

WAIKATO/BAY OF PLENTY HOG Chapter 9104

# HOGWASH

December- 2016



## CHRISTMAS RIDE

**RUNS  
CALENDAR  
2017**

**MARAETAI RIDE  
MYSTERY RIDE**



**plus  
STURGIS**

16,000KM, 20 HOTELS

22 STATES, 5000 PHOTOS

**COROMANDEL  
LOOP RIDE**

**DINNER AT THE  
ORCHARD BAR**

MAGAZINE PROUDLY SPONSORED BY ROAD AND SPORT HARLEY-DAVIDSON





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# DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Hi to all you Hoggies

I would like to start off by thanking those on the exec for the voluntary input they put into the chapter in the different roles they administer. For some it is a new challenge but they are all doing it well.

We are short of an editor so if anyone would like to give it a go please contact any member of the exec committee.

I would also once again like to thank our sponsoring dealer for the support they have shown the chapter. One was the breakfast they supplied at the start of the poker run and also the prize money.

I have had an interesting first 6 months in the position of Director of this chapter.

I started by going to a Directors meeting in Queenstown and met all the other Directors, had discussions on how they operate their chapters. As a result we are trying a few different things in our chapter.

We have a couple of new events on the calendar which have involved other chapters or groups. The Labour weekend overnigher we had was successful and we have booked out the motel again for next years event and it should be a good weekend together with 3 other chapters.

The chapter rides have been going well. Unfortunately, due to other commitments, I have not been able to be on as many rides as I would like, to be able to meet some of the new members.

On a more sobering note, on the behalf of the Wakato/Bop chapter, I would like to offer our condolences to Russell Thomas' family and friends on the loss of Russell. He passed away doing what he enjoyed.

So please all ride safely and watch out for the others on the road. I would like to see you all next year..

Have a safe and merry Christmas

Regards,

Trev Savage,

Director.

[director@waikatobophog.co.nz](mailto:director@waikatobophog.co.nz)



## CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2016 - 2017

### DIRECTOR

Trevor Savage

### SECRETARY

Erin Burr

### TREASURER

Chris Savage

### ACTIVITIES OFFICER 1

Paul Hooker

### ACTIVITIES OFFICER 2

Dave Webby

### SAFETY OFFICER

-

### BOP CO-ORDINATOR

Brian Legg

### EDITOR

-

### HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN

Ash Owens

### HISTORIAN

John Burr

### WEBMASTER

Steve Richardson



# RUNS CALENDAR 2017

## JANUARY

DATE	DAY	DESTINATION/ EVENT	TIME	ROAD CAPTAIN	T..E.C
7TH	SATURDAY	NAPIER RIDE			JOHN C
11TH	WEDNESDAY	CHAPTER GATHERING			
18TH	WEDNESDAY	ROTORUA EVENING RIDE	6.00PM		
21ST	SATURDAY	FALLS RIDE IN THE BAY		NIGEL	
28TH - 30TH	SATURDAY	NEW PLYMOUTH LIGHTS RIDE		WENDY/BRIAN	TREV

## FEBRUARY

DATE	DAY	DESTINATION/ EVENT	TIME	ROAD CAPTAIN	T..E.C
5TH	SUNDAY	JET SPRINT RIDE MERCER		PAUL	MATT/DAVE
12TH	SUNDAY	KING COUNTRY OPEN RIDE		ASH	DAVE/JOHN B
15TH	WEDNESDAY	MATAMATA EVENING RIDE	6.00PM		
25TH	SATURDAY	WHANGANUI RIDE			

## MARCH

DATE	DAY	DESTINATION/ EVENT	TIME	ROAD CAPTAIN	T..E.C
4TH	SATURDAY	O DAY (TBC)	9 30AM	PAUL	
11TH - 16TH	SATURDAY	PRE RALLY RIDE			
17TH - 19TH	FRIDAY	IRON RUN RALLY			
20TH - 24TH	MONDAY	POST RALLY RIDE			
25TH	SATURDAY	BEACH HOP		PAUL	MATT/CHRIS

## APRIL

DATE	DAY	DESTINATION/ EVENT	TIME	ROAD CAPTAIN	T..E.C
12TH	WEDNESDAY	WAIKATO BOP HOG DINNER IN THE BAY			
14TH-17TH	FRIDAY	GOOD FRIDAY BOUNDARY RIDE			



# CHAPTER COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**DIRECTOR** Trevor Savage  
director@waikatobophog.co.nz  
027 279 2314 or 07 843 2919

