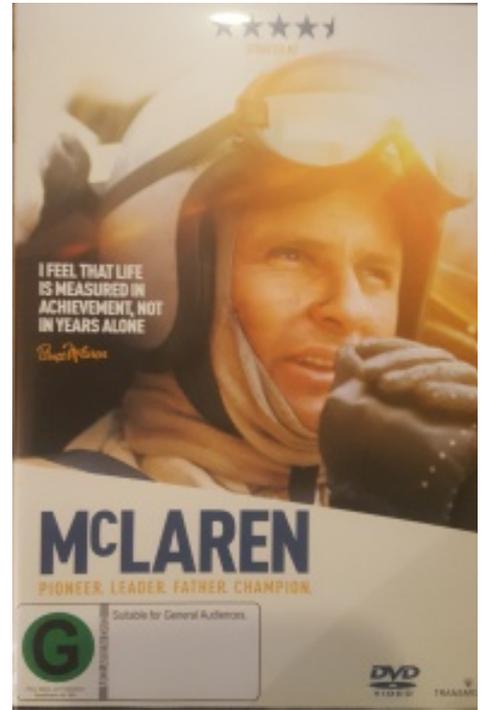
Impromptu Ride: Pahiatua – Friday 06/04/2018

It is persisting down outside, and the Southerly wind is strong, a good opportunity to write a few lines on the latest Impromptu ride. This was the first impromptu ride for a while and in thinking about the route it was decided to ride over the Saddle Road from West to East have lunch in Pahiatua and ride over the Pahiatua Track from East to West. Since the Manawatu Gorge was closed permanently on 6 April 2017 rides up the Western side of the Tararua Range to destinations like Pongaroa, Akitio etc have seen the Pahiatua Track used. Rides up through the Wairarapa to places like Kimbolton, Apiti and the Pohangina Valley the Saddle Road has been used. So, on this occasion both the Saddle Road and the Pahiatua Track were used in the opposite direction.

Three Wellington riders Dave H, Ken W and Peter N departed from the BP Mana at 09:00 heading for Shannon where we would meet any Rangitikei Riders who had decided to join the ride and to have a quick coffee at the Horseman Café. The day was windy with a North Westerly blowing and we rode through a bit of drizzle around Otaki. This was the second time that a ride has been interrupted by road works resealing the new Kapiti Bypass with this road only having been open for just over a year, one wonders at



Great little Cafe in Mangaweka.



The Movie!

the quality of the job done in first place.

The Wellington Riders arrived just as two Rangitikei Riders Murray and Barry P were walking across the road to the café. After a quick coffee and catch up with what we have all been up to we departed for Ashhurst. The Saddle Road has undergone a major upgrade in terms of width and with parts of it being straightened in the last couple of years. The ride over was pleasant with panoramic views of the Southern Hawkes Bay and Woodville. On the Woodville side we turned onto SH2 for the ride through to Pahiatua passing the Mangatainoka Brewery on the way which has given the writer food for thought as a possible destination for a future ride.

Lunch was taken at the Pahiatua Bakery and Café in Main Street, the food in this café is ok basic café fare. After lunch we departed with the leader confusing his GPS and himself by going off course however, Murray P led the group out and over the Pahiatua Track again this was a pleasant change going the opposite way to the recent norm.

We all headed South on SH57 with our two Rangitikei mates peeling off at Levin and Ohau respectively and Ken W at Otaki and Peter N at Porirua leaving Dave H to ride home to Karori.

Another good ride not to long home by 15:30, 319 kms home to home. One of the pleasures of BMWOR membership is people you meet all with different career and travel backgrounds all with a common interest in owning and riding BMW motorcycles. Those members who do not take the opportunities to go to any of the events run by the BMWOR are missing out on the full richness of the camaraderie this diverse organisation has to offer – wouldn't miss it for quids.

Destination Ride: Thyme Café – 8 April 2018

The Thyme Café is in Glenside just north of Johnsonville where 7 Members gathered on Sunday morning in fine breezy weather. This Café is in a converted house on the Middleton Road and has an extensive menu of regular Café food, hot coffee and good service. There are options to either sit inside or in an adjacent outside area; it is a popular venue and filled up quickly while we were there. The members that were there included Andrew T, Chris S, Stephen O, Elaine C, Kev B and Peter & Jenny N and as usual good conversation ensued covering a variety of topics mostly around travel not always motorcycle related. Most availed themselves of wide range of brunch type food on offer mostly involving eggs, bacon, sausages, toasted sandwiches etc

After an hour or so 4 of the gathering decided to go for a ride out to Makara Beach where the local Café, which is another destination ride had been damage in a recent storm thought to be the remnants of Cyclone Gita. This is really, bad luck for the owners as it had only been open a few months since being refurbished.

The bike Andrew T's was riding is fully restored California Highway Patrol Police special complete with siren and flashing red and blues the appearance of which no doubt puts the fear of god up some motorists when they look in their mirrors and see this bike behind them.

This was another very pleasant Sunday morning event. It is a little unfortunate that more members don't avail themselves of these rides which are basically designed for those who do not have the time to go on the longer monthly club rides. They also provide the opportunity to meet other members and is an excellent way for new members to break the ice by going along and meeting fellow BMW owners in pleasant surroundings not too far from home.

Peter Nash

Nelson

Seven of us met at QE2 carpark on a slightly chilly sunny morning and headed over to Havelock for morning tea. We tried the sneaky beach cafe for a delightful change. Good selection of food and a variety of teas which is good for someone like me that doesn't drink coffee.

Afterward Revti headed into the Queen Charlotte for lunch on his own, as he had to get back to Nelson for a sporting appointment. The rest of us went to Kenepuru heads for a picnic lunch. It is almost at the end of the sealed road, and there is a very nice reserve/camp ground. By this time we were stripping off layers and the weather was very pleasant. After lunch the two road bikes

headed back to Nelson and the rest of us ventured to the end of the gravel road at Titirangi Bay, which is probably my favourite spot in the sounds. There is a small camp ground right next to the peaceful stunning sandy beach.

