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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 Fraser Motorcycles, Wollongong**  
**Saturday 6 April, 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 our ride is to Fraser Motorcycles Wollongong located at 11 – 13 Princes Highway Fairy Meadow. This is a combined Chapter event with the HOG NSW South Coast Chapter. We head south of Sydney through the Royal National Park, and then meet South Coast Chapter members at Bald Hill to then ride together to Fraser's Wollongong for a sausage sizzle.

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



Image 1 – We gather at our sponsoring dealership premises before the ride. Coffee and breakfast is available to us at their adjacent restaurant ( Nonna's).



Image 2 – At 9.30 am the Road Captains conduct their briefing covering all aspects of today's ride. In the foreground of photo is George.



Image 3 – Now it's time to brief all the riders about the ride and route and this is done by Dano (Danny) who is today's Lead Road Captain. Listening intently in the foreground is Ashley (left) with Sarma.



Image 4 – Right on schedule at 10 am we depart Fraser's compound. At left is new member Glen aboard his 2019 Fatboy model.





Image 5 – We like to ride in formation and stay together to enjoy the sights and sounds of a bunch of Harleys.



Image 6 – Here we see Glen again who seems most pleased with his new bike. The Fraser dealership can be seen in the background.



Image 7 – This is what we look like on the road and here we are on Coronation Parade at Enfield not far from our start point.



Image 8 – Cagers (car drivers) would be most envious when they see this! It's obvious we all are having a great time with our ride buddies.

The two riders closest to camera are in fact brothers, these being Steve (at left) and Paul. Steve intends on upgrading from his Street 500 model as soon as he can get off his red P's.





Image 9 – Enjoying the ride is our Webmaster Knock-Knock (Hugh) aboard his brand new CVO Limited with the 117 ci motor.



Image 10 – Another image of Steve aboard his Street 500 Harley.





Image 11 – After travelling about 40 km through congested Sydney suburbs we access The Royal National Park near Heathcote for the 20 km run through the Park. We will then reach Bald Hill for a brief stop and meet up with HOG NSW South Coast Chapter members. Then we will all ride on together to our final destination at Fairy Meadow.

The Royal National Park road is a favoured biker's route passing through a tunnel of eucalyptus rich bushland as it twists and turns, rises and falls and throws just about every type of corner imaginable at you. Some bends are blind requiring great caution to negotiate. As you can see, it's a two lane road all the way with very few intersections.

Incidentally, this 15,000 hectare park was the first national park named in the world.





Image 12 – The National Park road is in close proximity to the surrounding flora so one needs to be aware of the possibility of fallen branches, wildlife crossing and damp sections of roadway due to the enclosed overhead canopy in parts of the roadway. The local wildlife includes wallabies, goannas, and pest feral animals such as dogs, cats, foxes, deer and rabbits. We did not encounter any animals on our trip today.



Image 13 – As mentioned, there are very few intersections along the road through the Royal National Park.





Image 14 – A nightmare for cagers but nirvana for bikers, THIS is a ride in the park!



Image 15 – Riding through the Royal National Park you experience a breathtaking combination of open straights and technical bends surrounded by dense rainforest leaving you quite satisfied when you suddenly emerge on the coast at Stanwell Tops.



Image 16 – We suddenly emerge from the National Park at Stanwell Tops right on the coast where there is a very popular and magnificent lookout at Bald Hill which has sweeping views over the ocean. Here at the Bald Hill carpark there is a café and restrooms available (it's called Bald Hill due to its lack of trees in the immediate vicinity).



Image 17 – Seen here is our Safety Officer Bollard (Dave) at right with his pillion passenger for today, Ray. Ray does not have a motorcycle license at present but suddenly wants to be a part of this action. We Hoggies just seem to be having too much fun! Expect to see Ray on a Harley in the not too distant future!





Image 18 – Bald Hill is a favourite meeting point for bikers and car clubs, particularly on weekends. It's easy to strike up a conversation with fellow riders / motorists here.



Image 19 – Here we see the view from Bald Hill and in the distance a glimpse of the Sea Cliff Bridge along the coastline where we are soon headed. Further south is the city of Wollongong where the “mountains meet the sea”. Note the lack of trees on Bald Hill.



Image 20 – Bald Hill is a world renowned location for hang gliding as it is perched high above the adjacent coastline offering spectacular views. As good as these views are, bikers will probably spend more time looking at all the bikes and talking to other riders.



Image 21 – Adventure seeking hang gliders will launch themselves off of Bald Hill with up draughts sweeping them away over the coastline like a bird.





Image 22 – Bikers gather at Bald Hill alongside their machines, hot exhausts ticking loudly as they cool, describing their adventures of riding through the Royal National Park.



Image 23 – Here to meet and greet us are HOG members from the NSW South Coast Chapter. From left we see Urio (Head Road Captain), Harry (Chapter Treasurer & Road Captain) and Kevin (Chapter Member).