**SECRETARY** Erin Burr  
secretary@waikatobophog.co.nz  
021 512 840

**TREASURER** Chris Savage  
treasurer@waikatobophog.co.nz  
07 843 2919 or 027 240 2377

**ACTIVITIES OFFICER 1** Paul Hooker  
active1@waikatobophog.co.nz  
7 824 4074 or 027 268 4149

**ACTIVITIES OFFICER 2** Dave Webby  
active2@waikatobophog.co.nz  
027 289 9362

**SAFETY OFFICER** -  
safety@waikatobophog.co.nz

**BOP CO-ORDINATOR** Brian Legg  
bopareacoordinator@waikatobophog.co.nz  
027 490 9124

**EDITOR** -  
editor@waikatobophog.co.nz

**HEAD ROAD CAPTAIN** Ash Owens  
headroadcaptain@waikatobophog.co.nz  
07 218 0448 or 027 290 4347

**HISTORIAN** John Burr  
historian@waikatobophog.co.nz

**MEMBERSHIP OFFICER** Wendy Legg  
membership@waikatobophog.co.nz  
021 795 766

**PHOTOGRAPHER** -  
photographer@waikatobophog.co.nz

**WEBMASTER** Steve Richardson  
webmaster@waikatobophog.co.nz  
021 849 931

**SPONSORING DEALER** Shelley Sproule  
shelley@roadandsport.co.nz  
07 958 1407

## RIDES INFORMATION

All rides depart from Road & Sport Harley Davidson. Departure times are stated on the Runs Calendar, unless specified by email. For more information on any of the rides, please contact your Road Captain.

## BAY OF PLENTY RIDES

All B.O.P rides depart from BP, The Lakes, Tauriko at the time specified by the B.O.P. Co-ordinator.

## CLOSED EVENTS

Are those Local HOG Chapter events which are open to current Local HOG Chapter members and one guest per member. If the guest is a rider they must be riding a Harley-Davidson.

## MEMBER ONLY EVENTS

Are events that are open to current Local HOG Chapter Members ONLY e.g. Chapter Poker Run.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

For a copy of the monthly meeting minutes, please email your request to: secretary@waikatobophog.co.nz

## IMAGE/PHOTO DISCLAIMER:

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## DISCLAIMER

The information in this magazine is supplied as a service for members. The opinions expressed are those of the Authors. The Waikato/ Bay of Plenty Harley Owners Group, HOG International and Road & Sport Harley Davidson accept no responsibility for the accuracy of any of the articles. The editor reserves the right to rescind or alter any submitted article for publication in this magazine.



# SAFE RIDING TIPS

Motorcyclists need to take more care than road users in vehicles. Here are some tips what will help to improve your safety when riding motorcycles.

## EXTEND YOUR VISION

One of the most important things you can do to be a safer motorcyclist is to look well ahead of you when you're riding, so you can pick up potentially dangerous situations before it's too late. Keep your eyes up for balance and control.

The earlier you spot a potential hazard, the more time you will have to take evasive action if necessary.

Rather than looking only as far as the vehicle in front of you when riding, you should actually be scanning the road in front to a distance of at least 12 seconds ahead of

you - that is, the place you will be after riding for 12 seconds.

As a rough guide, at 50km/h, 12 seconds is 166 metres or about two city blocks. At 100km/h, 12 seconds is 333 metres. This means at 100km/h you should look ahead as far as you can see.

Use your height advantage to look over or through the vehicle in front of you, so you can see what's going on ahead.



## KEEP YOUR EYES MOVING

Many people only look **ahead** of them when riding. This means they're not getting the full picture of what's happening on the road.

As well as looking ahead, you should also use your mirrors to look to **the sides** and **behind** often enough to be aware of surrounding traffic. This will help you spot potentially dangerous situations that could be forming around or behind you.

Moving your eyes regularly and concentrating on what's going on around you will also help you to stay alert on long journeys.



## HEAD CHECKS

Motorcycles have blind spots just like other vehicles. When you change lanes, make sure you turn your head and look over your shoulder (in the direction you intend to move) at traffic behind you.

This head check is the only way to see a car behind you in the next lane.

## POSITION

As a motorcycle rider, you can put yourself in a position to see things that a driver of a car cannot see.

- On curves, you can move to one side of the lane or the other to get a better view through the curve.
- At intersections, you are closer to the corner than the driver of a car. This gives you a wider view of approaching traffic.
- At the roadside, you can angle a motorcycle across the road so you can see both directions without straining. This is particularly important when making a turn across traffic.

## CREATE A SAFETY CUSHION

You should create a 'cushion' of safety around your whole vehicle by making sure there is a safe distance in all directions between you, other vehicles and potential hazards.

This will give you and other road users more time and space to avoid any hazards.