After chilling out on the beach for half an hour we headed back up the twisty winding hill where Dale managed to get a puncture in his almost new rear tyre (too much roosting!). Fortunately I was carrying a puncture repair kit. It was Dale's first ever puncture and my first time using a repair kit. We worked through the instructions, plugged the hole and managed to get some air in the tyre with the CO2 cartridges. We continued on cautiously, until near the end of the gravel where Dale asked a Cockey if he had a compressor, which fortunately he did.

We regrouped at Kenepuru heads and then the ride back to Havelock was interesting with the low Autumn sun in our eyes. We regrouped and had a short break in Havelock before heading home to Nelson by which time it was dark.

It was a fantastic day thoroughly enjoyed by all. We agreed that an overnighter to Titirangi Bay was on the cards for the next visit.
Kevin 

Into The Hills

Peers

Saturday morning, 14th April I jumped on my 07 R1200GS and rode east towards Fordell from Whanganui, not really knowing exactly where to go, but quietly enjoying the ride. The weather was calm, overcast, and looking like a bit of rain could be on the cards in the hills, but otherwise very nice for a ride where I would neither be too hot nor too cold, although I did have my hand grip warmers and a vest in the box at the ready, oh yes, and a muesli bar should I feel like a snack.

Options were to go up Turakina Valley road which seemed quite nice, then maybe I should ride to Hunterville and up SH1 a bit and turn into Murimotu Road and into Watershed road, or up to Vinegar Hill and down that way, which also seemed like a good idea.

Riding along Kauangaroa Road approaching Mangamahu road I thought that this could also be fun as I knew there could be some challenges along the way, so I turned left and over the one-way bridge. Mangamahu Road is quite a small winding road. I rode along with the river on the right side and high limestone and clay cliffs on the left with farmland in between the various small or large hills, wherever the farmers can find patches of flat land. The further up the valley I rode the smaller the road became, then across the river on a one-lane bridge and the cliffs changed to being on the right and the river on the left. The road is still sealed here, mostly. However, with the weather we've had, the cliffs were crumbling and leaving large chunks of limestone and slippery mud on the road which often was just two slippery wheel tracks - making progress interesting.

Being nice back country there's also the scenery with the river below on the left, so enjoying the view added to the challenges, not to mention the sheep on the road from time to time. The sun even showed up between the clouds which added to my enjoyment of being out there, basically all on my own. Being partly farmland, I did expect a little traffic, surely farmers would still be out and about, but this did not seem to be the case. A couple of utes in the first 60 odd k's is all, both struggling to keep left, but I guess they didn't expect to see any traffic coming the other way, let alone a motorbike. No reason not to keep left though as far as I'm concerned, and I always stay as far left as I can safely be, particularly where the road is narrow and slippery, especially by the edge. By the time I reached Mt View Station the gravel part started and I knew that I would have about 15 k worth of gravel in front of me before arriving at Fields Track and Whangaehu Valley road intersection. In places the road was still slippery from small slips off the cliffs combined with the wetness of the area and recent rain, which at this point had started again, but just lightly and not really an issue.

These conditions keep the dust and bugs away which adds to the enjoyment of riding on roads like these. Considering the views, the landscape with the wonderfully green grassy hills, native bush as New Zealand's native bush should be, mixed up with deciduous trees and their leaves on the ground and the kind of road I was travelling along, the colours of this mix were just amazing. Life is good!

Well! Mostly, for some, as while riding along on these gravel roads I suddenly saw a rather large bike coming towards me, slowly. As I came up to it we both stopped, beside each other and I noticed that the rider had a lot of mud on his right leg and right arm.

Looking closely, I noted that this was a Honda Valkyrie with panniers and top box and being a low riding kind of bike there was a fair bit of mud on the right side of the motor, footrest and pannier. We had a chat, and the rider told me that he was actually travelling in the same direction as I was but had crashed 50 metres up the road, causing the bike to spin 180 degrees and that he was just trying to find a place to turn it back around 180 degrees. Looking up the road, yes sure enough, I spotted the skid marks.

I helped him turn the bike around and we talked a bit more about riding on this road. He informed me that he thought this was the second worst road he has ever ridden a motorbike on, the worst being in Australia. Draw your own conclusions, but I was having a lot of fun here, although choice of bike may have had something to do with it. During this conversation he also asked me where Whanganui was, as this was where he wanted to go on his way to New Plymouth. Well! Talk about a wrong turn. He had ridden from Feilding to Hunterville intending to ride to New Plymouth via Whanganui on the back roads. Had he continued on Kauangaroa Road about 40 k's back he would have been in Whanganui a long time ago.

At this point we were about half way along the 15 k stretch of gravel road and a few k's along there would be Burma Hill to negotiate which I considered could be a bit of a challenge on my GS in these conditions. I advised him of the road ahead and we continued north towards Fields Track. I stopped a short distance from the hill, not knowing exactly what the condition of the road was, to inform him that here it is, to keep going uphill till he has reached the top, do not stop on the hill kinda thing.

Off we went, up the hill where I minded my own business to ensure that I could ride all the way up. I stopped at the top, waited, couldn't hear his bike and walked down a bit to see if he needed a hand but eventually saw him slowly ride this whale of a bike up the hill, which in places only had two muddy wheel tracks, small slips and some loose gravel. I thought it impressive actually.

We continued to the Fields Track intersection where the sealed road started and stopped to have a chat. He was somewhat relieved that this was the end of the 'second worst road ever' and was looking forward to cruising on the black carpet from here on. I told him I was impressed that he had made it, which he appreciated, and he promised that he would be a little more careful in his navigation in future.

He rode on, and I spent a few minutes enjoying my muesli bar in the relative silence of the back country, just looking at the river below, before heading west on Fields Track to Parapara Road, aka SH4, and back to Whanganui negotiating the traffic lights, one lane bits of road caused by slips, mud left by tractors and trucks, cars not keeping left, but still enjoying back road riding.

Life is good! 

(See photo page 22.)



