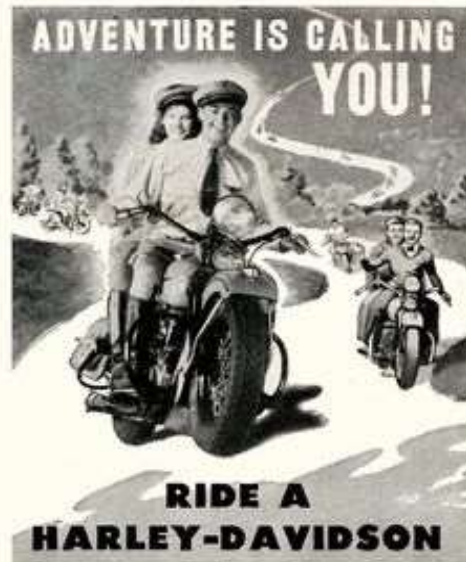




June 2017

YORK TORQUE

Reviewing the Rides



Sold and Serviced by



Events we attended



Proud Sponsor to Cape York HOG



We go full speed for our 25th Anniversary



G'day again...this is my ninth issue of York Torque as Editor over nearly two years and it wouldn't have been possible if it hadn't been for the contributions by members, particularly Casanova and Di. Each time they contribute I copy and paste their stories and photos as I receive them, with minimal editing. This issue's contribution is so good I scrapped the cover I had prepared and created an old style "News-sheet" cover to reflect the diversity Casanova describes in his article, which contains an abundance of colour in words and photos I can't match.

Knowing what's coming up is good but it's equally important to know how events worked out.....sometimes when I realise what a great time some members have and others miss out on it's reassuring to have York Torque to read the stories by those that were there. Did you realise how

high tech Cape York Hog has become? You can also keep up by Facelessbook, Twitter, the Web-site, and now Team App.

Team App is an initiative by Harley Davidson they want all chapters to eventually adopt. It costs you nothing, the chapter pays a small annual fee, and you get access to all sorts of news, reviews, and even if you delete it immediately after you've joined, you continue to get emails. So if you're like me and you don't want your phone clogged up and slowed down by apps, simply join it, then delete it and still get the info via email. Any problems accessing it or understanding it, contact Bender (Derek) our secretary, he lives breathes and sleeps connected to the internet like one of those cocoons in the Matrix movie.

I used to read the newspapers complaining they were a dying industry. I didn't really believe it years ago but now newsagents have become gift shops with a row of magazines as a backup not a mainstay. York Torque used to be written, copied, and all photos pasted by hand, literally. Editors printed photos and glued them to typed pages then took the result to a printing company. What an effort, I take my hat off to those who started York Torque.

A few years ago we changed to computers, scanners, and emailing the finished issue. Now it is posted directly to the Cape York Website where you will find all the issues I have edited since October 2015 and many earlier ones from our archives. Squeak our resident Web-master-Historian and Bender are taking care of that. I still prefer to email it out, I know there are HOG members who dislike social media.



In the meantime, don't forget to register as soon as possible (**now**) for the **Chapter Challenge** which is on **July 1st & 2nd**. The committee have been working tirelessly behind the scenes putting this one together, and if you knew them the way I know them, then you know they love any excuse to put on leather outfits...the **Chapter Challenge** is one of them. We need registrations urgently for the caterers so no-one misses out.

In **June** we also have the annual sign-up to pay fees, and the A.G.M.in **July**. Wayne and Rhonda go to great lengths to cater for this and appreciate advance bookings from those staying for the lunch that follows.

Editor's note: The following 13 pages are a snapshot from the Assistant Director, Casanova. He wrote;

“The last six months of rides and activities have been well received. Our social calendar has been full, with various activities such as our monthly rides and barbeques at the HOG Pit as well as Jag the Joker.”

January

JR's mystery ride headed along the coast towards Mossman and up the Rex Range to the Julatten Tavern for lunch. A well attend ride up the coast to kick off the new season.



Australia Day at Yorkey's Knob-

Great to see the HOG presence “Aussie Aussie Aussie Oi Oi Oi”



February

Sunday 12th February- Brampston Beach

Somebody (Kylie), on her red fatboy, led the early morning ride south wards to Brampston Beach. The staff were welcoming and accommodated a large contingent of members.



Saturday 23rd/ Sunday 24th February- Cape York and Townsville chapters met at Mission Beach for a 'Minute to Win It Challenge' overnighter. This was a fundraiser to support our mate Geoffro. It was a great success. Comradery and unknown talents were shared amongst both clubs.



