

Member of the International Council of BMW Clubs

NEWSLETTER

BMW Motorcycle Club
BMW Owners Register
of New Zealand



bmwor.org.nz

November 2017

"Mai eke ki a tatou" - Come ride with Us





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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.

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A teacher asked her students to use the word "beans" in a sentence. "My father grows beans," said one girl. "My mother cooks beans," said a boy. A third student spoke up, "We are all human beans."

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.

Howard MORGAN	AUCKLAND
Peter WHITEHEAD	AUCKLAND
Sandra WHITEHEAD	AUCKLAND
Alain DOUYLIEZ	HASTINGS
John BAKER	WELLINGTON
Peter WOOD	NELSON
Jacki ROXBURGH	CANTERBURY

There was an elderly couple who in their old age noticed that they were getting a lot more forgetful, so they decided to go to the doctor. The doctor told them that they should start writing things down so they don't forget. They went home and the old lady told her husband to get her a bowl of ice cream. "You might want to write it down," she said. The husband said, "No, I can remember that you want a bowl of ice cream." She then told her husband she wanted a bowl of ice cream with whipped cream. "Write it down," she told him, and again he said, "No, no, I can remember: you want a bowl of ice cream with whipped cream." Then the old lady said she wants a bowl of ice cream with whipped cream and a cherry on top. "Write it down," she told her husband and again he said, "No, I got it. You want a bowl of ice cream with whipped cream and a cherry on top." So he goes to get the ice cream and spends an unusually long time in the kitchen, over 30 minutes. He comes out to his wife and hands her a plate of eggs and bacon. The old wife stares at the plate for a moment, then looks at her husband and asks, "Where's the toast?"

Cover:
Canterbury member Chris in his happy place. - Aren't we all; - on our bikes!
Image courtesy C. Matthews. See story in Area Reports (Canterbury) on page 10.



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From the President ...

President's Podium October 2017

I never ceased to be amazed at what turns up in our newsletter! Aside from a great cover, page 11 of last month's edition included a photo from Michael Dobson in which he, John Glasswell and I, at the instruction of the photographer, are doing our very best to look extremely cool on BMW Motorrad's fleet of R1200Cs of the day.

Michael's memory is a bit shonky though. The event was to launch a production of "Little Shop of Horrors" in which Mark Hadlow (a keen motorcyclist himself) played the lead role alongside Jackie Clarke and Bella Kalolo. As part of the promotion, each of us had to pillion one of the three actors onto Eden Park at the half time mark of some rugby game (Auckland vs. Waikato I think), do a circuit of the touch line and drop them at half way where a stage had been set up for the three of them to perform one of the show's musical numbers. I do recall there

being quite a heavy dew, and the 1200C is not brilliant on grass at the best of times! Then we had to shoot off down the motorway to the Ellerslie Racecourse in a pretty heavy fog for a second engagement, which involved navigating our way into the function centre, still wearing our shades, around tables of diners dressed to the nines, to a stage with a very narrow ramp for the bikes to climb, which you couldn't see because of the smoke created by dry ice and million watt spotlights. Say no more! It was a bit of fun though, which was what it was all about really.

We had a great time at the annual Kickstart event at the Canterbury Agricultural Showgrounds at the beginning of October. Kickstart, is jointly organised by Christchurch City Council, Selwyn District Council, Waimakariri Council, ACC and the Police, and features dealer displays with the latest bikes and safety gear; static and active displays of motorcycles; riding demonstrations; bike 'health' checks; and of course plenty of BBQ food. The club had its own stand and my grateful thanks go to Jo, Justin and Chris for manning the stand and making bikes available for display, and to Chris Souness for arranging a couple of flags at very short notice enabling us to stand out amongst the crowd. (Photo, below, left.)

My thanks also to Wellington Area Rep Pete for representing the club at the Motorcycle Safety Summit, launching the 'Ride and Decide' initiative in September. Ride & Decide is a new engagement initiative led by the Motorcycle Safety Advisory Council (MSAC) with the support of ACC and road safety partner agencies. It involves a series of events with the aim of sharing plans and ideas with key road safety agencies and stakeholders. The launch summit covered how Ride & Decide aims to increase understanding of crash data, discussed agency plans for improving motorcycle safety, and identifying new ways to strengthen existing plans. I'm sure Pete relished the opportunity to hear about new agency plans for improving motorcycle safety, as well as recent developments in technology, training and research and helped take the conversation on motorcycle safety from plans onto New Zealand's roads by participating in the event.

I've been out on the bike a bit more over the last month with a ride over to the West Coast with Grant and Chris to marshal the CYB Construction Hokitika Classic, the 5th round of the 2017 Calder Stewart cycling series and a great day out with Chris, Alistair and a few others on some of the amazing gravel roads across the Banks Peninsular last weekend. (Photo below right.)

The South Island Rag Rally is on from Friday 10th – Sunday 12th November. "Hang on, we've just had one!" I hear you say. True, however, the RAG Rally held in Hanmer Springs earlier this year was deferred from 2016 following the Kaikoura/Hurunui earthquake event. This year we'll be accommodated at the Red Deer Lodge in St Arnaud, close to Lake Rotoiti, and it is just \$50 for Friday and Saturday night (for those who want to camp, the DOC camp ground is just around the corner). Area Rep Kevin has organised a Saturday night group meal at the Alpine Lodge, look forward to seeing you there.

It is getting closer to the time that registrations for rooms at the Annual Rally venue will close (12 December 2017) and Barry tells me any unsold rooms will be released back to the hotel. You can still register for the Rally from 13 December 2017, but you will then need to find your own accommodation.

