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## **Harley Owners Group (HOG) – New South Wales Chapter**

### **HOGS – The Official riding club of Harley-Davidson – Established 1983**

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**HOG New Members Ride to Settlers, Mulgoa**  
**Saturday 3 August, 2019**

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Our sponsoring dealer is located at 153 – 165 Parramatta Road, Concord NSW 2137

Time again for the New Members Ride! The New Members Ride is on the first Saturday of every month and all Chapter members and new or prospective members are always welcome. This ride always departs from our sponsoring dealer's premises at 10.00 am.

Today we have an easy ride to Settlers Restaurant in Mulgoa approximately 75 km from Frasers along our preferred route. We will travel through Horsley Park, Capitol Hill, Badgery's Creek, Bringelly, Wallacia and finally to Mulgoa.

In this blog, Abraham Lincoln gets a mention. Read on to find out why!

***This newsletter contains images taken on the day of the ride as well as downloaded images.***



Image 1 – Its mid-winter but with blue skies and temperatures around 20°C, no one is complaining!  
As usual, we gather at Fraser's carpark for a pre-ride chit-chat.

Here from left we see Bollard (Dave), Richard and Baa-Baa (Malcolm).

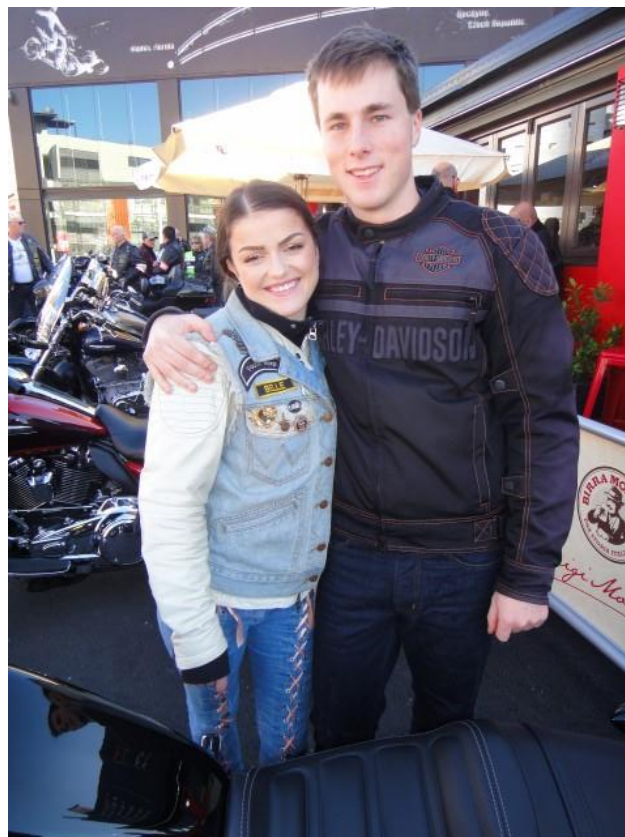


Image 2 – Our stellar Trainee Road Captain Belle is here today with boyfriend Luke.



Image 3 – We all spontaneously gravitate to the outdoors to enjoy the warming winter sun. It's great to chill-out with ride buddies before the ride.



Image 4 – A line-up of Harleys will put a smile on your face!





Image 5 – The Derby cover on a CVO Limited denoting the standard engine displacement of 117 cubic inches. That's 1923 cc of raw power from a 2 cylinder, 4-stroke engine.



Image 6 – Road Captain George has arrived today on his Vespa motorcycle, his daily commuter bike. Apparently his FOB-key for his Harley-Davidson Fat Boy had a dead battery. He suggested we all change the battery as soon as we notice them starting to fade and at only \$3 it's the cheapest item in the Harley parts catalogue.



Image 7 – The fuel tank on a 2016 Heritage Softail Classic. This ‘teardrop’ tank shape was first used in 1925 and still remains very popular.



Image 8 – Let’s check out Tarzan’s vest! A HOG vest can show a great variety of pins and patches and are assembled however the wearer wishes. These adornments can express attitudes, display role, show affiliation, commemorate events, or can be simply for decoration. There are very many options but the vest does tell a story about its owner.