March

Sunday 12 March- Casanova's Meeting Ride From the HOG pit, we meandered our way up the Gillies to Gallo's Dairyland for smoko and then down to Speewah for lunch. A general meeting followed and was well attended.



Saturday 8th April

A lucky member of Cape York HOG won herself a Street 500 from purchasing raffle tickets from the Townsville HOG Chapter in raising funds for the 2018 State Rally. It goes to show you; you should be in it to win it! A group of supporting HOGs ventured down to Townsville Suncity Show and Shine to share in this event and our Activities Officer, Suewelyn accepting her prize.



Black Dog Ride

This was attended by all types of bikes and people. HOGs supported this event and our HOG secretary assisted in the organisation of this event under one of his many different hats, go Bender!



April

Sunday 23rd April **SpongeBob's ANZAC Day Ride** to commemorate those who have served and the fallen by stopping at the Rocky Creek Memorial, followed by smoko at Gallo's. Heading down towards Innisfail for lunch, where the Palmerston Highway in its state of deterioration claimed a few bikes and injury to riders. Thankfully they are on the road to recovery.



Townsville Babe Raid 28th April

This was attended by Speedy (Peta) and Somebody (Kylie)
A group of girls 'only' travelled to Townsville for an action packed weekend.



Saturday 29th April Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

Our Chapter sponsored 65 Roses for Cystic Fibrosis for a team event in the Wheelbarrow Race. We organised a Sausage Sizzle fundraiser at Bunnings, Smithfield. It was a great success, selling 480 sausages.



End of the Month HOG BBQ

The monthly bbq at Harley Magic was on the same day as the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle and was manned by Blue, Darren and Dominic. Thank you to you guys and all those who helped. Thank you to those who purchased brunch. These barbeques are well received by all and is generating a presence in the community.



May

Stay Upright Course 6th/7th May It was an informative and skill building course to all riders whether experienced or beginners. Everyone got something out of the weekend- how quickly your bike can stop suddenly, to handling slow and fast cornering etc. I highly recommend it to all members regardless of experience. I don't believe you won't learn something and you would clear up any misconceptions and concerns on riding that you may have.



Mother's Day Ride Sunday 14th May led by our own Lady of Harley Officer, Speedy Travelling and adhering to the speed limit, we ventured up the coast to Port Douglas for lunch at the Tin Shed. It was great to see Geoffro and SpongeBob attend as well. Thanks to Jan and SpongeBob's family. Speedy presented a personal touch by making a flower for each mother.



Wheelbarrow Race 19th to 21st May A few HOG members (Joe, Suewelyn, Di, JR and Crack) participated in this team event pushing a wheelbarrow from Chillagoe to Mareeba over three days. We were one of two teams running for Cystic Fibrosis, who donated \$26000 to this charity in the last 12 months. This was generated over the 2016/ 2017 year by car washes, garage sales, raffles, hundred boards, cent sale and the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle as well as sponsors. Thank you, Debby, and Howard who donated a percentage of her Tupperware sales over a Facebook social media drive. Thank you to all who sponsored, helped and supported in any way. Cheers!



It was my first time to run as in previous years I drove the bus. Personally, it was rewarding and a great sense of achievement as well as for Suewelyn and Di. Nominations are open for members who would like to participate in next year's 2018 Wheelbarrow Race. Please let me know if you are interested.

Practise Day for the Chapter Challenge was enlightening for our newbie's and veterans on new bikes for this event. Thanks to Ando and his family for organising this event at Aloomba.



June

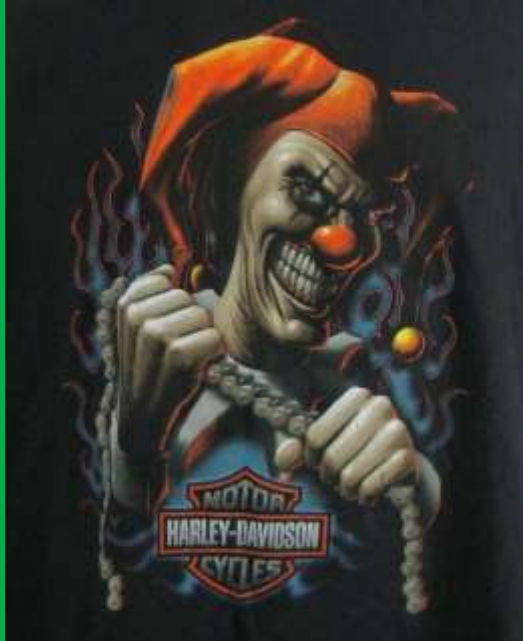
Sunday 11th June Directors Ride to Herberton