Wherever your travels take you in November; be safe and have fun!

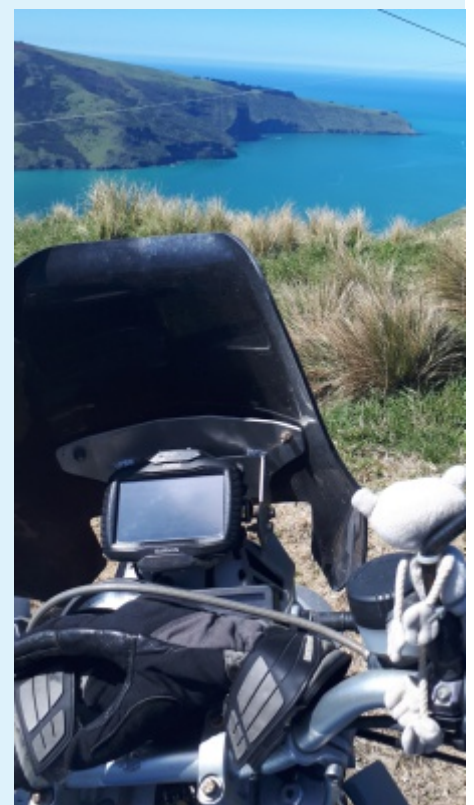
Garry



Left: The Kickstart Event

Photos: Refer to President's Podium.

Right: Bank Peninsular.



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.

Calendar of Events

National BMWOR Events

10- 12 November. South Island RAG Rally.

5- 8 January 2018 Annual Rally and AGM. Cromwell. See page 16.

March 2018 Annual RAG Rally. Pokaka, National Park.

Northland: Contact Area Rep

Auckland

Sunday 5th November. Café run. Olivers Café 340 Hibiscus Coast Hwy, Orewa 0931. Make your own way there for 10am or turn up at my place just after 9.00am ((22B Almorah PLACE (not Road) Epsom)) The weather is coming right, ride options abound from here.

Monday 13th November. Monthly meeting 7.30pm. Vintage and Veteran clubrooms 39 Fairfax Ave Penrose.

Sunday 19th November. Monthly ride. Raglan. Meet 9.00am for a 9.30 departure BP Service Centre off M/way south between Papakura and Drury off ramps.

Sunday 3rd December. Café run. Venue TBA.

Monday 11th December. Monthly meeting 7.30pm. Vintage and Veteran Clubrooms 39 Fairfax Ave Penrose.

Sunday 17th December. Monthly Ride, destination Leigh. Meet 9.00am for a 9.30 departure Starbucks Westgate. Just left off exit 19A North Western Motorway Westbound.

Contact Area Rep: Waikato. Bay Of Plenty. Taranaki. Rangitikei. East Coast

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 – 12 November – Destination Ride – Mega Mitre Ten Cafe – Porirua.

Monday – 13 November - Club Social get together - Petone Working men's Club from 6:00pm.

Sunday – 19 November - Monthly Club Ride to Herbertville Pub – Lunch.

Nelson: Contact Area Rep

17- 19 November. Weekender. Exploring D'Urville Island. Act now!

Marlborough: Contact Area Rep

Canterbury

Wed 8 November Club Night – early Holiday Season night out – bookings essential

Embers Restaurant at the Papanui Club – 2 course main and dessert set menu – around \$47 p/p (drinks separate) – drinks from 6.00 pm with meal served from 6.30 pm onwards

RSVP to Jo by Sunday 5 November - text 027 241 0611 or email canterbury@bmwor.org.nz

Wed 13 December Club Night – end of year wind down at the Papanui Club

Other rides? Let me know where you're going and when and I'll put the word out.

Saturday Morning Coffee – Avon City Motorcycles. You're always welcome to drop in and have a coffee and a natter at Avon City Motorcycles – especially on Saturday mornings. Rob Newton and other stalwarts will see you there – remember to take some chocolate bickies to share with Eliot and the Avon City team.

Otago & Southland: Contact Area Rep

National Motorcycle Events: 8 - 11 February 2018. 12th. Annual Burt Munro Challenge.

<http://www.burtmunrochallenge.co.nz/>

Looking at the range of emails I receive, I believe that there is still some confusion about communication to and from the BMW Owners Register (our club).

There is probably some basic information that I should reiterate for the sake of clarity in some sectors:

EMAIL:

Most of the communication you receive from our club is electronically. If you suddenly stop getting an electronic version of the newsletter, or suddenly find that you are well overdue in your annual subscription, here are some simple tips:

- Have you changed your email provider?
- Did you tell all of your contacts about your new email address?
- Did you let our Membership Secretary (membership@bmwor.org.nz) know so that our database can also be updated?

Looking at the statistics associated with sending out our electronic newsletter, on average only 65% open them. So the question then is what happened to the other 35%?

MEMBERSHIP FEES.

Just as a reminder, our club has not send out individual Invoices for annual membership fees for about 6 years. The new database sends automatically generated messages based on the anniversary of your membership to your listed email address.

If you change your email address and don't tell us, you won't get these.

Historically our membership fees were based on the June year. With the release of the new membership database, the Board (previously called the Executive) accepted that the easiest method with the new system was to change everyone's membership over to the anniversary of their joining. There has been a lot of information disseminated about how that process works but there are still confused enquiries.