Paerata 2019
50 minutes south of the madness.
Almost Auckland

BMWOR Annual Rally and AGM

Friday 11th To Monday 14th January.
Hosted by the Auckland Area BMWOR.

The venue for the 2019 Annual rally is Paerata.

- 50 km south of Auckland city
- 10 Minutes from the motorway off ramp at Dury.
- 10 minutes to Pukekohe

The venue, Wesley College, provides a practical, fully catered location with ready access to sealed and unsealed roads and recreational options a plenty without having to negotiate the JAFFA madness. Organised rides will include seal and off -road riding on some of the wonderful coastal rides and scenic vistas that the Manukau Peninsular, Coromandel and the Waikato District has to offer. There are many options that you can select to join in with or head off and explore on your own.

The accommodation is a school with residential facilities, so accommodation is practical, with single twin and cubicles in larger rooms; all linen and catering is provided. There are great socialising areas with tea, coffee and kitchen facilities, lounges, decks, and a pool along with areas for the many activities planned over the weekend.

Pukekohe township is 10 minutes drive and has much to offer those looking for shops, markets and galleries. It is about 15 minutes drive to the train station to journey into Auckland and explore the city or catch the Ferry to Waiheke.

There will be opportunities for non riders and partners to visit local gardens, cafes, winery tours, Waiheke Island, hiking tracks and walks etc. Look for updates as we get closer to the event.

Registrations are open, with options for live in and locals to attend daily.

Mark these dates in your diary and we look forward to seeing you in January 2019.





Registration Form: 2019 Annual BMWOR Rally

Wesley College: 801 State Highway 22, Paerata, Auckland, New Zealand 2676
Friday 11th January to Monday 14th January.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Name of registered member | | |
| Address | | |
| | Postcode: | |
| Contacts | Mobile: | Phone: |
| Email | | |

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|-------------|--|
| BMWOR number | | Area | |
|---------------------|--|-------------|--|

| Name 1: | Number | Cost PP | Total |
|--|---------------|----------------|--------------|
| Name 2: | | | |
| Registration: Participation in events over the weekend (Excludes Meals/Accom.) This provides access to tea and coffee in registration area over the weekend. | | \$40 | |
| Registration with dinners: Saturday and Sunday. (Excludes accommodation) This includes access to tea and coffee in the dining area. | | \$80 | |
| Registration with all meals and accommodation. | | \$300 | |
| Single Supplement; This is a single or a twin room to yourself with shared Facilities | | \$50 | |
| TOTAL | | | |

Memorabilia: BMWOR Annual Rally Paerata 2019

| Pre orders appreciated. | Number | Cost | |
|--|---------------|-------------|--|
| 2019 Rally Badge | | @ \$15 | |
| Shirt – Circle Size S M L XL 2XL 3XL | | @ \$40 | |
| TOTAL | | | |

Registration forms: Email to bmwannualrally2019@gmail.com (All entries will be acknowledged)

OR Post to: S Parkinson PO Box 109 204 Newmarket Auckland 1149

Payment by internet banking to BMWOR Event Account **03 – 1519- 0034447- 001**

Reference with Name - _____ BMWOR member number _____ Rally2019

Shared Accommodation: If you have registered as a couple you will be allocated a twin room.
 Shared spaces are private cubicles within a larger room space or twin rooms.

| | |
|--|--|
| I am happy to share a room/be allocated a cubicle in a room with Name : | OR Please allocate me a space in a shared room ; I like meeting new people. |
|--|--|

Health/ dietary concerns that are pertinent to this event.

It is important if you are travelling /participating as an **individual** that the organisers are aware of these.
Please communicate these with the appropriate staff member at registration. (Being old doesn't count.)
Meals are all buffet style: the kitchen is experienced at providing meals for all special requests.
Please circle below if you have specific requirements.

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Meal requirements | Dairy Free | Vegetarian | Gluten Free | Gluten Intolerant | Other: |
| Packed lunch for | MONDAY 14th (for your journey home) | | | | YES / NO |

Disclaimer: This Rally will be run under the BMW Owners Register Risk Management Plan as in the register's official newsletter. By registering for this event, participants agree to abide by all the conditions of the said Management Plan.

'We've Been Everywhere, Man!'

(The Incredible Journey of Mark, Paulette & Friends)

Paulette Peters

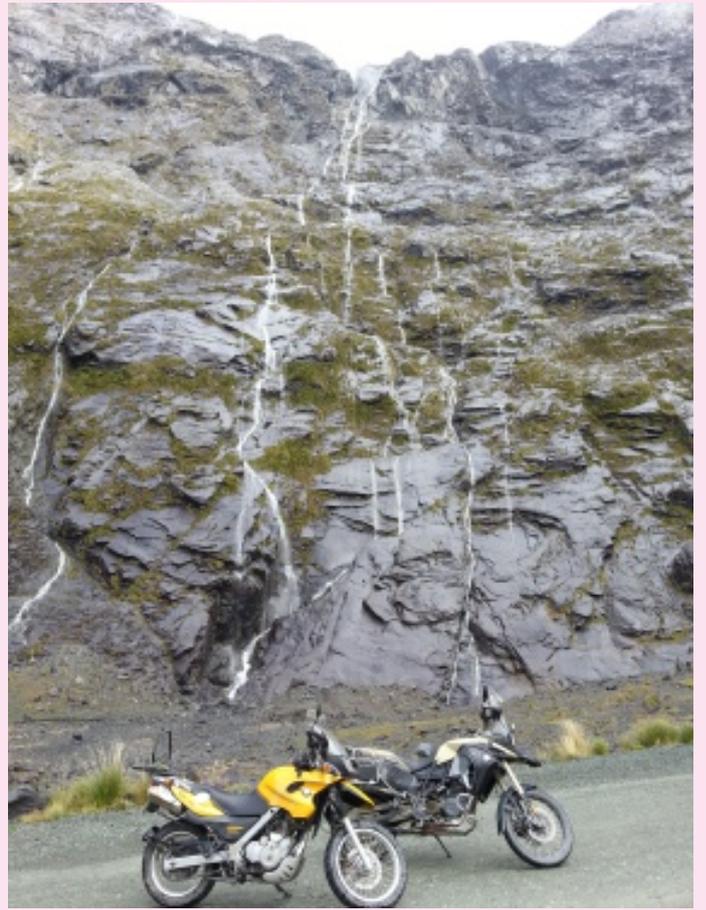


In the words of Lucky Starr "We've been everywhere man, we've been everywhere"! ... Well nearly .. sort of!.