Welcome Scott, a new club member who joined us on an overcast cold morning ride to Herberton for lunch. To our Activities Officer, her first ride up the hill. Well done Suewelyn! A group of 10 riders enjoyed the heat from the fire place and gas heaters at the Herberton Hotel. Once thawed, a cup of coffee in hand, lunch was ordered and enjoyed by all. Shopper (Donna) was looking for warm thermals, but as you know it is Herberton, a little cold country town, shops were not open on Sunday. Scott, who is from Melbourne, braved the cold weather wearing just his club shirt. Mmm who feels the cold?





Friday 30th June Jag the Joker at the Cairns Showgrounds, the night before the Chapter Challenge. It's jackpot! \$150 is up for grabs! Buy a drink, get a ticket and be in the draw to pick the joker. You have got to be in to win it.



I'm what we are looking for.

I'm the joker you will adore.

I'm hidden amongst the pack.

Find me to get your money back.

All it takes is a ticket from the bar

To have your chance placed in the jar.

Any drink will do.

Don't want to impair your decision to.

I'm hidden from you, amongst my friends of 52.

My friends have covered me well.

Hence the jackpot has began to swell.

25th Chapter Challenge 1st /2nd July



It is 25 years since a Harley Davidson Dealership has been in Cairns.

Come along and celebrate with members.

Register online

Registration at Harley Magic

BBQ lunch

Thunder Run

Chapter Challenge Games

Nibbles and entertainment

Dinner

Presentations

Cutting the Cake

Entertainment

Participation is the key of
the game.

You have to be in it to win it.

See you there!





Back at the Editor's desk, I have to admit if anyone is worthy to be Editor/s it is Casanova and Di working together. I don't know where they get the energy from, maybe it's that crisp clear air up in Mareeba. According to the town's "Welcome To Mareeba sign", they have 360 days of sunshine. Maybe it's that plus all the mangoes they can eat and the world class coffee?

I tried to talk him into taking over as Editor but he knocked it back quicker than a cold beer. Someone needs to step up and take over as Editor, preferably as soon as possible so I can help with the transition if necessary. I would never have thought the side-effects of the operations and chemo over the last 2 years would be such a challenge. But I'm not whingeing, I'm being realistic. I have a Superglide that rarely sees daylight. I rarely see daylight too and I feel more in common with a box of mushrooms than motorcycles. In fact I'm thinking of changing my name from Nobody to Gnome-body. I'm out of touch, energy, and passion. It's our 25th Anniversary and I cannot possibly put together a magazine deserving of what's about to happen from the Chapter Challenge onward. *Who's up for it? Don't be shy, step up.*

Intrepid Explorers:

I went to Harley Magic for some news and came across two riders, Chris from Melbourne and Gunner from Geelong. A third rider, Colin the Dealer from Geelong Harley Davidson, wasn't



there as he'd had an accident and flown home. The three of them had trailed their antique bikes up the coast to Cairns then stored the vehicle and trailer at Harley



Chris's 1947 FL 1200c.c Knucklehead

Magic and rode these old classics to the tip of Cape York. That is some hard riding but they enjoyed it immensely and their bikes and backs performed flawlessly, despite the rigid frames.

I don't know if Parks and Wildlife are looking for them for the oil

leaks in World Heritage areas, but my concern is if some idiot stoner goes to dig a latrine where they parked for a day or two and thinks he's struck the motherlode of pure 50-weight oil. Jed Clampett the Bloomfield Hillbilly Hippy Millionaire? They rode through some wild territory.

Colin rode deep into a pit of bauxite dirt that looked like solid road. The Panhead was undamaged although cleaning it will be a Melbourne detailer's nightmare. Bauxite grips like



Gunner's 1950 FL 1200c.c. Panhead

cement dust. Colin damaged a bone in his hip and had to fly back, the bike was trucked down.

Phil from sales had the chance to sit on the Knucklehead, a real Harley with a rigid frame and a kick-starter and handlebars where they should be, nice and low not 24" up in the air.



The Knucklehead exhaust has genuine 1950's "Superior" brand custom mufflers. Chris has had the bike for 25 years.