- Create a cushion of safety **ahead** of you by maintaining a safe following distance. Use the two-second rule - or the **four-second rule** when appropriate..
- Create a cushion of safety **behind** you by maintaining a safe distance between you and any following vehicles. If a vehicle is following you too closely, slow down, move over and let it pass as soon as you

can do so safely.

- Create a safety cushion to your **sides** by keeping a safe distance from any hazards on your sides, such as driveways, parked vehicles, cyclists or children playing on the footpath.

## DON'T GET DISTRACTED

It's easy to get distracted when you're riding. Things like a talking pillion passenger, passing scenery and roadside advertising can all divert your attention from your riding and the road.

You must learn to ignore distractions and concentrate on riding. If, for any reason, you must look away from the road, follow these pointers:

- Check well ahead and behind for any potential hazards. Don't look away if you can see potential hazards.
- Remember, if you do look away from the road, you will still have to maintain your direction.
- Never take your eyes off the road for longer than is absolutely necessary. For example, while driving at 90km/h, if you took your eyes off the road for two seconds you will travel 50 metres.

## IDENTIFY ESCAPE ROUTES

Following the tips above will help you avoid many potentially dangerous crashes. However, despite all your best efforts, there may still be occasions when you find yourself on a direct collision course with another vehicle or other hazard.

For this reason, it is wise to identify possible escape routes all the time while you're on the road. That way, if you find yourself in danger of a crash, you'll be ready to take quick evasive action.

Most escape routes will be to your left, so take note of what's on the left-hand side of the road as you ride. Ask yourself ques-

tions like:

- 'Is there a wide shoulder I could ride onto?'
- 'Can I ride off the road safely if I need to?'

If there are no safe escape routes, reduce your speed and increase your following distance so you can stop in plenty of time if a crash situation develops.



## Furthering your riding education

*As a motorcyclist, you never stop learning. You should always be looking for ways to improve your safe riding skills.*

*Practice, combined with the right attitude, will help you refine your skills, but there are also courses you can take to help you become a safer motorcyclist.*

*Contact the NZTA on 0800 699 000 for information on advanced riding courses in your area.*



7TH AUGUST

# MYSTERY RIDE

There is nothing like an open fire to stand in front of when your are chilled to the bones after a couple of hours riding.

It was an early start for us at the Bay, but not as early as some other members with a couple coming from Coromandel and another from Whakatane. We were all ready for a great ride ahead with Nigel giving us a preride brief at 10.20am and we were off to our first stop at Tirau. Nigel out in front with 12 bikes in total what a great way to spend an almost spring Sunday.

We had a leg stretch at Tirau then off the Paengaroa for the lunch break at “ Funky Lizard Cafe ”, this is a unusual Cafe with a lot of local merchandise on sale eg, paintings and copper ware. The local musicians entertain while you have your meal with a friendly atmosphere, but on this day the most inviting thing was the open fire. There is nothing like an open fire to stand in front of when your are chilled to the bones after a couple of hours riding.





The members must have been hungry by this stage and were in line ready to place their orders from the lunch menu's, the choices on the menu was plentiful and looked delicious as it was brought out to the table to be eaten while we sat around having a mix and mingle in front of the open fire.

Nigel gave us the call and we were on our bikes again heading for Maketu, doing the round trip in one way coming out further north and heading back towards Te Puke. Nigel took a left turn off the main highway onto Te Matai Road, this is a new road for most of us on the ride with a lot of twist and turns along the way making it an enjoyable ride off the main high way. The road

comes out onto the Ngongotaha to Pyes Pa Road ( State Highway 36) which brought us back to Tauriko B.P Service Station where we all refueled and said our good byes to our fellow riders.

Nigel handed his ride over to Trev to take the Waikato rides back over the hill and Nigel and myself were back home in the Bay.

It was great ride lead by Nigel, with Tailend Charlies Matt and Julie keeping up the rear making sure all went well on the day.

Total 384 kms for the ride.

Look forward to catching up with you all on our next ride,

Ash

//

*... this is a unusual Cafe with a lot of local merchandise on sale eg, paintings and copper ware....*

11TH SEPT

# MARAETAI RIDE

444KM AND

AWESOME DAY

We were cheeky enough to park on the footpath opposite the main beach

What a great day for a ride after the weather leading up to the weekend. No wind, sun was shining.

Brian led the ride from Hamilton with 15 bikes behind him and Nigel left BOP with 6 bikes.

We met up at the Native Tree Café where Marlene and Paul from Whitianga were waiting for us – they arrived early and had breakfast which I was told was really yummy.

If you ever have a chance you have to have a pie – they are really yum. Service and food was amazing as always Wendy drew the card for the write up and no it wasn't a jack up!!

