

**White Horse Whispers**

*The Newsletter of The Motor Scooter Association of Victoria*

**MARCH 1967**

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**THE NOTICE BOARD**

Remember NO THONGS or OPEN TOE SHOES are to be worn when riding with the Club!

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All club functions are set at a certain time. Be there on time

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Any person running in, please inform the Captain, and arrangements will be made.

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There is a suggestion box at all club socials for any practical idea that may improve the club.

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If your contributions are to receive a prominent position in the Whispers, they should be submitted to the Editors early in the month.

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The competition for the new Club Banner and name will close at the May social.

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Don't wait to meet new members GO GET THEM!

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Itineraries are obtainable from:- MAYFAIR MOTORS (Eliz St City) and Malvern Star (Eliz St City).

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An extra 10% discount is obtainable to members for disposal goods, from T.B. Trading Co (see committee)

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All irritating articles in this edition are hereby retracted.

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Editors Comment is a STATEMENT OF OPINION and no apologies shall be forthcoming.

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## EDITORS COMMENT

This is a statement of opinion of the Editors.

Recently one person had had his subs overdue for a number of months and has been attending club functions and also voicing his opinion at the general meetings. This has NOT been fair to financial members. Owing to the Constitution being incomplete, we urge all members to pay their subs on time otherwise they will not be considered members and will have to rejoin. However in the new Constitution to be drafted in the near future, we believe that a period of one month's grace be given. This would not have applied to the already mentioned person, as his subs had expired well before this time.

As this person informed the President and another member that he would resign from the Association after the run to the Kangaroo Rally (at Ballarat), the committee took action in the form of a letter informing him that his services would not be required for this or any other run and that if he wished to resign, then he would first have to rejoin.

We support the committee 200% on the action taken and trust that no other un-financial person shall be allowed to behave in this disgraceful manner of defacing the Association and demoralising its members.

RONTRE.

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March 3:

Social:

Meeting opened and closed, late and early, in that order (8.00-8.50) Peter. P and Malcolm B were then presented with Life Membership. The Honorary Membership was not awarded, as the recipients were not present.

Merit stripes were awarded to Peter P, Mr & Mrs McLean (Barbie & Alec), Graeme 1, Len Shearer (of "May I suggest" fame), Mrs Ann O'Keefe (who now resides in Canberra) David O'Keefe (no relation to Ann), Sheila and Myself and also Trevor (That's me).

Yearly Stripes were issued to all financial members who have been in the club for a period of 12 months. Soft drinks were then distributed along with itineraries and The Whispers. Chairs were moved aside and dancing organised, while the more argumentative types retired to the kitchen, where no schools of thought conceded to the other. During the latter stages of this discussion, supper was laid and the argument disbanded in favour of refreshment. After supper the Hall was cleaned and we all went home.

WELCOME TO:-

Bronwyn who will be riding a Honda 50 (a single girl Yippee!!)

Also Fred Carron, Good to see you Fred

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The innocent young girl got married and as soon as they got to their hotel room, went to the balcony and stared up at the stars.

"Hey" called her husband, after an anxious hour, "aren't you ever coming to bed?"

"Not till morning" said the bride. "My mother said this would be the most beautiful night of my life and I'm not going to miss a minute of it."

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**TIPS FOR:- WET WEATHER DRIVERS.**

First wear protective clothing. Don't wear bathers, shorts or thongs remember if you fall the clothes are the only protection you have.

Ride according to the road, weather and traffic conditions. Travel at least 10mph slower in the rain, or when the road is greasy, than you would on a fine day.

In wet weather, reduce your speed by using the gears and brake only as a last resort.

Take special care when approaching trouble spots: tram lines, painted road signs, oil slicks (such as those found at taxi ranks and bus stops)

Tram lines are among the worst hazards. If you have to cross them, reduce your speed and diverge over them at an angle of about 30 degrees.

The experienced rider will sit about 2-3 ft away from tram lines and after resuming a straight course will take up his position the same distance from the lines.

If at all possible, avoid riding over signs painted on the roadway. They are treacherous when wet and can easily cause your machine to skid. Should you be forced to pass over them in wet weather, don't break, diverge or accelerate. Ride over them at normal speed.

A weather shield is preferable to wearing goggles, which can restrict side vision, distort vision in wet weather and can fog up in certain conditions.

**IF YOU INTEND TO TURN DON'T TRUST THE REAR VIEW MIRROR – LOOK OVER YOUR SHOULDER!**

Ride as near to the left as practical, but keep at least 5 feet clear of parked vehicles. Always be on the alert for car doors being opened.

When "filtering" through lines of traffic, be on the alert in case the driver of the car in front diverges unexpectedly.

Don't overtake another vehicle, especially a tram, a bus or truck at an intersection, as another vehicle approaching on your blind side may be attempting to get across the intersection ahead of it.

At speeds of more than 10-15 mph, don't steer a motor cycle - lean over and use balance to get you around corners.

