



NMC

NATIONAL MOTORCYCLE CONSULTANTS PTY. LTD. (INC. VIC.) BIG KOALA MOTORCYCLE TOURS. NMC MOTORCYCLE INSURANCE
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THE MOTORCYCLE RIDERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (Vic. Branch) Inc.

6 June 1989.

Media Release.

NEW TEAM AT THE MRA.

On Sunday, June 4, members of the MRA elected a new committee. The previous one-man committee was removed by a vote of no confidence. Financial memberships had fallen from over 6000 to less than 3000. Income was down more than 75%. The MRA was in debt and politically inert.

The new committee is as follows:

PRESIDENT	Damien Codognotto	BMW R/65	Caulfield.
VICE PRESIDENT	Steve Duggan	Suzuki 1100	Mulgrave
TREASURER	Julian Butler	Ducati 906 Paso	Northcote.
SECRETARY	Frank Creasey	Harley FXSB	Ferntree Gully.
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Iain Clarke	Yamaha XJ 900	Hawthorn.

After the election a sixth committee person was appointed.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY	Mark Reed	Honda CX 500	Hiedleberg.
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Two main tasks lie ahead of the new team in the coming financial year. First the Association must raise its income and pay its bills. Second, the MRA must improve its image and lobby for a better deal for road riders.

To raise urgently needed funds there will be a closing down sale at the office at 208 High Street, Northcote (482 2384) on Saturday, June 24. There will be a rise in membership fees soon so people are urged to join now. The current fee is \$20 and forms will be posted out if the address and number of forms required is left on the recording machine on 03) 211 5127.

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"Back in black" MRA benefit concerts will be held to raise funds between now and Christmas. Its hoped these concerts will feature Flat Earth, the band that made the earth move at the OZ GP Rally.

In the next few months the MRA will reorganise and come back with an up-market, professional image. There will be new badges, patches and garments. Other products will be developed.

The committee will get back into politics immediately. Two years ago the Victorian Treasurer, Mr. Jolly promised that there would be a review of 3rd party rates for motorcycles in a couple of years. He had just increased top rates by over 135% in twelve months. Now there is a threat of massive increases in NSW. The committee will lobby for a review. Dangerous roads and "lights-on" would also be targets.

There will be a review of the constitution which may mean quarterly general meetings, an annual magazine, two year terms for committee with half the team being elected each year and a single Registers Conference, at the same place and time each year.

The Victorian Branch will support MRA NSW Ltd. by withdrawing from the Australian Motorcycle Council and no longer recognising the MRA's national body headed by Brian Wilkins.

The Victorian Branch now has a mature committee that can tap a wide range of talents and skills. The members have elected a management team that will return the Association to the position of Australia's number one motorcycling group.