In 2016 Mark and I, with a handful of mates, set out on a 20 day tour from Christchurch on our F800GS Adventure and F650GS. We boarded the Interislander (which by the way ladies is not nearly as scary as I thought it was going to be, any chick can do it) and made our way to the North Island where we explored all four corners, visiting lighthouses South, East, North and West. Meeting loads of likeminded bikers along the way, including Lyndon Poskitt – Races2Places. In total around 4823kms clocked. The highlights for me were riding down 90 mile beach from Cape Reinga to Ahipara, and the beautiful scenery of The Forgotten Highway SH43, King Country to Taranaki.

2018, 2 years later, we set out with the same batch of mates plus two extras (7 in total) to attack the South Island. It looked as if Cyclone Gita was going to de-rail our plans, but the day before departure SH1 north of Kaikoura re-opened and we were good to go. Our nightly stops were Blenheim, Nelson, Greymouth, Fox Glacier, Cromwell, Queenstown, Te Anau, Invercargill, Dunedin and Tekapo. Some of these were 2 day stop overs so that we could explore the area in more depth. Having a 50/50 mix of Bar Hoppers and Dust Grinders made for some interesting day trips. 17 days on the road was not nearly enough to do every track, backroad or gully ... but we gave it a good crack. There is one corner on the Rainbow Road now re-named Hamishs Straight, but not wanting to incriminate him further I shall leave it at that! Highlights for me this time were getting the bikes onto the TSS Earnslaw in Queenstown (it will accommodate 3 motorbikes weather and lake dependent and at Captains discretion) disembarking at Walter Peak and riding the Vonn Road to Mavora Lake, before arriving into Te Anau later that afternoon. The road is in excellent condition (for someone not really fond of gravel) and the views magnificent. We were lucky enough to secure passage on an overnight boat trip aboard The Milford Mariner, so the following afternoon we legged up and rode into Milford Sound. The Homer tunnel was an experience on a bike. I'm not going to forget the 4 degrees at the summit, and slightly misty drizzle making the roads slick just adding to the adventure and the exit of the tunnel! 17 days went by all too quickly and there is a buzz amongst us as to where the next trip will be. 5147kms clocked, 2020 watch this space! 🌐





This page:
above: Homer Tunnel waterfalls.
below: Mark, Dave & Poullette on the TSS Earnslaw.



Previous page:
bottom left:
Cape Reinga.
bottom right: Bluff.

A Ride Out Of New Orleans

Denis Hulston Peter Nash

At the Wellington March monthly get together member Denis Hulston spoke to the assembled members about a recent trip to New Orleans that he and partner Annie had taken. This was not their first trip to the States but this time they were trying to gain a sense of how the local people lived their lives comparing Denis and Annie's external international view with the local domestic view of what makes America tick. Part of this approach involved a 5day motorcycle ride starting and ending in New Orleans.

The following has been lifted from Denis's presentation notes.

The Bike

The ride involved hiring a bike and the riding gear for 2 from EasyRider Motorcycles. The helmets provided were open face, so glasses were required. The bike hired was a Harley Davidson Heritage Softtail Classic which came with panniers, cable and disc lock, the panniers were small. The cost was \$US 129 plus \$US 25 insurances per day plus motorcycle guarantee, damage waiver, a 20% deposit on line booking fee, total cost for gear, bike and insurance etc was around \$US1180 or \$ NZ1600 for the 5 days. A BMW 1200GS was available at about \$US179 per day. The bike performed fine, low profile so easy for a pillion getting on an off, but I'm very pleased to be riding my BMWs back at home.

The Ride

The weather was varied ranging from 30 + degrees with 70% humidity to 10 degrees in the North. Total distance travelled 1400kms

Day 1 - New Orleans to Natchez 3 hours on Highway 61 (the Blues Highway) Highway 61 goes from New Orleans and the Mississippi Delta to Memphis, Wyoming and Minnesota. However, it wasn't the romantic blues notion, lots of stop signs, car sales, pawn shops, gun shops, road side fast food. The road was concrete, cracked and broken, and very busy with pickups and traffic.

Day 2 - Natchez Trail to Vicksburg 2 hours. This road is a stunning road winding through oak and forest, following an old trading route. Recently rebuilt, speed limited to 50mph with no commercial vehicles allowed ... good riding on a perfect road. The trail goes as far north as Nashville from Natchez.

Day 3 - Vicksburg - Vicksburg National Military Park, final Civil War Siege of Vicksburg May to July 1863 between General Grant Union Army and General Pemberton Confederate Army. This is a huge military park preserving the locations of the battle site and siege of Vicksburg above the Mississippi.

Day 4 - Vicksburg to Broussard New Iberia 4.5 hours. At Broussard there was a salt dome with salt mines beneath. In 1980 at Lake Peigneur an oil rig punctured the top of the salt mine beneath the lake and the lake water emptied into the mine turning a 3 metre, fresh water lake into a 400-metre deep, Salt Lake. The sinkhole sucked down 11 barges only to regurgitate them the following day. All 55 people in the salt mine underneath managed to get out.

Day 5 - New Iberia to New Orleans - 2.5 hours

We stayed in New Iberia, the home town of author James Lee Burke, who writes murder mystery novels set in or around New Iberia - great reading.

Our final riding a ride along the coast, followed by some fast riding back into New Orleans, and the only time we used Google maps on our phone to find our route back in New Orleans. We rode with very gusty crosswinds coming off the Gulf which made for some challenging riding at times.