So all up we had 23 bikes and 32 people From there we headed up the coast to Maraetai with spectacular views and riding conditions.

Traffic was steady through the winding coastal road.

On coming into Maraetai we were wondering where we were going to park as ½ of Auckland were there enjoying the

sunshine.

We were cheeky enough to park on the footpath opposite the main beach We spread out over 5 eateries which was a shame as we couldn't all stick together – but grouped in front of a local who decided to stand aside from us – much to Jeremys partner Catherine's delight – hope you enjoyed the photo Catherine.

It was good to catch up with John and Bronwyn from Whitianga who were there – they are ex members – they came and had a look around the Clevedon markets before riding onto Maraetai for lunch We all fuelled up at Maraetai and headed home – going through the streets of Papakura to the motorway was a breeze. The bay riders turned off at Ohinewai and the Hamilton lot headed home with Matt leading them home – thanks Matt 444km and awesome day.

Thanks Brian for an awesome ride – I haven't had a chance to do much riding before then but enjoyed every bit of it. Kind regards

Wendy



14TH SEPT

# DINNER AT THE ORCHARD BAR

**W**e had a good turnout at The Orchard Bar in Bethlehem shopping centre on 14th September.

John and Martine Burr and Kelly came from over the hill. Was great to catch up and hear about their trip to the States. We had 17 turn out – was a great night with meal and service being exceptionally good.

Daniel a new member from Whakatane braved the night and arrived on his bike – a breakout – hope to see him on a ride in the near future.

Thanks for all coming

We are all looking forward to the first Wednesday Night ride

**Brian Legg**

BOP Co-Ordinator



3RD DEC

# O DAY RIDE

**A**t the end of the 'O Day' training a

group met over coffee at Road and Sport for a relaxed discussion about the morning ride. There were

9 bikes going, 4 new folk consisting of 3 singles and a couple plus 5 regulars.

The plan was to head North up Te Rapa straight then turn West and go through Te Kowhai, Whatawhata, Pirongia, Te Awamutu, then go towards Arapuni then back through Karapiro to the Cambridge Rd.

The final destination is the Creamery Café on Kaipaki Rd. The café has nice food and coffee, a gift shop for the ladies to look at, glass topped tables with tools under them for the blokes, and large

chess/draughts boards for those looking for a game. There was no TEC appointed but Ash said he would be there and covered, many thanks.

This is a nice circuit for a ride with the first half good flowing riding to warm up and then a more 'technical' section to test the skills ..... and brakes. There are places with nice views across the country or lake as a bonus.

The comment was made that we rode about 130km, took an hour and a half ..... and went nowhere - and it was a great ride!

I would recommend this block to anyone who just needs to get out for a ride as it has the variety, the scenery and choice of cafes for a nice relaxing outing.

Many thanks to those who participated; I look forward to seeing you again on future rides.

**John B**

(Weta – aka Santa on a Harley)



27TH NOV

# COROMANDEL LOOP RIDE

WE TRAVELLED THROUGH  
KATIKATI AND WAIHI  
AND MET THE HAMILTON  
GROUP AT PAEROA

**O**n Sunday 27th November, the Bay of Plenty Riders met our Road Captain Nigel and fellow riders at Bethlehem Z, a total of four bikes/6 people, whilst the Hamilton Riders met at Road and Sport, a total of 9 bikes/11 people.

The weather forecast was favourable, with only a few afternoon showers predicted and possible increasing wind. Just as the Bay group were ready to leave, a shower encouraged Ash and Shirley to don their wet

weather gear, but it cleared as soon as it arrived. The other riders missed the shower, but copped the wind along the Swamp Road and through the Karangahake Gorge.

We travelled through Katikati and Waihi and met the Hamilton group at Paeroa, saying Hello's and catching a quick cuppa and a bite to eat at The Refinery before heading off around the scenic Thames Coast to Coromandel. The sun kept shining and the wind gusts got rid of any cobwebs!











We arrived in Coromandel and met up with our two Coromandel members, Marlene & Paul at the Mussel Kitchen for lunch. After re-fuelling the bodies, now 15 bikes, we were ready to head back over the hill to Kaoutunu and Whitianga. Marlene & Paul

joined us until the Kopu/Hikuai turn off, where they headed back towards Thames. We fuelled up at Whitianga, and began the leg through Tairua back to Whangamata and Waihi. We waved off the Coromandel riders at the turn-off and continued on up

the hill to Whangamata.

This is where the day tragically took a turn for the worse. Russell had collided with a vehicle coming the other way. Even though we had unbelievable help from people trav-





elling the road; from volunteer firefighters to trainee doctors and the quick response from Police and St Johns, Russell was not able to be revived and passed away at the scene.