During the transition stage only the membership is calculated at \$60-00 (annual membership for June) PLUS \$5-00 for each subsequent month. The October membership fee (during this transition stage) would then be:

June	\$ 60-00
July	\$ 5-00
August	\$ 5-00
September	\$ 5-00
October	\$ 5-00
TOTAL DUE	\$100-00

The following year, when the transition is completed, the annual membership fee reverts back to the standard \$60-00.

Automated emails are generated:

- 4 weeks before your membership is due
- 1 week before your membership is due
- 2 weeks after your membership was due
- 4 weeks after your membership was due
- At 8 weeks after membership was due the member is advised that their membership has been terminated (Our constitution says it should be at 4 weeks, but this was stretched out to 8)

UPDATING YOUR MEMBERSHIP DETAILS:

The following are the most simplified instructions I create:

- Go to www.bmwor.org.nz (That's our club's Website)
- Click on the Blue Button (top right) that says 'My BMWOR Account'. (This takes you to a totally different system where our club database is held. It's seamless and you may not notice the difference).
- In the box under 'Member Sign In' type in your email address and click SUBMIT
- o If you've changed your email and not advised us, you will get a rejection message
- o If the email address matches that on the database, you'll receive a message in a blue banner across the top of the page that says 'Please check your email address for your access link'
- Check your personal email system and then click on the Hyperlink provided.

You can check and even update information held on the club's database. This will also show you when your membership is due.

ACCESSING AND READING THE FORUMS.

If you just want to read any of the the Forums, just click 'Forums' then 'All Forums'. You can read anything you can see.

You cannot change your membership details or see when your membership fees are due in this system. It is a totally different system.

WRITING TO THE FORUMS

To write to the Forums you need to be registered. Registration is granted to BMWOR members as long as they remain members. To register, the follow steps will explain how:

- Go to www.bmwor.org.nz (That's our club's Website)
- Click on 'Forums' then on 'Forum Registration'
- Complete the form and submit it.

The completed form is automatically sent to the Secretary who:

- Checks that the persons requesting access is a BMWOR Member,
- Creates the User Identity (that creates a computer generated password)
- An acknowledge email is sent to the person with the password.
- Once the new User 'logs in', they can change the password to suit their needs.

Passwords are hidden in the system and no-one can access them. If you forget your password, you can request a new one.

The new User can access and write to the Forums. The Forums are written in 'Word Press'. They are moderated and posting can be removed if considered inappropriate.

Letter To The Editor

"Is It Time For A Change?"

Why are we still calling ourselves the "Owners Register"? I know, and respect, the heritage that those words give to us but do they represent what the organisation is in 2017 when in fact what we are is the BMW Motorcycle Club - and of New Zealand.

Our heritage can be recognised and preserved by a brief (and irrevocable?) preamble to the Constitution at the same time as we change the name. This would ensure we maintain that piece of history unique to those who went before us. Such a change is not without precedent. That revered institution the RSA recognised that they could no longer record their name as the Returned Services Association as there were fewer and fewer returned service personal who would qualify as members, and heaven forbid that should change. So they changed the name to the Returned and Services Association to reflect what it is now there for.

If we change the name (after much kerfuffle with those who control such things (as they should) at BMW in Germany) we will need to change the club logo.

What I suggest is that we do a NZ Flag type competition (without the \$24 million expense) and call for suggestions. There must be/will be someone with ideas (we can get the artistic bit done if needs be so anyone can sketch their ideas) who can have a go at the new logo - that has a ring to it, eh? "Have a Go at the New Low Go".

Once entries are accumulated a group of persons - artist, designer, printer, embroider, computer designer, along with several bike types would compile a short list (if there is no standout logo) which we can vote on and then tidy it up to production standard and submit it to BMW for approval.

Why do this? Because if you were travelling here or overseas wearing the present club regalia you cannot easily, without intruding in to personal space, ascertain from whence the wearer and what they represent. Our regalia is our marketing tool and with members taking more and more travel opportunities (with or without a bike) any chance to promote the fellowship of the marque (and NZ) should be taken.

Replies on the back of a beer coaster to Grant Aislabie, Box 99633, Newmarket 1149.

Grant Aislabie, Member #2621

Auckland Area meeting discuss BMWOR

Extracted from the Area Report Auckland. (Page 9 - Auckland)

Due to the past fixed membership anniversary date there are a whole bunch of people experiencing the new membership fees so it was fairly natural that this would crop up in conversation. I was quite encouraged by the balanced (don't mistake that description as meaning without dissent) discussion around the factors driving foundation of the Register, the way in which these founding factors are not current drivers, and the necessary evolution of the Club to meet today's and tomorrow's needs. Mention was made of Garry's comments at the AGM that when you look at the club's income and expenditure it appears as though we are in the business of producing a newsletter. We should be quite clearly in the business of getting likeminded people with a shared passion together and riding bikes about the place. Whether we like it or not we are a part of a worldwide culture where everything is presented live as it happens and hard copy printed media just can't deliver that. All forms of event related printed media reporting are under stress, it's not just the BMWOR newsletter now, the problem has spread to NZ Herald etc. I guess I'm caught with two opposing but passionate views; (1) I believe the instant news, instant gratification, in your face now but gone by lunchtime environment is a retrograde development and we are robbed of the necessary opportunity to sit back, take time, turn the page and properly digest the information (scoffing down fast food is an analogy which comes to mind), and (2) My deadline to provide copy for this newsletter is the 15th of each month. This means that, for instance, as I sat down to write copy for October's newsletter we had not yet been on our September ride so I was actually reporting on our August 20th ride. News from August 20th was being put in front of you at the earliest 2nd October in its hard copy format, something like 6 weeks after the fact. As I'm writing the copy you are now reading, I've just got home from our October ride, I could put that ride report in the stuff you are now reading but I'll end up seriously scratching around for stuff to write about when I get to next month's copy deadline. I would love it if, as a club, we functioned in an environment where stuff was being posted by members during the ride and perhaps I had some responsibility to furnish an event report in near time after the event. The club has invested heavily in going down this path and I'm sure the transition from what was to what should be will yield solid results in terms of required operating revenue and presenting the club in a way which is accessible and relevant to those that will lead it in the future. If I'm not to be labelled a hypocrite, then I should take the time to properly engage and support the online platform being evolved.