Accommodation

We stayed B&B in some, pretty amazing antebellum architecture style houses. This was the architecture style of typically grand plantation houses (columns and verandahs, wide stairways) in the pre-Civil War period. We booked mostly on line through booking.com a day ahead. Staying in B&Bs provided great opportunities to meet people over breakfast. Average cost per night \$100- \$125US, pretty amazing and interesting accommodation.

Spent one night in a new highway-side hotel cost \$US 135 including a cardboard breakfast.

Stayed 3 nights in New Orleans in the French quarter city centre.

Stayed 7 nights in an old restored gaol in the Treme. (<https://innattheoldjail.com/> Jail in Treme link - Ed) This old historic protected site was damaged by Hurricane Katrina flooding. People took refuge in this building and had to break through the roof to escape the flooding 12 feet deep.

Food

Varied prices and quality from a breakfast near Broussard served on disposable plates, awful coffee and almost inedible pastry to amazing food in a basic place in New Iberia seafood medley, prawns, crawfish and 2 beers \$US40. Some tasty local food - Cajun gumbo, deep fried chicken, pobo (sandwich in French baguettes), red fish, alligator, prawns and catfish. New Orleans prides itself on its cocktails.

New Orleans

Still evidence of Hurricane Katrina 12.5 years after the event - vacant lots and rebuilds.

Mardi Gras - 15 days following the Roman Catholic calendar of 15 days before Lent culminating in Lent Fat Tuesday.

Typically, a parade crew (social club) might have 30- 40 floats in a parade. There will be 3-4 parades each day. Floats are the size of a double decker bus. Lots of floats are quite political commentary on US social issues.

All year is spent building floats. Each float crew throws items to the spectators e.g. necklaces, hand painted items like coconuts, shoes, lights. Lots of street dancing and music.

Mardi Gras is 15 days of drinking and dancing in the streets - large cocktail carry glasses, lots of costumed spectators, music and festivities.

Music - massive depth of great musicians, so many street musicians and live music in clubs and bars. Blues, Jazz, Zydeco Cajun, Folk Rock.

People

Everyone was very happy to talk about their lives.

There is a lot of poverty in this Louisiana, Mississippi, Delta part of the South. One young man I spoke to in a reasonable cafe was

well educated earning \$2.50 per hour, relying on tips to top this up.

One 62 year woman I spoke to had three jobs - started work at 5am and finished her last job at 10pm at night.

One woman boycotted some of the big chain stores, because she said they had a systematic way of only employing people casually up to the number of hours before they were required to pay their health insurance obligations. Holding down a full time job with health insurance and pension was sought after.

We met an obstetrician who spoke about increasing US mortality rates in childbirth, against international trends ... associated with extreme obesity. She also talked about a burgeoning high incidence of diabetes associated with diet and life style, and this occurring in very young people too.

A lot of people had not travelled, some not out of their own state more than an hour or two from where they lived. Some travelled from 6-8 hours away for Mardi Gra in New Orleans each year as their annual holiday. Most we spoke to knew of New Zealand ... had seen about it on Discovery channel ... a beautiful country.

We met a real estate agent who told us about his cautious approach to taking potential buyers out as it was not uncommon for them to have a gun in the glove box, one on the hip and one on the ankle. While we were travelling the latest school shooting happened - 17 young people killed in Florida.

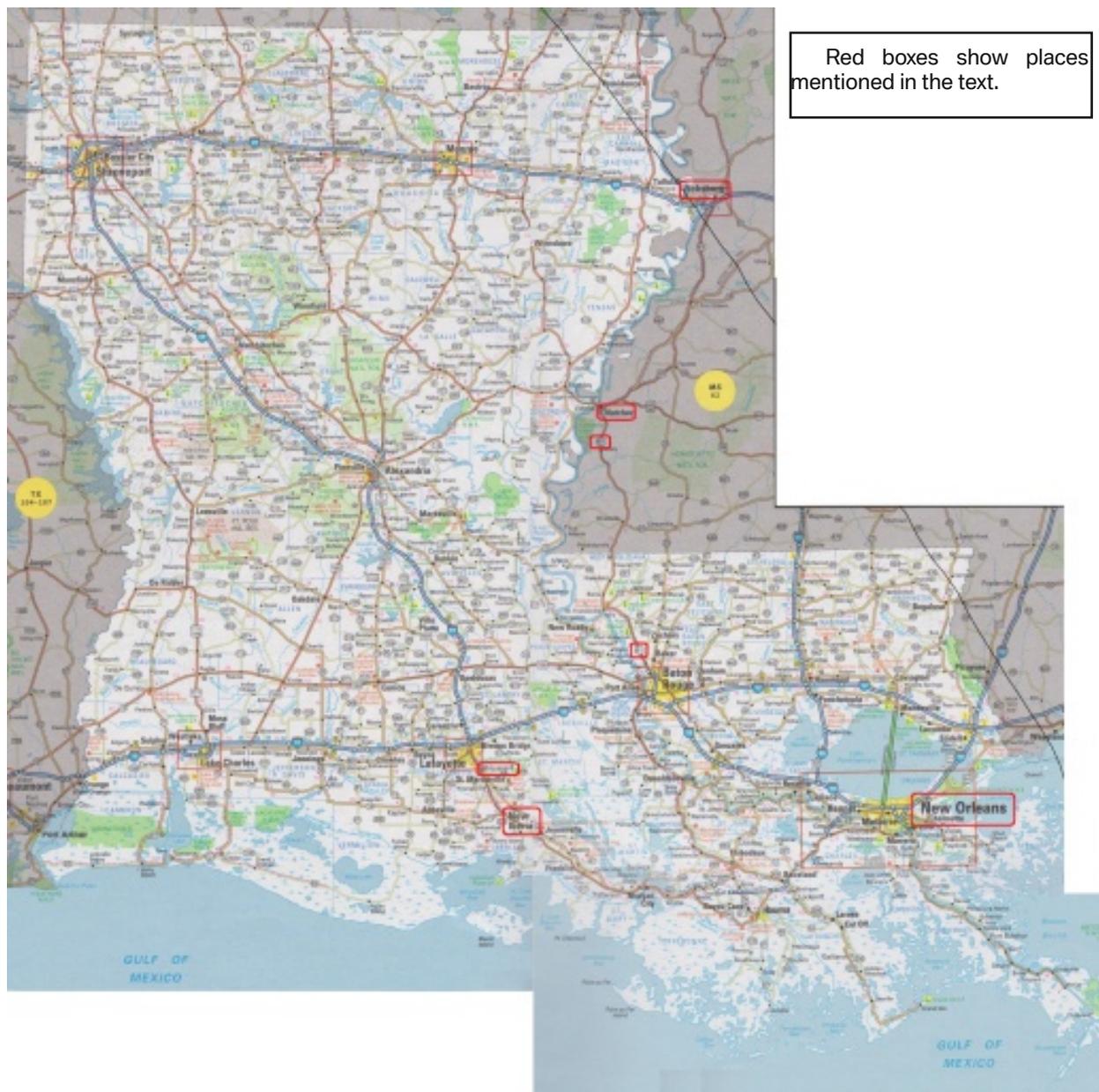
We met a young teacher - part of a Teach America training scheme. She was teaching in a school in a community west of the Mississippi. I asked her about her experience and integration. Yes the schools are integrated she said, however, all the students in my school are black and poor. There's another school not far away where all the students are white ... the school has lots more programs and funding. This was a reminder ... not far away in Jackson Mississippi was the heart of the 60s civil rights clashes and Martin Luther King. I read Paul Theroux "The Deep South" ... poverty and segregation still seems imbedded.