Image 24 – We now head off towards the Sea Cliff Bridge, the road ahead winding its way through sea-side villages along the coastline. Our route here is along Lawrence Hargrave Drive which is part of a tourist route called “The Grand Pacific Drive” which takes you through the Royal National Park, and through to Wollongong, Kiama, Shoalhaven and beyond. Distance to our final destination from here is about 25 km.





Image 25 – A downloaded image of the Sea Cliff Bridge (which was opened in 2005) with its spectacular coastline. The old road can be seen along the edge of the coast which was always subjected to falling rocks from the adjacent cliff face. In fact in 2003, a major land-slip resulted in this road being closed indefinitely and this led to the construction of the new bridge away from the cliff face and obviously no longer subjected to falling rocks.



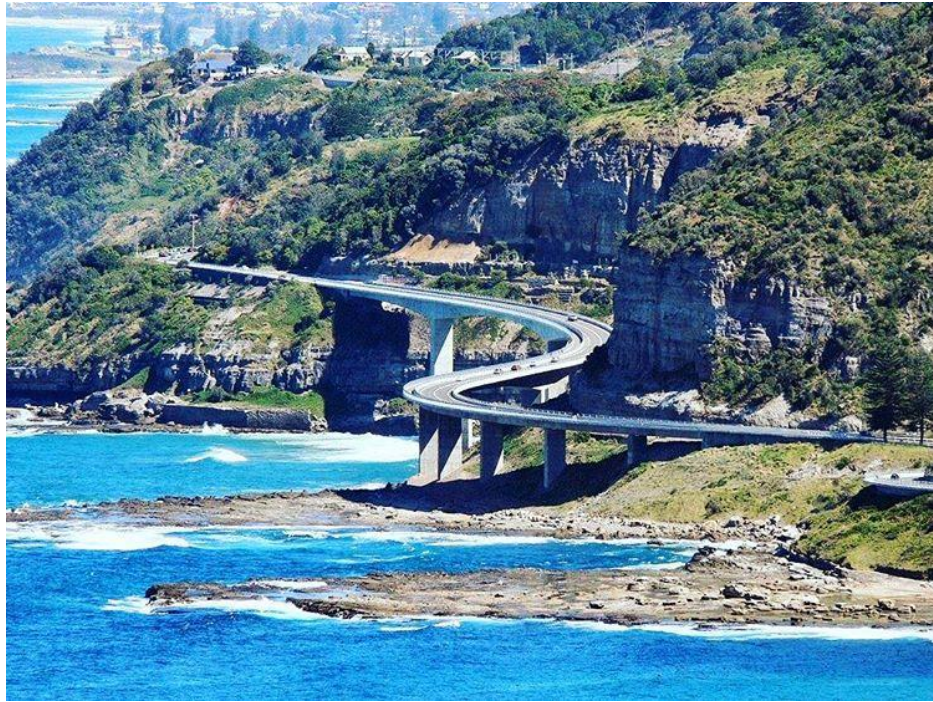


Image 26 – Another downloaded view of the Sea Cliff Bridge which links the coastal villages of Coalcliffe and Clifton. This bridged portion of road is less than 1 km long and has a 60 km/hr speed limit.



Image 27 – This new route is now billed as New South Wales' answer to Victoria's famous Great Ocean Road. An estimated 11,000 cars and bikes use this new roadway each weekend. The smoothly flowing curves follow the cliff face and negotiating this road on a bike is delightful with great views over the ocean. Note the debris from fallen rocks on the old road adjacent to the cliff face.





Image 28 – With the Sea Cliff Bridge behind us we now head southbound through beachside suburbs on route to Fraser's at Fairy Meadow.



Image 29 – Unlike Sydney, these beach-side suburbs near Wollongong are not (yet) overdeveloped with high-rise apartments.



Image 30 – Approaching our final destination of Fairy Meadow we will turn right here with our destination just down the road.



Image 31 – We arrive at Fraser's Wollongong at 12.30 pm with distance travelled today a mere 81 km, just a small hop on a motorcycle.  
The HOG South Coast Chapter were kind enough to put on a sausage sizzle for all with drinks included which was much appreciated by all in attendance.





Image 32 – A view of the Fraser dealership at Fairy Meadow.



Image 33 – It doesn't take long for us to settle in and enjoy the hospitality and comradery of our HOG brothers and sisters from the South Coast Chapter.



Image 34 – While we all are enjoying our sausage sizzle our trusty iron steeds compose a very interesting image.



Image 35 – Inside the Fraser dealership at Fairy Meadow. Everything here looks very familiar to me.





Image 36 – As always, we like our group happy-snaps!



Image 37 – Our NSW South Coast Chapter brothers and sisters were most hospitable and we greatly enjoyed interacting with them. Here we see at left the NSW South Coast Chapter Assistant Director John with our Director Hammer (Don) at the conclusion of the get together. Today, Hammer was riding Shot Gun.

We were on our way back home by 1.30 pm which gave us plenty of time to do other Saturday afternoon stuff.

Well how good was today! A bit of everything thrown in with the bonus of interacting with fellow Hoggies! A great event made possible by the enthusiasm of our Chapter directors.

Ride Safe,

Sergio, Editor / Historian