Our Tail End Charlie's ... Mark, John and Kevin did an amazing job at the accident site assisting the volunteers and directing traffic until the professionals arrived.

Once we had been given the all clear to leave, we proceeded solemnly towards Whangamata where we met up with the rest of the group who had waited for us further down the road.

Due to everyone being in a state of shock and disbelief, it was decided to make a beeline for home and the weather reports from the other side of the hill were not flash.

As we waved off the Hamilton riders at Waihi, both groups made a slow trip home through driving rain and wind gusts, all the while thinking about our fallen rider who would not be making it home that night.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Russell's friends and family during this very sad time and also to fellow member Richard who lost a great mate. RIP RUSSELL



RIP RUSSELL



10TH DEC

# CHRISTMAS RIDE

Matt and Julie arriving in their Santa suits and handing out lollies, to those who were still taking in the sight of them and their Harley-Davidson all wrapped up in sparkling tin foil and glitter.

It was an early start for me, as I had to leave the Mount 7.15am to be at Road and Sport 9.00am before having a pre-ride brief at 9.30am.

As the members started to arrive we were reminded that this was certainly a Christmas Ride, with Matt and Julie arriving in their Santa suits and handing out lollies, to those who were still taking in the sight of them and their Harley-Davidson all wrapped up in sparkling tin foil and glitter.

What a great way to start the day.

Road Captain for the day, Ash.

Tailend Charlies, Dave, Matt and Julie.

We were on the road with 13 bikes and pillions heading to Te Aroha for morning tea. On arriving to find Brian, Wendy, Chris and Tina from the BOP and Mark and Donna waiting.

This made the talley of bikes to 16 and 1 car attending the Christmas ride.

As soon as all had their refreshments we were off again to Paeroa and riding the windy road following the river through the Karangahake Gorge to Waihi and onto to Katikati arriving at 12.30pm at the Forta Leza for our lunch break.

On arriving we were greeted by Rob and Carol who were already there waiting for us to arrive. Shane and Michelle a couple of local Hoggies also arrived to enjoy and catch up with all their riding friends.

As the menu had already been sent out making it easy for the "Hoggies" to choose, from, fish, steak or a tasty curry chicken, the service and food was great and enjoyed by all.





THE MENU HAD  
ALREADY BEEN SENT  
OUT MAKING IT EASY  
FOR THE "HOGGIES"  
TO CHOOSE

Santa's helper Julie was waiting for all to finish eating before she proceeded to put her hand into her bag of goodies and handed out chocolates to finish off a delicious luncheon meal.

On my pre-ride brief I said there was a Dolls Museum upstairs at the Forts Leza Cafe, I'm sure the members thought I was kidding, but after they had all finished eating their lunch the restaurateur opened the upstairs museum to show off their collection of dolls.

The dolls range from small to the larger adult size, the hours of craft, sewing and styling that would have gone into each of these dolls shows why these dolls are purchased from not only New Zealand, but from other country doll collectors.

At these times it's always great to catch

up with fellow riders but sadly it always comes to and end.

Before donning helmets and gloves again, Mark Gatchell asked us to group up for our final group photo of the year. Thank you Mark and Wendy for taking some photos on the day.

The BOP group lead out first with Paul and the Waikato riders following to ride to Te Puna to refuel and head back to the Hamilton over the Kaimai Ranges.

It was a great day with riding friends, with the rain staying away until our homeward journey made it even better.

Looking forward to another year of riding in 2017.

Hope you all have a Merry Christmas and catch up with you all soon.

Ash







18 MONTHS OF

PLANNING, DECIDING,

ARRANGING AND

ANTICIPATION



9/7/2016 – 26/08/2016

# STURGIS, USA



First day on the road was south, down to the Mexican border and on to Yuma – a ‘baptism of fire’ as we experienced the first of many +50°C days

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It was a trip with 18 months of planning, deciding, arranging and anticipation. The group numbered 7 : Steven R, Stevie D, Brian, Keith & Linda and John & Martina. The bikes were shipped from Tauranga after a last ride to Rotorua with the ‘Hoggies’ and then had to miss a few good rides until we hit stateside. After flying to LA on various days we finally all met up at the Crimson Hotel at Manhattan Beach and headed up the road for our first meal of many together: a Mongolian feast. Yum !

We collected the bikes from the shipping agent and then spent the next day looking around LA, Santa Monica Pier, Venice Beach, Manhattan Beach. There were four bikes and Stevie D in the Mustang convertible. Dinner at OB’s peanut bar was a fun, interesting experience.