Area Reports

Northland

Four Northland riders turned out for a fantastic ride to Russell today via the old Russell road surely one of New Zealand's great rides. Two Ian's and Tony & Sue headed north into a day that just got better & better.

Brunch was enjoyed at the legendary Helena Bay Cafe & Art Gallery high on the hill overlooking the bush to the coast. Amazing Art to browse with eye watering prices but if you're looking for that one off individually crafted item, it's the place to go.

Back on the very twisty road thru remote communities and some very basic housing albeit with a Sky dish. The coastal road between Bland Bay and Elliot's Bay hangs on to a cliff face so full focus required.

Turning into the Bay of Islands we rode past Parekura Bay, Te Uenga Bay, Waipiro Bay, Jacks Bay and on to Russell. What a great spot for fish and chips watching the world go by.

We were in illustrious company as the latest McLaren sports car parked alongside the trio of Black 1200GS.

Crossing to Opua on the car ferry then the not so exciting trip down to Ruakaka and Mangawhai in school holiday traffic.

All in all a great day for those who got out to enjoy it.

Ian Macartney Northland Area Rep.

Auckland

Manukau Peninsular is one of the best places on earth (the writer's personal opinion).

In a fairly compact piece of real estate you can get served up some narrow twisting country lanes, sweeping class one roads, a bit of gravel if you go looking, vast oceanic views with Australia in the distance (maybe I should be a real estate agent), undulating rural landscapes, and harbour views. The juxtaposition posed by this sleepy coastal land mass and the Auckland city rat race separated only by a narrow body of water is inescapable. The one thing you won't get on the Manukau Peninsular, on Sunday 17th September 2017, is lunch. Fortunately you can get fuel, Bhana's food market at Matakawau also operates the gas station next door and will happily send someone over to unlock and fuel you up. The usual routine for our rides is that participants make their way to the relevant meeting point (one for north, one for south) which is handily located nearby to a fuel station. Fuelling up immediately before the ride is a good idea particularly if your children have siphoned fuel from your bike making your trip meter since last top up a little irrelevant (true story). The peninsular is not such a large distance for us so we shouldn't really be finding ourselves short mid ride however we got caught out by the bit where some numb nuts in a car ran over a fuel pump and caused the whole BP Service Centre to be shut down. Anyway, now that some bikes were fuelled up, this just left a bunch of riders to fuel up. 'Castaways' is located cliff top overlooking Kariotahi beach on the west coast so it seemed a perfect fit for our rider refuelling stop. As we sat there looking over the west coast I was reminded of potential for a great ride taking in some Franklin County little known roads leading to Maioro State Forest roads, onto the beach at the Waikato river mouth, then 10kms of beach ride to Kariotahi and a lunch at Castaways. Unfortunately local bike riders had abused their access to the forest and when they had been excluded they simply rode down the beach and cut their way through fences to get access to the forest. Consequently there is now a blanket ban on all bikes in Maioro Forest. I thought democracy was all about being directed by the majority not manipulated by the minority, probably best I veer away from that line of comment given current NZ politics.

October's café run coincided with some of the most rubbish weather that Auckland can serve up but there was still a half dozen or so of us chowing down on brunch, chatting away and imagining the view of the marina we could enjoy if the windows weren't obscured by the conditions.

Our monthly meeting held 9th October was notable for two things, firstly a broad discussion around membership fees and the transitioning of the BMWOR/Motorcycle Club (See separate article Page 8), and secondly another instalment from Trevor and Audrey Stafford around their recent ride London to Beijing.

We all dream of the epic motorcycle road trip, few of us act on that dream. The reality is that taking the leap based on pure romantic fervour just isn't how it happens. Trevor and Audrey have had that dream and realised that dream, the only way they got to realise that dream was through preparation, dedication, and sacrifice to achieve the goal. We have been privileged as a club to have them unfold their preparations, experiences, and first hand lessons. Each month another digestible sized piece of their journey from dream to fulfilment is shared with us in a form we can take on board and use if we choose to take that leap.

As a final comment I'd like to say that I've waited years for an opportunity to use the word juxtaposition in a sentence, I feel quite a sense of achievement.

Catch you out there,

Stephen.

Rangitikei

The Rangitikei group has moved smoothly into its new era. We wish to thank Don & Sue Cross for the sterling work they did as the Area Rep and we welcome Barry & Barbara Petherick as our new leaders.

We were scheduled for a ride to Toko on the Forgotten World Highway. The planning was done, the venue advised and then the weather poked a spanner in the spokes. Rather than lose the event it was postponed to a week later.

Did we mention weather as a factor again? Yes it was showery and cool a week later but not to be daunted by such vagaries, the plan was under way.

Don, Murray and Lance left the Pukeko Cafe at 10 30 and were back there by 3 .00pm, covering some 275 k . For Horowhenua members Murray & Don it was more like 500k.