Here on the right breast we see Harley-Davidson and HOG content pins. That column of pins below the letter Z are HOG mileage pins earned whilst on HOG adventures. We see that Tarzan has completed at least 40,000 miles on HOG adventures. That next column of bronze coloured pins are HOG annual membership pins. At top left we also see that Tarzan has undertaken a rider safe skills course.





Image 9 – Now to Tarzan’s vest on the left breast. Here we see a collection of Chapter pins Tarzan has obviously collected during his travels. As a HOG member, you are welcome to visit any of the hundreds of Chapters world-wide where you will surely be welcomed with open arms.



Image 10 – Having a friendly chat before the ride is Lindsay (at left) with Knock-Knock (Hugh).



Image 11 – Before the ride commences there is a ride briefing amongst the Road Captains. This includes mention of their individual roles in the upcoming ride. For today's ride a good roll up of Road Captains was requested so there are many in attendance.  
Lead Road Captain for today is Smiddy (Ian) seen in the background holding some notepaper. In the foreground is George.



Image 12 – At 9.45 am it's time for the ride briefing to all present with mention of route, ride protocols and timing.





Image 13 – Here we see John with grandson Bjorn out for some quality time together. I think their family resemblance is very strong.



Image 14 – It's almost 10 am and the call to "saddle-up" has been made so we all get ready to roll. Here we see Jubby (Mike) with wife Sarah on their recently acquired Harley-Davidson Road King. There is a slight chill in the air this morning hence the use of face covering.





Image 15 – Here we are in Fraser's carpark before departing en masse. Launch is delayed until we see a suitable break in the traffic on the very busy Concord Road. Then a Road Captain obstructs traffic flow allowing us all to leave together in one cohesive group.



Image 16 – Often seen on Chapter rides is Ashley with Sarma as pillion.



Image 17 – This view gives me great pleasure, Harley-Davidsons spread right across 3 lanes! I’m sure other road users share my enthusiasm!  
Hey, that’s George at my right on his Vespa motorcycle.



Image 18 – That’s Belle doing her job as a Road Captain. She is “marking” the corner ahead of the pack indicating which way to turn so that nobody gets lost. Then she has to scramble her way back through the pack to mark another corner further ahead. This responsibility is shared amongst the Road Captains in attendance. Marking corners is all predetermined and is part of clever planning of a ride. For instance, today’s ride had 17 corners to be marked, all mapped out in advance.





Image 19 – On ride takes us through Capitol Hill, a rural suburb of Sydney 40 kms west of the Sydney CBD. Its undulating land offers views all the way to the Blue Mountains west of Sydney. This secluded rural area is zoned rural residential with houses on acreage. The above downloaded image shows a typical home found there.



Image 20 – Another typical home in the Capitol Hill estate.





Image 21 – We continue on through rural areas towards our destination.



Image 22 – Downloaded image of the Settlers Restaurant, our destination for today. This is a heritage building dating back to 1890.





Image 23 – We arrive at our destination around 11.20 am after a very pleasant 75 km ride. Unlike city venues there are plenty of parking spaces available to us here.



Image 24 – New members on their first HOG ride today are Woz with partner Francesca seen here with their Fat Boy model.



Image 25 – Downloaded image of the rear of Settlers restaurant.



Image 26 – On our way to the back entrance we were all individually greeted by this cute little kid, the son of an unknown patron. He high-fived everyone! Looks like the scary old biker look isn't working all that well!





Image 27 – Downloaded image of the interior of the restaurant.



Image 28 – We make our way into the restaurant to place our lunch orders.



Image 29 – There is some Police memorabilia inside the restaurant. That's because this building served as the Mulgoa Police Station from the early 1900's to 1934.



Image 30 – We choose to eat outdoors soaking in the warming winter sun. Blue skies with temperatures around 20°C and no wind made it very pleasant indeed. Its midday and you can tell its winter by the long shadows.





Image 31 – We all gather around a derelict old truck on the restaurant premises for a group happy-snap.

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Hey, what about some Harley trivia? This is about the least known series of Harley-Davidsons in the company history.