First day on the road was south, down to the Mexican border and on to Yuma – a ‘baptism of fire’ as we experienced the





first of many +50 degree C days and even the locals were complaining of the heat. Riding on the black top added 10 degrees C to the air temperature and demonstrated the need to always have and drink plenty of water to keep hydrated! It was vital!

The next few days were spent at Tombstone – home of the OK Corral, Las Cruces, White Sands of Alamogordo, the worlds' largest pistachio nut, Roswell and the Alien Museum, Brady Texas and then a detour into Houston on the way to Galveston. We got caught in a massive electrical storm while checking out the "Water Wall" in Houston. We got drenched and were glad the bikes were parked safe and dry in a parking building. We had two nights in Galveston checking out the beach, pier and oil rig.

Day 8 started with riding the bikes onto a ferry to cross from Galveston (it's an island) then headed for Baton Rouge, Louisiana where we stopped at the local H-D dealer for a new clutch lever as the ground had jumped up and broken mine. A nice dealership



and worth a visit – as they all were. We headed down to our next stop, an old converted mansion, Hotel Storyville, New Orleans. A nice relaxing place, gorgeous themed rooms and handy to the French Quarter, Bourbon Street, the Mississippi and markets.

The next few days were spent travelling through Florida, seeing Manatees, Dolphins and meeting nice people – even an hispanic waitress in Miami insisted she was part of our 'family'. We were bemused until she showed us her HD Tattoo (on her shoulder). Turned out her son had bought her a '48' for her 50th Birthday !

Day 13 saw us riding down to Key West with an early morning visit to a 'Gator Park we went out on an Everglades tour in an air-boat. The traffic down to Key West was horrendous – bumper to bumper and only one road in and out – like Mt Maunganui at New Years! Thank Heaven for cycle lanes ! ;) Key West was very pretty, lunch on the beachfront at the southernmost cafe on Continental USA along with Mojitos just topped it off. Everything



was delicious and the service great.

Next destination was Orlando – 630kms up the coast, so an early start with a beautiful sunrise. Orlando provided a variety of things to do including theme parks, Cape Canaveral, Outlet Stores for shopping – rude not to ! We even saw a Cape Canaveral rocket launch in the distance.

After a few nights in Orlando we headed for Albany, Georgia, with a short detour via Daytona speedway for a few hot laps of the Daytona circuit in a race car. Nearly 300 kph just a metre from the concrete wall is certainly exciting!

Next day was a 7am start then on to Leeds Alabama and the fabulous Barber Motorsport Museum. The museum has over 1400 motorcycles (the worlds' largest collection) including a Britten. There are about 600 motorcycles on display at any one time and 95% of those can be started within an hour if they chose to. There was also a Lotus car collection, with many other cars exhibited in to be exhibited in a new wing that was under construction. Displays were of a high standard similar to the Harley Museum in Milwaukee. To top it off the museum also has a race track as well, so we could watch the cars racing while walking around the exhibits. Well worth adding to your Bucket List / places to visit in the USA.

On to Memphis next day, with a stop off at Tupelo, the birth place of Elvis. Stayed at the Memory Inn, a short walk from Gracelands in Memphis which had a guitar shaped swimming pool and got picked up in a pink Cadillac to go out for dinner. The one disappointment of the trip was all the long grass, overgrowth and rubbish on Elvis Presley Boulevard between our hotel and Gracelands. With all the \$ coming into the town from tourists and Elvis fans one would think the y would honour the guy by keeping 'his' street clean and tidy.

Next stop was the Lumiere Place Casino Hotel in St Louis. On our way we stopped at 'Lamberts – the home of Thrown Rolls' in Sikeston. Waiters had trays of fresh baked bread rolls and would walk around calling "Hot rolls" – you put your hand up and a hot bread roll was air mailed across the room to you. Very tasty and luckily very accurate throwing, although if you missed a roll, everyone smiled and another would come sailing your way. The Hotel/Casino was on the banks of the Mississippi River and we watched tugboats pushing barges up and down the river from our Hotel room. A Mississippi cruise and a trip up the Gateway Arch were highlights.

A 7am start the next morning saw us heading for Chicago. Five lanes of traffic, several lane changes, lots of bumps on the road and a top box that had broken it's brackets made the ride into Chicago a bit stressful. Standing on the glass plate outside the







Willis Tower 103 stories up was slightly more relaxing and had a better view. Great gardens, statuary and architecture on the shores of Lake Michigan.

We had a latish start after the morning up the tower and headed up the highway to Racine where Steven and I had our bikes booked in for a mid-tour service. A HOG couple Steven had met on a previous trip had offered us all a bed so we headed to their place to unpack, do several loads of laundry and then headed out to an Italian restaurant in Racine for a meal.