In between we saw some interesting Taranaki back country and a few brief showers. Traffic was light. The food servings at TOKO are huuuuge. We did our best! By any measure known to motorcyclists this was a fantastic day out.

The next adventure was to be Mt Bruce yes!! for the fourth time!!... Postponed. But undaunted and keen to keep in touch, (i.e. share some gossip,) the Wanganui BMWOR team of Lis & Peer, Kay & Neville and Heather & Lance gathered at the Pukeko again for a coffee in lieu of a ride. And as we began to say our farewells, the sun nearly came out.

East Coast

Once again we didn't manage to get any motorcycling in but nevertheless a most enjoyable evening was held on the last Tuesday of the month, this time at Gengy's in Hastings, a Mongolian type restaurant which I am happy to recommend. The service was excellent and an amazing choice of food to pick from, complete with freshly made pancakes to finish. Once you had made your selection of seafood, pork, chicken or beef it was cooked right in front of you, just like in the picture where Peter, Robert, John and Leonie are about to receive their food.

Our next 'Last Tuesday of the Month' dinner will be held somewhere in Napier, venue still to be decided. We are also contemplating going for a ride to Manfield, on Saturday 28 and/or Sunday 29 October for the Spring Classic - NZ Classic Motorcycle races.

John Wuts, East Coast

Wellington

I woke on Sunday and looked at the email. The Club Ride is ON, but there may only be a couple of showers first thing.

Light riding gear was the call of the day, and off I rode to the meeting point at BP Mana. There were eight bike with ten persons (welcome Stu) all gathered in a light shower. Nice ride through to the Fusion Café in Ashhurst and just as we settled for coffee, watched two more bikes arrive (The Tibbs and Paul Marshall on his café Racer) and down came the Hail! Maybe it was slightly cold.

After the morning tea break and the photo of 10 mighty machines lined up outside, it was off to Hunterville for lunch. The Nash's returned to Wellington for a family event and Oaters went back via the Wairarapa for his family event.

As deputised part two ride leader I lead out of Ashhurst still with eight bikes and ten persons. A light rain started and I watched with awe as the large black Thunderhead that seemed to be right where we were going, started to drop its load. The closer we got, the slower it moved, but just enough that we skirted around the west side of it.

Nice ride, but as it was still raining we didn't stop for photos at Windy Point lookout. It would be reasonable to say that it was living up to its name.

At the top of Vinegar Hill we slowed and gathered all for the final run into Hunterville and the Sunshine. The Proprietor at the Hunters Café & Motel kindly shifted a couple so that we could make a table for ten. Great Food and Great company. I have to admit that the Hunterville Big Breakfast beat me – yes you read right I couldn't finish it!

Nice Ride back down towards Wellington via the West side of Ohakea, West side of Levin, East side of the approach to Otaki and finally the Paekakariki Hill to end at Pauatahanui. The Traffic flowed nicely considering that it was the last day of the school holidays.

I arrived back home after 393 kilometres travelled. A thoroughly enjoyable ride.

Peter N

Nelson

We were supposed to be going out for a ride on the 8th but it was postponed until the 15th due to bad weather, and it was lucky we did. The weather was awful here on the 8th.

It was another beautiful sunny day on the 15th November here in Nelson. We hit a high of 20C. A small group of us keen BMW riders and one convert to the dark side met at 3 Brothers Corner and departed just after 10am.

We rode through the always pleasant Inland Highway through to Motueka and straight through and up to the Woolshed on top of Takaka Hill for refreshments and conversation.

We then headed down the other side and split into two groups (and Tony headed off on his own, which we later found out was a Canaan Downs excursion), Dale (with Odette as pillion) led Trevor and Peter (with Sasha as pillion) along the main road into Takaka and then round to Pohara. The rest of us turned right onto East Takaka Road, a stretch of gravel that gently climbs up and gives magnificent views across the valley and overlooks river below. We also took the more scenic sealed road into Pohara, completely bypassing Takaka.

A good feed was had by all at the Penguin Cafe. A separate group of motorcyclists had just pulled in before us (including Peter Woods, he waited for us in Motueka but we went the back way and he did not let us know he was coming), so the wait was a little longer than normal, but the food came out quicker than the drinks at the Woolshed! More conversations were had, and discussions about where to go next. It was agreed that time was getting on and a Cobb Valley detour would take too long.

After we had all refuelled our bodies we headed off back up the Takaka hill and took the Harwood Hole turning to Canaan Downs Scenic Reserve, a 11km stretch of gravel. We were 3 riders down, Revti, Raeffe and Trevor made their own way back, but we had gained Peter.

Then it was home for all, I stopped in Motueka for an ice cream, everyone else honked on their way past: Another great day out in Sunny Nelson.

Kevin.

Canterbury

First of all, keep the evening of Wednesday 8 November free for our next club night which is an early holiday season banquet night at Embers Restaurant at the Papanui Club.

The meal will be a 2 course set menu (i.e. main and dessert). The main part of the banquet is a mix of slow cooked fire pit lamb and adobo spice rubbed chicken – served with DUCK FAT POTATOES – and roasted vegies and yummy salads and sauces and condiments ... and two more choices of yum in the dessert department! Excellent value at \$47 per person – but numbers are limited so you need to let me know if you're coming by Sunday 5 November - RSVP by text 027 241 0611 or email canterbury@bmwor.org.nz As always, partners and friends are very welcome.