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March 5:

**Mystery Trip (Tynong)**

14 bikes and 3 cars were present for this run, which was to the Cornucopia Museum at Tynong. As the museum didn't open until 1 and we arrived at 12, we played around with what looked like Peter's Maico, but turned out to be a steam engine. We also had a game of French Cricket (our rules) until the doors opened. After much poking around, left museum and had a game of keeping

off. Left Tynong and headed for Gembrook along dirt road and Johnny Barker had a little misfortune. As John OTLD me not to print the details we have written it instead: \_

*He fell off!!*

Reached Gembrook where we bought drinks and utterly confused the young lass serving, by trying to explain to her how the club operates. Then onto Belgrave and F.T. Gully with some members breaking off and the rest going to the Camberwell Bowl.

WELCOME TO:-

Steven, on a Yamaha 100 who was on his first run with the club and is now a financial member.

Ken, who is form the N.T and rides a Suzuki and was on his way to Steak and Kid via Melbourne.

CRYPTIC COMMENTS:

Why did we stop at Belgrave John?

Who put the wrong date on those temporary receipts?

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A man quarrelled with his wife and moved out to a hotel. Al day long he brooded, but by dinner time he was hungry and sorry, so he telephoned her. "Hello Sarah, what are you making for dinner?" "I'm making poison!"

"Well only make one portion. I'm not coming home!"

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### **Ballarat Rally**

6 bikes arrived on Sunday making 12 in all. We wandered around until Ron, Sheila and close relatives arrived. Then on with more wandering around until the competitions started at 2:00pm. These consisted of the oldest bike, best built up bike, best tool kit plus various other sections, including the best prepared Suzuki. Sandra winning this section and received the only trophy won by us.

Then on with another event which wasn't official. Namely hill climbing. Not many spectators but a lot of worried riders. Next event, also un-official, was the blowing up of one cycle (not ours). Apparently this fellow had a petrol leak, stood on his kick start, petrol made contact, result IGNITION! (so attend the next maintenance day!).

Wandered round a bit more, knocked off, had tea. Some staying at camp, the majority going to Ballarat. Next on the official agenda was the Headlight Procession through Ballarat. This being my first time found it a most interesting experience. The procession was about a mile long, consisting of 270 odd bikes, 2 abreast and a police escort front and rear. We entered Ballarat via the highway, turned off and skirted the lake coming back onto the main road and through the shopping centre doing a U-turn and making our grand finale and exit via the highway back to Burrumbeet, where presentations of trophies to the afternoon's competition winners took place. What happened after this is a blank to me. The reason being that I wasn't there;

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LEEN TOO, he say:-

Snow flake, one of nature's most gentle things, but look what happens when they got together.

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“Figures never lie,” said the instructor. “For example, if one man can build a house in 12 days, 12 men can build it in one day.”

“And 228 men could build it in one hour,” responded the student. “And 17,280 in one minute, and 1,036,800 in one second. What’s more if one ship can cross the Atlantic in 6 days, then 6 ships can cross it in one day. Figures don’t lie.”

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**NUTS ON THE PUTTS**

You can never find a Cop then you need one! Which was all too true in NEW YOURK till recently. The Police Commissioner has recently checked out 575 cops on Vespas and Lambrettas and he has just asked for funds to buy 300 more. Eventually he wants 2000 to mount up. As we know, and they found out, the little machines provide all sorts of fringe benefits. The putt of the bikes daunts would be offenders and the potential speed of 60mph allows them to outrun juvenile delinquents, mount footpaths, or even bounce up and down steps to avoid heavy traffic, for surprise 2 scooter teams patrol their beats in an ever changing pattern. Not long ago a scooter and a squad car were notified of a burglary at the same time, the scooter arriving at the scene 7 mins before the car!

Because of their blue helmets they have been called, blister heads and bubbleheads, but the best description is BUZZY FUZZY. Since using scooters the crime rate in the parks has dropped by an average of 40%. The point was not lost and 4 notorious crime areas were motorised and in a recent 2 month period the crime rate was less than anywhere else in the city.

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A young man who took a driving test for a motor scooter licence in London recently was told by the examiner to ride three times round Berkeley Square. “Keep alert”, said the examiner, “because I am going to step off the footpath in front of you to test your braking reactions.”

After three circuits, there was still no sign of the examiner; failing to find him, the young man finally returned to the test centre to report what had happened. “It’s very unfortunate,” explained the supervisor, ‘but I am afraid that your examiner is now on his way to the hospital. You see he stepped out in front of the wrong scooter.”

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March 19:

Maintenance Day:

15 ½ bikes and 3 cars turned up for the biggest and longest maintenance day for some years. The first to arrive was Pat, at about 10.00am Johnny Barker then arrived on his new Kawasaki. During the day we gained 3 new members, John G, Ria Smit and Lorraine Gillies.