I'm not sure what the story is behind the 'Roo tail, for all I know they may have kept it as a souvenir of a great camp-fire gourmet dinner. We know these southerners go "Troppo" anywhere north of the Brisbane River.



The trio thoroughly enjoyed their adventure and were full of praise for everyone at Harley Magic. Here's Chris with the bikes after they returned. Gunner is in the flannel shirt and cap. The photos don't show the extent of bauxite coating, believe me, it was thick in all the hard to reach areas



SpongeBob's Anzac Memorial Ride & Spectacular High Speed Acrobatic Display

On behalf of the committee and all 18 people on SpongeBob's ride on Sunday 23rd April I'd like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Wayne and Rhonda who went well above and beyond expectations in organizing and bringing the two Harley Magic Utes to the crash site on the Palmerston Highway.

Four bikes went down, two were written off, and three riders were injured requiring ambulances. SpongeBob suffered the most extensive injuries; multiple breaks to several ribs, plus his collarbone, shoulder and pride. Squeak suffered mostly bruising to his body but not to his pride because

fortunately he sells houses and admits he often chases customers down the street, so he doesn't have too much pride to start with. That's a hell of a way to trade in your bike Squeak, on a trailer squished like a dead cockroach. 🤔



Our newest member, Shaun injured his ankle but not his bike, clearly a sign of a man who respects his Harley. It was his first HOG ride; let's hope it's not his last. Safety Officer Tem also went down but he was able to ride home like a good martini, shaken but not stirred.

There was no phone or satellite reception so someone had to ride toward Innisfail to get reception and call for help. Police who attended the site complimented the HOG members for their professionalism in directing traffic, assisting the injured, and organising the recovery vehicles. Usually in situations like this a tow truck drags the bikes onto the tray with chains.

All the more reason we are so indebted to Wayne and Rhonda, who voluntarily spent many hours organising the two Utes and driving to the site, retrieving the two wrecks and Shaun's bike and taking them directly to the shop for safe-keeping. Considering the part of the world we live in and all the activities there are to enjoy, it's a blessing that they were available.

Thank you Wayne and Rhonda.



Have you checked out the new Milwaukee 8? Tim has sold 6 so far, and the little 500 is still a popular selling bike.

There is now a new version of the 750 available and Harley have released it into the Australian market. It has a more powerful motor than the early overseas releases and an improved suspension and twin disc brakes up front.



At around \$13,000 it's a great bike for those who want more than the 500 offers but don't want a Sportster. (Why would anyone not want a Sportster? It's the longest production line motor in the Harley stable and has an enviable record on and off the race track) Anyway there is now a "middle-ground" 750c.c. option, check it out when you are in looking at the Milwaukee 8, they're both parked fairly close to the Sportsters.

Did I ever mention I have a soft spot for Sportsters? Memories of a misspent youth.

Oils ain't Oils



Senior Technician Dave is on a long holiday, but Ryan has returned from South Oz to turn the spanners and keep wheels moving.

Brandon the apprentice is working under Ryan's experienced guidance.

Nico appreciated all the support and donations he received during his recent heart surgery. His wife was able to come from Thailand during his recovery from surgery and now he's recovered she has returned to run the farm. Nico has resigned from Harley Magic and moved to Townsville where the air is drier and there's lower humidity.