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We had a stand at this year's Kick Start Motorcycle Riders Event at the A&P Showgrounds in Christchurch on 1 October – complete with three GS bikes adorned with local dust and one rather new and shiny one. Many thanks to Chris Matthews, Justin Ryan and Garry Williams for making their bikes available and spending the day taking turns to man the stand – there were a number of interesting conversations with people who were interested in both Beemers and learning more about adventure riding. And many thanks to our BMWOR Board who pulled out the stops to get promotional flags made and shipped down in time – awesome.

The event was an interesting day. In one arena Duncan Seed, club member, ran braking demonstrations covering different types of bikes and braking systems, slippery surfacing braking – with and without ABS, and showed the relative performance of car versus bike braking. The NZ Police riding team gave us “be a better rider” demonstrations with practical tips for U turns and figures of 8 – very impressive on the big bikes - and definitely achievable with practice. Elsewhere, the boys and girls from the Pioneer Motorcycle Club put us to shame with an excellent display of trials riding skills.

Otago

Ten of us converged on the recently opened Fagains Cafe in Millers Flat for lunch last Sunday. The food was excellent, as was the company. It's a popular destination, we were surrounded by lots of cyclists enjoying the new trail, and a contingent of classic Ford Falcons. I feared the worst when one opened his bonnet, but it turned out not to be a breakdown, just a desire to have the V8 admired. The breeze came up a bit for the return trip, the Southland contingent must have braved something of a headwind on the way home.



Grant Hyde on the Methven ride (Canterbury)

Around the Country ...



1. Northland
2. Northland Group; two lan's (one behind camera) Tony & Sue



3. 'Castaway' Cafe is located on the cliff top overlooking Kariotahi Beach.
4. East Coasters doing what they do! Gengy's Cafe in Hastings.





5. Nelson: - The Caanan Reserve. - The gravel excursion.
6. Canterbury members Geoff & Chris, ready to roll to Methven.



7. Chris's Camp, the Methven ride.
8. 'Three big Boxers' wait patiently for their latte lovers in Millars Flat, Otago.



How To Celebrate a 40th. Wedding Anniversary?

A Question We Often Ask Ourselves ...

A question we tend to ask ourselves is what we do to celebrate our wedding anniversary, especially the 40th, need something special to remember. A big ring maybe, a quiet meal, pop away for the weekend, a big long party maybe, but hey that's not such a bad idea, how about an 84 day moving party riding our motorcycling across the world? Mmmmm, quite a tall order but something we have dreamt about wanting to ride to New Zealand for many years, it sort of fits with going on honeymoon on the bike to Luxembourg way back and revealing an R69S parked alongside the gangway of the RFA Bacchus in Chatham back in 1974 when we met.

So, the moving party it was meant to be and 18 months of planning and preparation started including a trip across the globe to the UK to find a suitable R1200GS. Found it in Dorchester in Southern England, a 2008 model pre-liquid cooled model with 25000miles on it lots of extras plus a BMW warranty. We then went to a pre expedition weekend briefing in Norfolk on the edge of the Queens country estate at Sandringham.

Bike preparations, riding gear preparation, body preparations, mind preparation, plus the inevitable paper storm of visas, this is serious stuff we were warned of temperatures from -2 to +42 and it was right, from snow at a ski resort in Turkey and of course the Himalayas to the Boiling deserts of Turkmenistan, altitudes from -137 feet in the Caspian sea to 17,400 feet in the east Tibetan passes, food from Yak Burger for dinner and dumpling and salad for breakfast, accommodation varied from tents in the desert to the Raffles hotel in Beijing, with everything in between such as 'broken' Ex-Soviet Russian hotels to mud hut homestays with no water or electricity.

We started from the Ace Café on the North Circular in London, that's a famous bikers' café from the mods and rockers era and finished at the Ace Café in Beijing. We traversed the fabled Silk Road across a formidable expanse of territory, with a rich tapestry of cultures, religions, diet and extraordinary roads/tracks to ride. We took the routes less travelled, through countries where tourism is only in its infancy or even not known. From the far east of Turkey, through Armenia and Georgia then into Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan – heart of the Silk Road – and Kyrgyzstan.

The Pamir Highway in Tajikistan, is the 4th most dangerous road in the world and one we would definitely do again, so far from anywhere bouncing along a road/track along the Afghanistan border we had feeling of disbelief that we were actually doing this. The Tibetan Plateau where we spent a week above 5000mtres [16500 feet] altitude and the route to Everest Base Camp were just some of the extraordinary places we rode to on what was an extremely challenging and unpredictable journey. It tested our abilities both on and off the bike, most day spending 6 to 8 hours on the bike and on a few occasions having to stand up for most of the time to avoid continuous potholes. All this before we reached Lhasa in Tibet where the Dali Lama has his Palace. Then onto northern China with the Pandas, Terracotta Army, the Forbidden City, the Great wall and endless thick smog.

Throughout the trip we brought smiles [and disbelief] to many people, some had not seen Caucasians and some had not seen large motorcycles. Miles of smiles especially for the young ones as we left a trail of little fluffy Kiwi birds with them across the globe.

So, we ended in Beijing after 17 countries and 22,000km feeling fitter and healthier than we had done this century, but that is what motorcycling does for you. Just leaves us a problem of what on earth do we do to top this for the 50th anniversary.....

Stats:	84 days	22,000Km
	17 Countries,	-2degs to +44degs
	-147ft to +17056ft	Motorways to tracks
	Dessert to Snow	Tents to Raffles

Trevor S.

Mt. Everest background.

"Us at Everest base camp. That's the highest point on planet earth behind us.

We went with Globbusters. Have been talking with the owners and they are happy for us to be the first point of contact. My number is 021388848."