WORK was the theme of the day and just about everyone had something to do. Had lunch, was eaten on the back lawn amongst many bits and pieces of various machines. After lunch some bikes were assembled and the meeting for the Albury trip took place. We were going to say something nice about Hondas and terrible things about Maicos, but we won’t as Bruce has said enough. Speaking of Bruce he left a little later than the rest of the club, 10.40 to be precise, but apparently he fixed it O.K as I heard him cross Springvale Rd intersection, which is a mile away from Lee Ave.

CRYPTIC COMMENTS:

I now know how Maikos are held together. By tin foil and good luck and a greater portion of the latter.

WELCOME TO:-

LEON who rides a Lambretta LI 150 and with the assistance of the club learned a little more about his machine. (We hope!)

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Easter Camp At Albury:

Left Alexander Avenue at 7.30 Thursday night. The first to drop out was Brian – seized up just past Seymour, but all arrived at Albury safely and taking only 12 hours in very cold conditions...enough to freeze the balls off a brass bedstead!

Friday was spent just lazing around the camp. Bruce went missing but after a search was organised he was found IN BED.

Saturday we had a run to Wagga. Had lunch and a look around. On the way back to Albury Peter L, Kevin N and John Burford decided to get a few souvenirs and arrived back at camp with a pair of girl's stockings. Also on the way back in Daddy's car, two bods were playing up in the back seat – Brian, meet Susan! Had tea in camp and played a game of cards: CHEATS! And went to bed.

Sunday morning early: poor old Barney found himself well and truly under the blankets. Not only the blankets but bedroll and groundsheet as well! You dirty dawgs! Left camp and went for a tour headed for Beechworth but Ray Pope didn't quite make it. Then on to Bright for lunch. After lunch, continued on to Buffalo. The boys considered that pushing their bikes was safer after Steve decided to bite the rocks. Eventually reached Buffalo where we had a look round and took some photos. Started back going through a place named Puckland?

Arrived back at camp and had tea. Barney went to the local dance and did all right for himself. (Dirty Dawg) too bad the girl had her own car. In the meantime the rest played cards and then went to bed. What time did you get back, Barney?

Monday: Pulled down the tents, cleaned up and headed for Melbourne. Stopped at Benalla for lunch where Susan tried to break into a car. You little THIEF! By this time the tow black packhorses had arrived. Left Benalla and on to Seymour where a Honda 50 burned off a Trumpie 650 on a hill – Honda in top, Trumpie in neutral.

After Seymour members started to break off from the convoy and arrived in Melbourne where it was found that Susan and Brian were missing – but Brian didn't mind...

All in all, it was a good camp.

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### CRYPTIC COMMENTS

SANDY can really prepare potatoes – Instant Mash that is.

DID YOU KNOW that a certain girl doesn't get going till after 12.00pm? WOW!!

LOSE YOUR BIKE, Brian??

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March 2<sup>nd</sup>: TABLE TENNIS AND COMO HOUSE

Left Alexander Avenue at 10:15am and headed for Albert Park Table Tennis Centre. After two hours of bashing the ball and someone learning to ride a Honda we left Albert Park, bought lunch and arrived at Como House. Where we saw what was to be see'd, by which time it was 2.30pm. Too early to go home so we had a look at the ships at Port Melbourne. About an hour was spent just looking around and we all met back at the bikes and departed to arrive at Alexander Avenue, which was the dispersal point. So, it turned out, was the Y.W.C.A. along with the Golden Bowl.

14 bikes attended in all, but they were coming and going most of the day. Also present was Graeme 2 in his mini.

CRIPITIC COMMENTS:

A RECIPE FOR LUNCH:

Pie and sauce, washed down with a can of orange juice. Good for upset stomach. If you want one that is! What would you say, Carolee?

“HERE BRUCE, C’MON BOY!!!”

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BRUCE AT ALBURY OR FOLLOW THAT MAICO!

Bruce’s Maico broke down with a broken throttle coming back from Buffalo. When he’d fixed it he decided to give it a go, and pushed it to start it. Then he decided to stop for a moment to get his bearings, and in doing so the bike fell over. Bruce picked it up, not realising that it was in gear, with the back wheel spinning like a beauty.

On being righted the bike bolted and headed for the nearest tree, Bruce still grimly clutching it, trying to stop it!! He succeeded in the nick of time before it hit the tree. Wow, what a close shave! But that’s not all...

When he’d finished soldering a nipple on his throttle cable, Bruce started to disconnect the leads from the battery, and caused a short. A great cloud of smoke covered the bike, and while that was going on, Peter (Daddy) was halfway down the road, shouting, “Take the tank off! Take the tank off!! Take it off – PLEASE!!”

But after all that, he still got the Maico going, and as a Maico owner myself, I’d like to conclude by saying, “ONCE YOU GET IT GOING, YOU CAN’T STOP A MAICO!”

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The Motor Scooter Association of Victoria gives thanks to:-

The Ballarat Rovers Motor Cycle Club

The Victoria Police Force

And all other bodies connected with the Kangaroo Rally 1967.

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The Editors give thanks to:-

Peter Philferan – Brian Durrant – Albury trip

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Alec McLean and Mrs C. Ratcliffe  
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