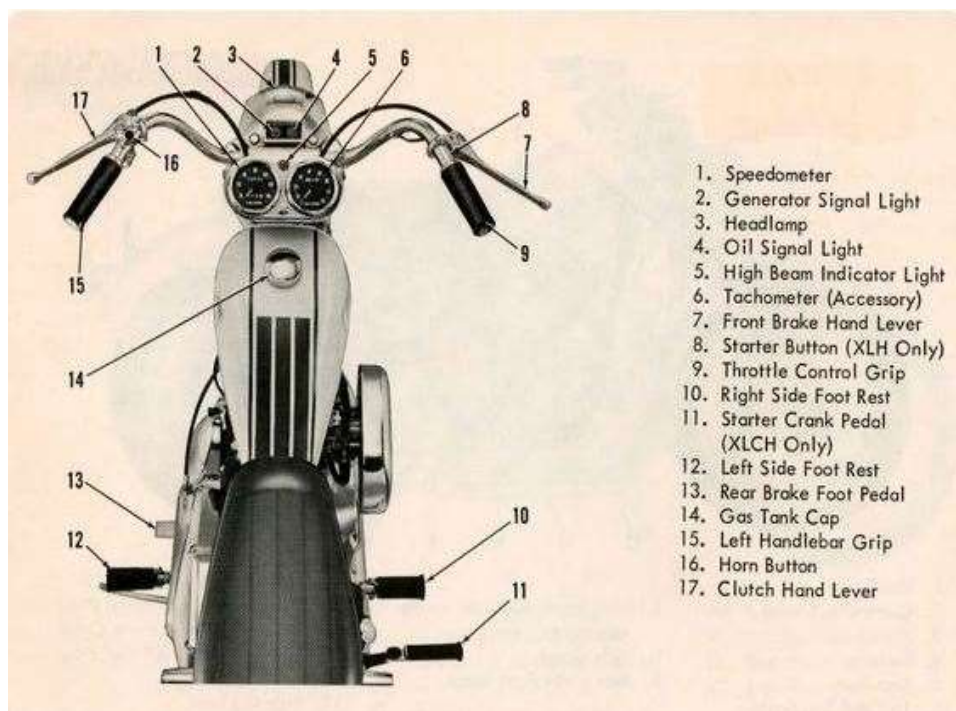
Warren's keeps the service desk operating smoothly and fielding enquiries from far and wide on everything from the dimensions of a battery to the dismantling of a motor and adding more horsepower.

Tim should have studied ballet; every time I go there he is constantly on his toes on the showroom floor extolling the virtues of each model.

Phil is the man to turn to for parts, helmets and t-shirts. It's a diverse role but like most young blokes these days he knows everything there is to know.



(I'd be lost without paying out on Phil when paying for parts)



On a serious note, Rhonda's been busy with Harley Magic and Water St making sure everything runs smoothly while Wayne's been away and putting in long hours with few breaks in between. They are both looking forward to good turn-out for the fund-raising Motorcycle Muster in August.

Overall things in Cairns are bit quiet right now, so it's a good time to get your bike serviced at Harley Magic before the rush of visitors coming for the Chapter Challenge. There are a lot riders attending from Mackay and Townsville and we've had inquiries from riders in other towns. Have you registered yet? There's less than a fortnight to go, so get those clutches adjusted, belts tensioned and tyres pumped up

One thing I can reassure you is the price of genuine Harley Oil is better than other brands that I've checked out at other bike shops. Harley "spin on" oil filters are cheaper and better too, so if you can't get your bike booked in on time and can do the easy things yourself as a temporary measure use the genuine stuff, and while you're at it the funky little funnel for topping up transmission oil is a bargain. They work a lot better than the one Angelique from Mozambique used to have in the kitchen...."I don't know where it's gone dear, why would I ever need it?"

EMERGENCY

Cairns to Mission Beach

Wayne Leonard's
Motorcycle Muster 2017

August 5-6, 2017

The **Motorcycle Muster** is fundraising to purchase new equipment for **Cairns Hospital** to improve outcomes for accident victims like **Geoffro**.



WIN 2017 HARLEY DAVIDSON SPORTSTER XL883N IRON

WINNER DRAWN AT MISSION BEACH RESORT ON SATURDAY 5TH AUGUST 2017

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Then Came Bronson

(Opening scene...busy city street...a harried businessman at a stoplight turns to his left, where a young man is revving his motorcycle, and asks...)

"Taking a trip?"

"What's that?" "Taking a trip?"

"Yeah."

"Where to?"

"Oh, I don't know...wherever I end up, I guess."

"Pal, I wish I was you."

"Really?...well, hang in there."



I couldn't resist sharing this cartoon about Bronson from the 1969 T.V. series "Then came Bronson". The series began with a movie pilot that was screened in Europe and Australia. I saw it at the Rex Theatre in Cairns, but I can't remember when. Knowing how far behind we are up here I think it was the early '70's.

Bronson was a journalist who inherited a Sportster from a friend who suicided, which lead him to explore life for meaning (trippy hey, and he rode a Sportster). You can find the movie and episodes of the series on YouTube.

Bronson's bike started a cult with many riders copying it, so if you want a laugh Google Bronson's Harley. He rode a 1969 XLH 900c.c. and unlike most XLHs his was fitted with a kick-starter as well as the electric starter, and an XLCH peanut fuel tank instead of the bulky XLH "turtle" tank. Don't worry about the details, only Sportster fanatics bother with details. What prompted this page was the parody from Mad comics, printed around the same time. It cracks me up. Enjoy, safe riding.