[Photos supplied by Trevor (Author).]



Right: "Us on the bike is in the Wakhan Valley in Tajikistan probably the 4th most dangerous road in the world and one of the highest, the river is the border with Afghanistan which is in the background. We felt sooooo remote."



Above: Group photo is in the Himalayan foothills which is still over 5,000mtrs high!

Right: In the Kyrgyzstan is at a major road junction. We were on the main 'trunk road' and this is the smooth part.





“Gateway to Paradise”

2018 Rally and AGM

The 2018 Annual Rally and AGM are going to be held in Cromwell in the heart of Central Otago, commencing on Friday afternoon January 5 and concluding on Monday morning January 8. Don't leave your decision to register any longer! The end of the year is not far away!

The venue is “The Gate” which is booked out to us for that period. It is a terrific venue which has just been refurbished and developed, as has much of the Cromwell town centre across the road, and you will be able to be as busy or as lazy as you like in this fantastic location! The Gate is an upmarket motor lodge with very comfortable, quiet rooms, all with great views of the surrounding mountains and vineyards, and of course there is plenty of safe parking for our BMWs. It is also close to Lake Dunstan and there are great walks in all directions for those whose bottoms are sore from lots of riding!

The Gate has its own cafe, “Forage”, which is open from early morning until late in the day, and which caters for all tastes and wallets. If you want to stretch your legs a bit, cross the road and check out the cafes, bars and eateries of Cromwell.

Over the Rally weekend there will be organised road rides and adventure rides—we can even organise for you to hire a trail bike if you come on your road bike. There will also be a wine tour for those wine lovers amongst you. If you want to do your own thing, the choices are huge, from Highlands Park to the many cafes and historical townships and sites that abound in Central Otago.

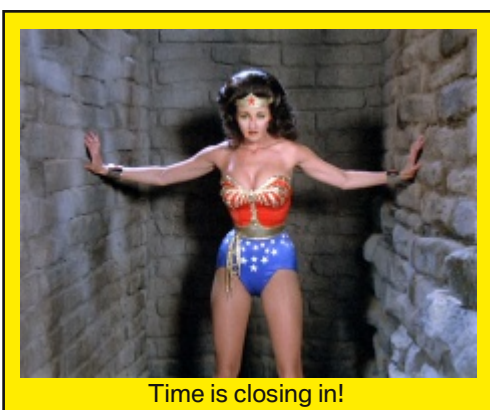
Later in the year we will send you a Rally Pack which will give you advance notice of what you can expect in Paradise---and yes, we can even take you there!

Please do not contact The Gate yourself because all room bookings will be done as part of registration which will CLOSE ON 12 DECEMBER.



So, watch for developments—January is closing in!

REGISTER NOW - SEE NEXT PAGE



Time is closing in!

CHECK LIST

- Register for Cromwell Annual Rally/AGM.
- Book bike in for service.
- Check accommodation and ferry bookings.



REGISTRATION FORM - 2018 ANNUAL RALLY 'THE GATE', CROMWELL, CENTRAL OTAGO. Friday 5-Monday 8 January

Name/s	
Address	
Email	

BMWOR Number		Area	
Phone		Mobile	
Bike / Model		Year	

	NUMBER	COST	TOTAL
Registration (non-refundable)		\$25-00	
2018 Rally Badge		\$12-00	
Friday evening 'Meet & Greet': Rolling Pizza		\$18-00	
Saturday evening: Dinner		\$47-00	
Sunday evening: 'Burger-fest'		\$18-00	
Polo shirt: circle size / s S M L XL 2XL 3XL		\$45-00	
Accommodation at The Gate:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All rooms have en-suites & tea/coffee making facilities • Rate per room is for 1-2 people per night • Some rooms can have an extra person. Cost per night • Please tick type of room and dates required: 		\$145-00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Queen/King <input type="checkbox"/> Twin <input type="checkbox"/> 3/room		\$25-00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fri 5 Jan <input type="checkbox"/> Sat 6 Jan <input type="checkbox"/> Sun 7 Jan			
<input type="checkbox"/> Want to share a room? We'll try to arrange it.			
TOTAL			

Cancellations - Registration fee is non-refundable. Other fees refundable, depending on costs incurred

<p>Please mail all Registration Forms - (including cheques made out to BMWOR) - to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Barry Richardson 25 Boundary Road ALEXANDRA 9320</p> <p>Or SCAN and EMAIL to: sn.btrichardson@xtra.co.nz</p>	<p>Payment by Internet Banking</p> <p>BMWOR Event Account 03-1519-0034447-001</p> <p>NB - This is NOT the subscription account</p> <p>Please reference with: NAME, BMWOR Member Number Rally</p>	<p>General enquiries to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rally Coordinator Barry Richardson 03 448 8681 sn.btrichardson@xtra.co.nz</p> <p>All entries will be acknowledged</p> <p>Registrations close: Tuesday 12 December 2017</p>
<p>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</p>		

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Motorcycle Safety Summit: Ride & Decide

Wellington

Recently, I was invited to attend the Motorcycle Safety Summit organised by the Motorcycle Safety Advisory Council (MSAC), with the support of ACC, in Wellington. I went along as the BMWOR's Wairarapa and Wellington Area Rep. Jo Buckner was there in her capacity as a member of MSAC.

The aim of the Summit was to share plans and ideas with key road safety agencies and stakeholders in order to:

- Increase understanding of crash data.
- Discuss agency plans for improving motorcycle safety, and
- Identify new ways to strengthen existing plans.