Next morning, Saturday 6 August, our hostess Sue had organised a private tur of the Harley museum in Milwaukee – an advantage of Sue being on the Milwaukee State Annual Rally Committee. How sad – she gets to sit in meetings with Willie G !! That evening we had a pot luck dinner with the local H.O.G Chapter – a very nice group of people and a fun night. Between that and the Museum we have very fond memories of Milwaukee.

Next stop was west to Fort Dodge Iowa. On the advice of a local we went to a local biker bar for dinner – what a hoot!. Locals found it hard to believe we were from NZ and had travelled so far. We were instant celebrities – they took photos of each of us on a display mini bike and would have chatted all night but we had another early start next morning. Rides Bar n Grill, Fort Dodge, Iowa if you are ever travelling over that way!

580kms from Fort Dodge to Valentine, Nebraska. A one night stand before the last 400kms to Sturgis. Along the way to Sturgis we stopped at Rapid City H-D. A site filled with tents, caravans, marquees, displays and hundreds of bikes and people. Amazing that after weeks on the road with only the 4 bikes. The ladies treated themselves to an Air Hawk seat each...something to ease the saddle sores!

‘Home’ during our stay in Sturgis was a cottage within walking distance of all the main street activity. Very handy and meant we could have an ale or wine without having to ride anywhere and could sit out and watch the different bikes going up and down the road – well spotted Mr Richardson! A NZ flag hung out the front made it seem a bit like home.

Stalls and stands, bikes and bodies, Streets & Specials – Sturgis in all it’s glory.. If you have been you will know what I mean – if not, add it to your bucket list. It’s not everyone’s thing, but worth doing at least once. The many different rides in the area are what made it for me: Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse Monument, Custer State Park, Devil’s Tower.....all easy day rides and all with dozens and dozens of bikes – all great rides.

After four nights in Sturgis it was time to get back on the road – this time to Red Lodge, Montana, with a stop at the site of Custers last stand. An interesting stop and hard to imagine that such a battle/massacre took place there. We rode to the Bear Creek Saloon





The many different rides in the area are what made it for me: Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse Monument, Custer State Park, **Devil's Tower**, all easy day rides and all with dozens and dozens of bikes – all great rides

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for dinner and pig racing – a wee racing circuit with starting gates, wee piggies in racing silks and of course betting on the races! A lot of fun and a fundraiser for scholarships for local school kids.

Next day we headed for Cody, Wyoming over Beartooth Pass and Chief Joseph Pass. Spectacular scenery, a good road and great riding. Something else for the bucket list. The Buffalo Bill Cody Museum was interesting and just a pleasant stroll from the Motel. Steven and Keith went white water rafting for the afternoon and Keith and Linda went to an evening rodeo. Lots to see and do.

Jackson, Wyoming was the stop next night, memorable for: the detour through Yellowstone and a visit to Old Faithfull (been there, done that, stick to Rotovegas); dinner at the Million Dollar Bar (Mountain Oysters for the lads); a gunfight street performance/re-enactment and the arches made of antlers on each corner of the town square. Also memorable as the loo in our motel room wouldn't flush.

In the morning we had an earlyish and very cool 7 degree C start and headed for Price, Utah through the Grand Teton National Park. A 600km ride but very scenic. After a night's rest we headed for Cortez, Colorado – not a long day but a busy one. We detoured to visit Dead Horse Point (Thelma & Louise cliff), Arches National park, (stone arches & towers – amazing!), The Hole in the Rock (where a couple had carved a substantial home into a rock cliff face). All well worth a visit.

Tuba City, Arizona was our next nights stop, after visiting Four Corners (the only spot in the USA where 4 states meet at one point. Native Indians sold handmade crafts at the many stalls. We rode through Monument Valley - cowboy country from many old cowboy movies and one of John Wayne's favourite places. Then on to the Quality Inn – Navajo Nation. While heading out for a walk and a look around, Martina and I came across a group of men getting into Indian costume in the carpark and whitewashing





themselves. I went over and asked them what was happening and they said they were there for a community performance. They were White River Apache dancers performing for the local Navajo at a drug/alcohol/suicide awareness gathering for the local community. An interesting experience – and it's not often that you get the blessing of an Indian Shaman. We can't have done anything too un-PC as, at breakfast the next morning one of the dancers came over to our table to say Hi.

Grand Canyon views were next days' highlights plus meeting a couple from Florida who were riding a motorcycle that we would consider to be grossly overloaded. They do a couple of 10,000 mile trips a year, camping in a tent – and loved it. Further on there were more Grand Canyon views plus a ride through the village. Waikite Valley just doesn't compare.

