



MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING CANBERRA CHAPTER AUSTRALIA

**Thursday 5 June 2008
at Eastlake Football Club at 7.30pm**

Members present: Marie Stavropoulos, John Weldon (JB), Michele Gorman, Robert Gorman (Cowboy), Graeme Cottrell (Kiwi), Dion and Kim Koch, David and Pia Mylan, Ron Tollenaar (Rainman), Rob Hamilton, Merideth Langdale, Col Hosie (Flash), Pam Corrigan, Col and Kris Macauley, Sally Crosbie, Helen and Greg Symons, Peter and Di Stratford, Ashleigh and Tim Shaw, Mitch Honeysett, Judy and Graeme Sindel, Deb and Al Fitch, Phil Baker, Keira Richards

Apologies: Wobbly, Peter Hateley, Hammer

Meeting opened: 7.40pm. Tim Shaw introduced his wife Ashleigh.

Minutes Accepted by Dion and **Seconded** by Tim Shaw.

Director's report – Marie welcomed everyone to the meeting and reported on what a great success Primary Officer Training (POT) was.

Assistant Director – JB mentioned how much he had enjoyed networking with other Chapters at POT. It was a great opportunity to discuss chapter issues with other Chapters and see how they deal with the same problems.

JB mentioned that the booklets from POT would be made available for all members to access.

Secretary – Michele reported that a few Chapter newsletters had arrived and they had gone into the Newsletters folder at the shop. Michele will also make sure the CHOG newsletter folder is up to date.

Treasurer – The Treasurer was unable to attend. Marie mentioned that there were sufficient funds in the account to subsidise the AGM meeting and dinner function. A full report will be provided at the next meeting.

Editor – No report from the Editor. Deb Fitch mentioned that it would be great to see the POT reports in the next newsletter.

Safety Officer – Wobbly was unable to attend.

Head Road Captain – Rob Hamilton also commented on what a great time he had at POT – really enjoyed the training.

The ride to Cowra had taken about 8 months to organise and was well worth participating in, about 50 people are expected, should be a beauty.

Activities Officer –

- Kiwi also mentioned POT and the great courses, and that the emphasis was on riding and having fun, and not so much on the administrative side of HOG.
- The AGM cost for the 5th of July will be \$35 per head which includes nibbles, main meal, room hire and entertainment
- Some wine will be provided courtesy of Robbos.
- Membership renewals are on the same day as the AGM, 5 July at Robbos.

- All riders were welcome to join the Goulburn to Canberra sector of the Ozzie Road Trip on Saturday 14 June organised by Joe Campbell. Joe is riding a 13,500km solo journey around Australia to raise awareness of youth mental health and depression in rural and regional communities.
- Kiwi reported that for the National Rally Liverpool Chapter still had some camping accommodation which they could make available for CHOG members. HOG's theme for the Saturday night dinner will be a Hippie night.
- Kiwi has invited Liverpool and Sydney Chapters to the Toy Run this year so that HOG can take out the trophy. There is always keen competition in the biggest group attending this yearly event and the Annual Blanket Run.

Merchandise Officer – Phil modelled the CHOG shirt, great comments were received from other Chapters at POT – they love our shirt. Currently evaluating another order of shirts. David mentioned that stubby holders, name tags and rockers are always available to order.

David gave a report on the great ride to Trivett in Sydney, the new Harley dealership.

Webmaster – Emu had nothing to report

Quartermaster – It was agreed at the last meeting that the BBQ will be purchased after membership day.

Historian – Merideth reported that POT was fantastic and as a professional trainer herself she was very impressed with the way HOG ran POT.

Membership Officer – Ron reported that the membership data base is up to date.

Ladies of Harley – Pia reported that there are some great LOH rides coming up in the second half of the year.

Marie mentioned that at POT it was realised that Canberra Chapter was the only Chapter which had people turning up in cars to LOH and other rides (to encourage further member participation)!!

Photographer – Flash had nothing to report.

Sponsoring Dealer – Kris said this was the fifth POT she had attended and that this was the best one, and the most fun. She said it was interesting to see how POT had changed over the last few years. Kris also mentioned that this was the second year that Marie had been selected as an instructor and congratulated Marie on being a great speaker. Kris said that this gives great credibility to CHOG with other Chapters.

There are more new members nights and bike workshops planned, keep an eye out on the Robbos website for future dates. These nights are aimed at the general biking community not just HOGs and Harley riders.

General Business

Deb Fitch asked if there would be proxy voting for the AGM. Marie advised that there would be no proxy voting. Kris agreed that if people couldn't attend the AGM that they could post in nominations to the Secretary.

Marie briefly spoke on POT – it was the largest POT ever with Mike Keith, the Vice-President of Harley-Davidson attending. CHOG had one of the largest groups of Chapter attendees. There were 38 Australian Chapters attending, along with 5 New Zealand Chapters and 8 other International Chapters. 60% of attendees had never

attended POT, 40% had been once or twice before. The single biggest thing people gained at POT was the ideas exchange. It seems all chapters have the same problems and issues. Peggy Lamb wants the Chapters to get back to basics, and encourage new members. Chapters need to make HOG attractive and a great organisation to be a part of. Peggy would like to see renewed fun and adventure, minimising bureaucracy.

Some questions in general business had not previously been tabled but were accepted from the floor. The forum was reminded that if general business items are to be discussed at the meeting they must be forwarded to the Secretary prior to the Meeting.

Deb Fitch asked if CHOG would consider having general committee members. Kris advised that there is always a need for volunteers but that there is no need to have general committee members as there are enough people on the existing committee. Please see note below.

Cowboy read part of an article out of the Sunshine Coast newsletter on being a proactive member. It was agreed that Michele Gorman would chase up the Sunshine Coast editor to ask if it was OK to publish the whole article in the next newsletter.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

NOTE: Kris Macauley asked if a note could be added to the minutes, 4 July 2008. The note is in reference to Deb Fitch's question regarding proxy and mail votes. Kris agreed to the postal vote at the meeting.

Kris has stated: However AFTER the meeting I was approached by committee members and told that Proxy or Postal votes were not in the constitution and should not be allowed. I stood corrected by the committee and I am as much subject to correction as is any other CHOG member.

On consultation with Marie, Kris and Marie agreed that whilst proxy or postal votes are not in the constitution neither are they forbidden by the constitution and accordingly Kris has let stand what was discussed in the meeting for Al Fitch to vote as a member. As with all things it doesn't stop there and at least one other member has been told that proxies or postal votes are allowed and has had to be informed that is not the case. An exception has been made for Al Fitch only because that was the advice given when Deb asked if a postal vote would be accepted, as Al is not able to attend the AGM. Because Kris mistakenly said yes it has been allowed as a once only.