The Summit brought together representatives from the relevant government control agencies and other interested parties were also there: namely ACC, NZTA, MOT, Police, TRAFINZ, OPUS and the AA. Each of the representatives spoke covering their agency's role and their areas of interest in relation to motorcycle safety.

A handout document – Single Point of Truth - was given to each attendee that set out an analysis of a range of motorcycle statistical data which showed in terms of fatal and injury motorcycle accidents that there are two distinctive different streams, urban and rural. The data also showed the age demographic and type and size of motorcycles ridden by each age group. More work was identified as being needed with input from other groups like the retail motorcycle industry and importers of motorcycle safety equipment and training providers.

The Wellington meeting was the first of these Motorcycle Safety Summits with another meeting in Auckland which will focus on urban safety issues and a third meeting in Christchurch focusing on rural safety issues.

The outcome of these meetings is to put together factually based documents that contain recommendations on how to reduce the number of motorcyclist fatalities and injuries for presentation to the appropriate Government Ministers.

One of the positives to come out of this Summit was that all of the central government, local government and the AA are talking about motorcycle safety and the need for changes to be made to reduce the number of accidents.

Peter Nash - Wairarapa and Wellington Area Rep.

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From: Kevin Hewitt [mailto:bmwor.nelsontasman@gmail.com]
 Subject: URGENT - South Island RAG Rally.

South Island RAG Rally, Friday 10th - Sunday 12th November

Accommodation; Red Deer Lodge at St Arnaud, close to Lake Rotoiti. The Lodge can accommodate 28 guests in 5 bunkrooms and has a spacious kitchen and communal lounge with an impressive riverstone fireplace.

- Bring your own bedding.
- \$50pp for Friday and Saturday night
- (For those who want to camp the DOC camp ground is just around the corner.)
- Bring your own food and drink for Friday night, and breakfasts/lunch or buy locally.
- Local petrol station/store sells a small amount of supplies and has a small cafe, open 8am - 6pm
- Clinker cafe is open 9am - 7.30pm

Saturday night we intend to have a group meal at Alpine Lodge
 Breakfast from 8am - 10am
 Lunch from 12:00 - 2pm
 Dinner from 5:30pm - 9pm



Pet Psychology

A dog thinks: The humans offer me food, love and shelter. They must be my gods.

A cat thinks: The humans offer me food, love and shelter. I must be their god.



2018 RAG* Rally - Taylor Memorial Lodge, Pokaka

Sat/Sun 24 - 25th March, 2018

Cost: \$50.00 per Member or \$75.00 per Non-Member (plus \$15 for a badge). Includes lodge accommodation/camping and the spit roast on Saturday night.

You will need: a tent and bedroll if you're camping (dormitory accommodation is available for about 50 people - first up, best room), sleeping bag, cup, plate and eating irons.

Please note: Each person to bring vegetables and/or salad for the community pot.

How to get there: Pokaka is on State Highway 4 between National Park and Raetahi.

From the North: From National Park, pass through Waikune and Erua. After passing under the Makatote Viaduct, look for road sign 'Taylor Memorial Lodge and Pokaka' on the right side of road, pointing across the road, in the direction of the mountain.

From the South (Raetahi), pass through Tohunga Junction (joins up with highway 49 and Ohakune) Horopito, then look for road sign 'Taylor Memorial Lodge and Pokaka' on left side of road, pointing across the road, in the direction of the mountain.

To secure and pay for your entry, either:

- fill out the booking form below, attach your cheque and post it to RAG Rally, PO Box 109-245, Newmarket, Auckland 1149;

OR

- send an email to secretary@bmwor.org.nz with RAG Rally in the subject line with the details required on the booking form below in the text and pay by internet banking to the BMWOR 'Event' account 031519-0034447-01 (please include your surname as the payee and 'RAG' as a reference).

Please note: 2018 RAG Rally badges will only be available for entries received by 5:00 pm Friday 23 February, otherwise bookings must be received by Friday 9 March for catering purposes.

.....
RAG* Rally Booking Form



Name

Membership No

Please book me and the following people:

.....
Number of Members attending @ \$50.00 each = \$.....

Number of Non-Members attending.....@ \$75.00 each = \$.....

Number of badges required @ \$15.00 each = \$.....

My cheque for \$ is attached.....

I have paid via Internet Banking..... Please tick one.

*RAG stands for Rough As Guts, but it isn't really.

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... From page 7.

MEMBERS SERVICES DIRECTORY

Currently underway is the development of a 'Member's Only Area' that will hold the most current version of the Member Services Directory. This is also designed to be smart phone friendly.

It is likely that the 'Member Services Directory' may only be published on the website. I am looking at the options for having Hard Copies printed at the request and expense of those asking for them.

In conjunction with the Website Developers, we are designing a system that will require members to register to access the Service Directory. This is currently only in the initial test stages and more information will be published when the system is fully tested and accepted.

If there are other issues that you are concerned about or you think create confusion, please email the Secretary (secretary@bmwor.org.nz) with those details. Our aim is to reduce or remove any confusion.

Reaching the end of a job interview, the Human Resources Officer asks a young engineer fresh out of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, "what starting salary are you looking for?" The engineer replies, "In the region of \$125,000 a year, depending on the benefits package." The interviewer inquires, "What would you say to a package of five weeks vacation, 14 paid holidays, full medical and dental, company matching retirement fund to 50% of salary, and a company car leased every two years, say, a red Corvette?" The engineer sits up straight and says, "Wow! Are you kidding?" The interviewer replies, "Yeah, but you started it."

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