We saw very few motorcyclists - almost all rode Harleys. One guy we spoke with ... "pretty day for a ride", "stay safe and have a blessed day". The motorcycling season would begin in April.

Many people are living in caravans or shacks ... 2 or 3 together in the forest areas not far from the road ... some of these spots on the plantation areas would have been where slave quarters previously existed.

We felt safe wherever we went, with usual caution. Some of our cab drivers warned us about the Treme where we stayed, predominantly a black neighbourhood where we met very welcoming people ... "welcome to our community, this is our church..." But we didn't walk these streets at night.

There are Churches everywhere ... centers of communities ... seems like one on every corner of every persuasion.



Red boxes show places mentioned in the text.

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF BMWOR NZ (Inc) BOARD
HELD ELECTRONICALLY ON SATURDAY 10th March 2018**

Meeting commenced at 9.04 am

Present

Garry Williams (President), Robin Wood (Treasurer), Chris Souness (Membership), Dave Ross (Secretary) and Dale Grover (Member Rep).

Apologies

Grant Aislabie (Vice President) - MIA.

Previous Minutes (Executive Meeting):

Accepted as Read.

Moved: Garry William

Seconded: Dale Grover

Matters Arising

- Outstanding Action Points:

| | | | |
|----|--|------------------|-----|
| 01 | Create an appropriate Incident Reporting Form. Information to be published for the coming AGM. | Grant Aislabie | WIP |
| 02 | Update the Executive Action Plan (https://www.bmwor.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/executiveplan.pdf) | Garry Williams | WIP |
| 03 | Update AREA handbook (https://www.bmwor.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/handbook.pdf) | David ROSS (new) | WIP |
| 04 | Trophies - new, repurposed, timing, how they get awarded, etc | Garry Williams | WIP |

- Other Matters arising :
 - Nil

President's Report:

Largely everything I have to say is recorded in the Podium. Starting to scope out where the 2020 Annual Rally should be. There is little available outside Cromwell – Discussion. Latest newsletter was the letter from Grant opened a discussion re changing the club name. There is a lot of history around that. Survey Monkey discussion. End result – Consider questions and send to Secretary. Secretary and Membership Secretary will compose Survey Monkey to be sent out to all of our members. Both to report back

Treasurers Report:

- Attached single page report outlining the current fiscal situation was explained and discussed.
 - Move Robyn Wood Second Chris Souness
- RAG Award given to the best story told at the RAG as voted for by those attending.

Membership Report:

- See Supplied Report on numbers. Notification emails appear to be spasmodic. Iain Whittaker working on the issue. Membership going well. Changes to Shop listing re membership categories. Still receiving comments re associate and owner membership. Discussion re values
 - Move Chris Souness. Second Robyn Wood

MOTION: That Associate and Owner Membership be at the same annual membership rate.
Carried unanimously.

In any communication sent out advise that changes are from next anniversary of membership.

Members Rep Report:

- I appreciate the opportunity to have a say, however I have nothing to report. People still contact me as the previous Area Rep.

Secretary's Report:

- Correspondence Report to be completed. Minimal correspondence excluding Cheques received for Membership & RAG. Overseas magazines.
- Discussion re CLAD online offer re database. Not required – our database has been designed to suit our own needs.
- Progress report re 'On-line Member Services Directory'.

General Business:

- General Business
 - a) A discussion around respond to Nettle's proposal last September outlining the service/s provided to set up and manage a National Facebook Page in conjunction with the current management of the BMWOR Website.
 - a. Good to look at in the changeover.
 - b. Robin – No difference in Cost between paying for printing than paying for Nettle for electronic publication. Either go full electronic (no newsletter after June) or centralised electronic platform for the club then thinking about a quarterly publication of some sort.
 - c. Garry – There has been no response to any of the items we published about trying to locate a Media type person. We may still need to have something similar to an editor role.
 - b) Set a date, location and decide core agenda items of importance to the board for an Area Reps meeting.
 - a. Locations. NZCIS or other
 - b. 2 months times (now 26th & 27th May)
 - c. Agenda items to be sought from Area Reps
 - d. Board to be present and set out national expectations
 - e. Member Rep to chase the Area Reps
 - c) Determine the role of Editor post 30/6 and how we're going to manage the shift to full digital media
 - a. See the top item
 - d) If one of our goals is to support more activity at a local level, what does that look like?
 - a. Agenda item for Area Reps to consider.
 - b. Board to start thinking about what are our goals.
 - c. What should we be doing to support our members.
 - d. Flags ? – Other items.
 - e) Progress re electronic Member Services Directory
 - a. Covered under Secretary