In 1977, Harley-Davidson produced arguably its most *controversial* series of bikes ever! This was the “Confederate Edition” series whose bikes had Confederate –specific paint and decals on an otherwise stock model. Only 631 bikes across 6 models were built with most being Sportsters or Super Glides. Because of the low production numbers it may be the most collectible of all Harley-Davidson models. (Read on)



Image 32 – Confederate Edition bikes consisted of a special commemorative paint scheme of metallic grey paint and 'rebel' flag decals on the fuel tank, and an army general's sleeve braid on the front fender. They would be the least known models in the company's history.



Image 33 – The battle flag of the Confederate States of America, also known as the Confederacy. This flag originally came into use at the time of the American Civil War (1861 – 1865). It is also referred to as the Civil War Confederate Flag, Confederate Flag, or rebel flag.

Today the Confederate flag is recognised as a symbol of the south but its use is controversial. For many Americans it is a representation of slavery, white supremacy, disunity and even treason.

The American Civil War was a war between The United States of America (The Union) and the Confederate States of America (a collection of 11 southern states that seceded from the Union). The Union refused to allow the southern states to secede from the Union and form a new and separate country. Slavery played the central role in this war with the Confederacy wanting to protect their rights to own their slaves. All northern states had abolished slavery by 1804 and none of the southern states had abolished slavery before the American Civil War.





Image 34 – Abraham Lincoln served as the 16<sup>th</sup> President of the United States from 1861 until his assassination in April 1865, aged 56 years. Lincoln led the nation through the American Civil War and presided over the Union victory, its bloodiest war and its greatest moral, constitutional and political crisis. His assassination near the end of the American Civil War was an attempt to revive the Confederate cause. He formally abolished slavery in the United States in February 1865 and is often considered the greatest President for his leadership during the American Civil War.



Image 35 – Confederate Edition bikes were a limited production of one batch only numbering a total of some 631 units. Only 23 are known to survive today making them very collectible.

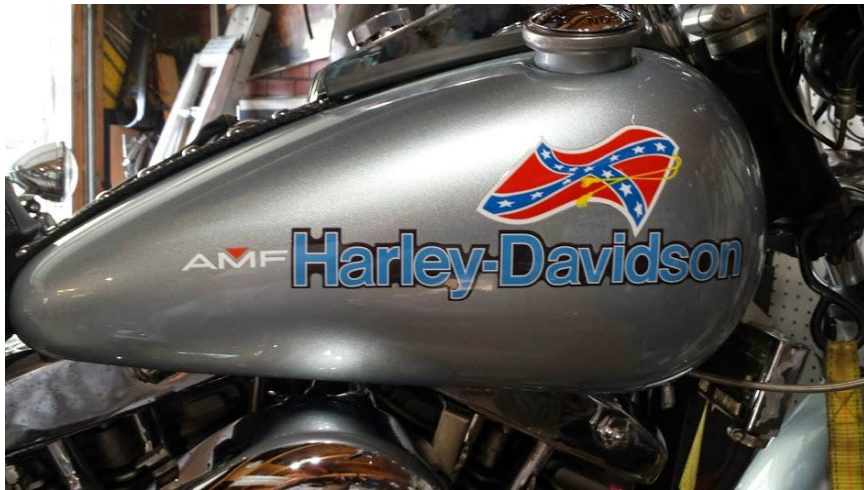


Image 36 – A closer look at the tank decals of the Confederate Edition Harleys. These were produced during the Harley-Davidson alliance with AMF (1969 – 1981). These Confederate Edition Harley's are now considered controversial over the use of the Confederate flag. It is perhaps for this reason that a Confederate Edition bike is NOT on display in the Harley-Davidson Museum in Milwaukee (one is stored in the company's corporate archives in a connected building on the museums grounds).



Image 37 – This is the general's sleeve braid on the front fender of Confederate Edition bikes. The writing below the braid says "The Confederate States of America".

While it is suggested that Harley-Davidson pulled the Confederate Edition for political reasons, poor sales were probably the true motivation. In vogue or not, the rebel motif was only going to appeal to a small segment of the public.





Image 38 – The Confederate Edition now remains just a fascinating footnote in the history of Harley-Davidson.

Ride Safe,

Sergio Editor / Historian