Meeting ended at 1020hrs

Current Action Points:

| | | | |
|----|--|----------------------------|--|
| 01 | Questions to be considered and supplied to Secretary re the proposed Survey Monkey questionnaire | ALL Board | |
| 02 | Secretary and membership to formulate the Survey Monkey questionnaire | Dave Ross Chris Souness | |
| 03 | Update the Website to show Associate and Owner Membership at the same value. | Dave Ross | |
| 04 | Remove obsolete membership references from the Shop | Dave Ross | |
| 05 | NETTL proposal (currently held by Garry Williams) to be summarised and sent out to Board Members | Garry Williams | |
| 06 | Locate suitable premises for Area Reps Meeting re accommodation, meals & meeting. | Dave Ross | |
| 07 | Notification sent out Area Reps re Meeting and seeking Agenda Items | Dave Ross | |

The treasurer's report was published in the April 2018 newsletter on page 7.

As at 10 March 2018.

ARCADIA MOTEL

CHRISTCHURCH

Comfortable, spacious affordable accommodation



FREEPHONE 0800 272 2342

564 Ferry Road, Woolston, CHRISTCHURCH, NEW ZEALAND • info@arcadiamotel.co.nz • www.arcadiamotel.co.nz



Left: Protecting the bike against Kea attack. See story page 12.



BMW

The Bike Maintenance Shop

The Bike Maintenance Shop is Auckland's only independent BMW Specialist.
With 22 years' experience as a BMW Mechanic, we will always give you that personal service.

- BMW QUALIFIED TECHNICIAN
- BMW MOTORCYCLE WORKSHOP
- BMW MOTORCYCLE REPAIRS
- BMW MOTORCYCLE SERVICE
- BMW IS ALL WE DO
- DIAGNOSTICS EQUIPMENT
- SERVICE LIGHT RESET
- ABS / BRAKE BLEEDS
- ACCIDENT REPAIR

We also do all Bicycle Servicing, Repairs and E-Bike sales

P 09 818 5448
M 021 128 5546

A 2a Akatea Road, Glendene, Auckland
E thebmshop@hotmail.com

www.facebook.com/thebikemaintenanceshop
www.thebmshop.nz



*This offer is available at a fixed interest rate repayable by equal payments over a 24 Month Term. A deposit of \$500 + ORCs is payable prior to delivery. Fees & Charges of \$435.35 also apply.

The Fees & Charges include \$175 Establishment Fee, \$10.35 PPSR Fee & \$250 Dealer Origination Fee. This offer is subject to ALPHERA Financial Services usual terms, conditions and credit assessment and is valid until the 31/05/2018.



email - sales@cyclespotbmw.co.nz - phone 09 - 4861136 - Ferg - 021 1907733

61 Barrys Point Road Takapuna Auckland



Cyclespot Group

A card:

Name: Paul Quilter

Phone: 021 764 336

Email: paul@pqimports.co.nz

Message: I am writing to inform you and your greater membership that our company has been appointed as the sole NZ distributors for the Macna brand of motorcycle clothing, gloves and accessories.

This is a very high quality European brand which is highly regarded around the world.

The good news is that we will have lower prices than the previous distributor, and we will also have some incredibly good opening specials.

A full 2018 catalog is available to view at this link:

https://issuu.com/inetis.ch/docs/macna_catalogue_2018_lowres

Our website has pricing and sizes that we will be stocking (other sizes available on request).

www.pqimports.co.nz

We would be very grateful if you could share this news around and if any of your members have questions then I am most happy to answer them either by email or on our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pqimports/>

Thanks and Happy Riding,

Paul



MAKE LIFE A RIDE.

motomart

Service Department:
Gareth: 04 589 5106

Sales Executives:
Ian: 027 5138 033
Kent: 021 445 787

Dealer Principal:
Richard: richard.massam@motomart.co.nz

Wellington's Premium Dealership

Proudly servicing the Lower North Island with
Genuine Parts, Genuine Accessories and
Genuine Service.

BMW Motorrad

Address:
7 Rutherford Street
Hutt Central
Lower Hutt

Phone:
04 589 5106

Web:
www.motomart.co.nz

Indiana Joe and the RAG.

Lance Nixon 1550

Barry H was all set to stay the night at the RAG this year. He usually does. I tend to be day tripper.

There was no way I could resist the invitation to accompany Barry to Pokaka via the Para Para highway.

We arranged to meet at the Z on Dublin Street at 9.00am. No problem. Errr... yes there was.

I had checked the tyre pressures the night before (it took a while to locate the gauge). A bit more puff would be a good idea, bearing in mind that the Para Para is a bit "undulating".

At 8 30 I set off. At the service station I set the gauge and applied pressure, as you do. Oh No! The gauge went backwards. At 7 lbs I decided to pull the plug. Either I had a leaking tyre or the gauge was on suck instead of blow. Time ticked on and I did not want to tick Barry off, so I made a dash for the next free air retailer. It is a strange feeling riding a bike with a near flat front tyre. The outcome at free air #2 was OK. But the cause of the loss of puff was an unknown. Full check of the tread revealed no foreign bodies, and my spit was stagnant on the valve. And the next free air was at Raetihi 80 k up the Para paras. Ok, I had air bottles and a bike tyre sized pando thingie in the top box. But not the tyre gauge which I had left behind as I reckoned it was a purveyor of untruths. The time was now 8 49. A dash to Supercheap, a high speed transaction and a new gauge was nestled next to the pando thingie

Barry was waiting, all toggged up and ready to go. I had 36 seconds to unpack the gauge (wrapped in some super strong plastic!). The tyre was holding its own, (well, actually it was someone else's really) so I decided to take the plunge, on the condition that we stop at Raetihi for a sounding of the front tyre. Of course it was fine. Confidence was returning. It is strange that when you know there a possible problem, you feel it all the time.

We pulled into the RAG, said giddyay to the early birds, and ducked off to the Railway cafe at National Park for a coffee and a bit of nosh. It was nearly raining by this time. Back to the RAG. More catch ups and I bade farewell to the stayers and headed back down the Para Paras on my rechecked front tyre. It was till fine, and in fact stayed fine all the way home.

About half way down the Para Paras I came across a small, white bike travelling very carefully. And quite slowly. Aha I said to my helmet, A newbie. The helmet did not reply. So I followed said careful rider for a long time at a responsible distance. Even so, some smartie pants car drivers tried to get between us.

We got to Upkopongaro without incident of any consequence, and we both pulled up. The rider was Joe and he was from Indiana (it is a pretty flat state so the hills were a bit of a novelty). The bike was a Royal Enfield Himalayan, brand new, and Joe was on his way to Wellington for Ride Forever course on Sunday. Like the Vstrom, it was white. How good was that!!

After a meet, greet, and chat I offered to lead Joe to a service station that also sold food. It was off his direct pathway to Wellington, but we could sort that out easily enough. We both took on some fuel, and then Joe thought it wise to find a Hole on the Wall to have enough cash for when he arrived in Wellington. Righty-o. We rode through the main street and stopped near a couple of flavours of Hole in the Wall. He made his choice, and was solvent again. By now he was a bit peckish. Opposite the Holes in the Wall was a cafe so he ordered a meal to sustain him all the way to the Capital. I had a coffee. Then all Joe needed to do was book a bed for the night. It took a while as there was an event in Wellington so he settled for the Hutt Park Holiday Park.

All that was left to do was to follow me out of town (via the main street might as well be a tourist guide when the opportunity presents itself) and on the main road we bade farewell. I wish Joe from Indiana a fantastic trip around the South Island on his new Himalayan bike.



Right:

Joe from Indiana about to put some Zed in his Indian Royal Enfield Himalayan.



Help is at hand.
(See story on page 9.)

ANCHOR INN MOTEL
KAIKOURA | NEW ZEALAND

BOOKING ESSENTIAL

...superb waterfront location...

Well appointed Family Apartments - Sleeps up to 4

- One Bedroom
- Two Bedroom Ocean View

Studios - Sleeps up to 2

- Executive Seaview
- Luxury Ocean View
- Standard Garden View

Motel ★★★★★

2017 CARRIAGE OF EXCELLENCE

FREE WIFI

2017 GUEST SELECT 10-CHAMPION

Hospitality

208 Esplanade, Kaikoura | Ph 03 319 5426
info@anchorinn.co.nz | www.anchorinn.co.nz

Reservations Freephone 0800 72 00 33

On occasion Star Insurance sell parts from insurance wrecks through TradeMe. Take a look at the Star Insurance web site for details:

www.star.insurance.co.nz

Losing Your Grip?
Get your new
HEIDENAU
TIRES

Tires, or rental bike from:

Kiwi Motorcycle Rentals

4 McLean Drive LeithfieldAmberley RD1
New Zealand
Ph 033149947 or 0274876570
e-mail: andrea@motorcyclere rentals.kiwi
web: www.kiwimotorcyclere rentals.com

**THE ROAD
IS WHAT
YOU MAKE IT
MAKE LIFE A RIDE.**

BMW Motorrad

bmw-motorrad.co.nz



The Ultimate Riding Machine



BMW's New R Nine T Scrambler

Following the release of the successful R Nine T, the NEW Scrambler is created for the rider who challenges the ordinary, desires authenticity combined with innovative engineering and a touch of nostalgia for the scrambler generation.

RRP \$23,990 - The R Nine T Scrambler features Heated Grips, Automatic Stability Control (ASC), Cross Spoke Wheels with a 19" front and LED Turn indicators.



Demonstrators available from the following dealerships

Cyclespot Euro
Takapuna
Auckland
09 486 1136

Experience Motorcycles
Kingsland, Auckland
09 845 5950

Boyd Motorcycles
Hamilton
07 838 1209

Mount Motorcycles
Mount Maunganui
07 575 4190

Motomart
Wellington
04 589 5106

Avon City Motorcycles
Christchurch
03 341 3490





TOURATECH
 Shop online at: <https://shop.touratech.co.nz>

NEW ZEALAND

Touratech Elite Dealers:

Boyd Motorcycles: 07 838 1209

McIver & Veitch: 03 477 0236

Motomart: 04 589 5106

Mount Motorcycles: 07 575 4190

BMW Motorcycle Club
 BMW Owners Register
 of New Zealand



Registered at NZ Post Wellington as a magazine



Permit Post 
New Zealand
Permit No.148503

BMWOR of NZ | P O Box 109-245 | Newmarket | Auckland 1149 | NEW ZEALAND

AREA REPRESENTATIVES

NORTHLAND

Ian Macartney
 027 281 0242
northland@bmwor.org.nz

AUCKLAND

Stephen Parkinson
 021 989 092
auckland@bmwor.org.nz

WAIKATO

Paul Quilter
 07 859 2512
waikato@bmwor.org.nz

BAY OF PLENTY

Peter Lyner
 027-2010025
bayofplenty@bmwor.org.nz

TARANAKI

Ray Senior
 06 7536044 or 021 479 231
taranaki@bmwor.org.nz

RANGITIKEI

Barry Petherick
 06 368-2059
rangitikei@bmwor.org.nz

EAST COAST

Coordinator: John Wuts
 06 844 4751
eastcoast@bmwor.org.nz
Ride Master: Xan Harding
 (027) 612 7927
xan.harding@xtra.co.nz

WAIRARAPA AND WELLINGTON

Peter Nash
 04 232 4962
wellington@bmwor.org.nz

NELSON

Kevin Hewitt
 022 632 0025
nelson@bmwor.org.nz

MARLBOROUGH

Peter and Sacha Brandon
 021 842 291 or 03 745 1124
marlborough@bmwor.org.nz

CANTERBURY

Julie Hyde
 027 465 6626 or 03 312 5395
canterbury@bmwor.org.nz

OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND

Andy Hutcheon
 027 464 3230
otagosouthland@bmwor.org.nz



THORNDON

This magazine is proudly printed by the team at printing.com, Thorndon