On the way into Williams, Arizona that afternoon we called in to Bearizona Drive through wildlife park. They had all sorts of animals but the bears and wolves meant no motorcycles.... No problem, they loaned us a car – free, gratis and for nothing other than the admission fee. Not a fancy car but in our price range!







Off again in the morning heading for Las Vegas with stops at Seligman (Road Kill Café) and Kingman to see all the Burros wandering the streets. (Thanks for rescuing our bag Brian). The Burros sniffed out the apples in Martina's pack which was clipped onto the bike, considered they were fair game and nearly pulled the bike over trying to get away with them.

Vegas was interesting but the idea of walking through a Casino carrying your bags, all hot, dirty and sweaty in your bike gear just to get to your room on the 44th floor is not my idea of fun at all. Still some of the ladies seemed very friendly to us country boys! Next day we went to the Hoover dam while others explored Vegas, rode the Monorail and the High Roller (like the London eye). In the evening we went to watch the musical fountains at the Bellagio Hotel – a real treat, as was a visit



to the Harley Davidson Café and all the sights you see in the evenings in Vegas.

Day 42 – Back to Los Angeles to sort bags, clean bikes and getting organised to drop them back to the shipping company then catch flights home next day. An interesting sight on the way back to the Crimson Hotel – with 5 guys squeezed tight into the Mustang. Had to put the roof down to all fit in.

An amazing trip and one we would do again tomorrow. We were lucky with the weather and had no real rain, just a few showers. A few early days at about 60 C degrees on the road pared back the riding attire and we sent boxes of excess stuff back to the shipping company for collecting at the end of the ride.

Many thanks to Steven Richardson for organising the ride, finding so many interesting spots along the way, and for organising the stay with the Sue and Carl and meeting the local HOG chapter people in Milwaukee. Very pleasant. To Stevie D (Mustang soft top hoon), Brian and Keith & Linda, it was great to get to know you. We had a great time, many laughs and fantastic memories. Thankyou.

//  
*...we have stayed in 20 hotels, travelled through 22 states, ridden over 13,000 km (was actually 16,000km) and taken over 5000 photos..."*

At the back of the trip booklet Steve supplied us with was a note that said 'we have stayed in 20 hotels, travelled through 22 states, ridden over 13,000 km (was actually 16,000km) and taken over 5000 photos, it's time to drop off our bikes and head home. Thank you all for a wonderful trip'. Well said!

JB

JB (Weta)



# OFFICIAL MERCHANDISE

The Chapter's Executive Committee are extremely happy to announce that the Chapter's new T-Shirts can be purchased from Road & Sport, and we think they look sensational. There is a wide variety of sizes and we are expecting these to go very quickly, so you will want to be in quick to get yours. Head on down to Road & Sport Harley Davidson to check them out and to purchase your t-shirt (or two). Short sleeved \$49.00 (Men and Women's), \$59.00 for the long sleeve. Show the world that you are a proud Waikato/BOP HOG Chapter member.



**MEN'S T-SHIRT**  
SIZES: S - 2XL  
\$49.00



**WOMEN'S T-SHIRT**  
SIZES: XS - 2XL  
\$49.00



**MEN'S/WOMEN'S LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRT**  
SIZES: S- 3XL  
\$59.00



**CHAPTER ROCKER**  
\$20.00



**HOG PATCH**  
\$20.00



# CHAPTER 25TH ANNIVERSARY PENS



As part of the Chapter's 25th Anniversary celebrations in December last year, the members that attended the evening were gifted an anniversary pen in a presentation box.

The HOG logo and wording "Waikato/BOP HOG Chapter 25th Anniversary, 1990 - 2015" are printed on the pen and on the box. I know you will want to keep one of these special pens as a memento so you will want to purchase these sooner than later as they will sell very fast. You will also want to have one of these pens in your pocket or handbag to use, they are such a lovely pen to write with, plus they will also make great presents - so be in quick.

These can be purchased from Road & Sport Harley Davidson for \$20 each.

ANNIVERSARY PENS

\$20.00



## IRON RUN™ Queenstown New Zealand 2017

Saint  
Patrick's  
Day  
H.O.G. PARTY

IRONRUN.CO.NZ

Queenstown's stunning scenery, accommodation and local produce will be on show at Iron Run 2017, a two-day festival bringing together Harley-Davidson owners and motorcycle enthusiasts from all over New Zealand.

The event will start on Thursday 16th March with limited edition patches being given out at Bluff. Friday 17th March will have two hosted Guided Rides to the spectacular surrounding towns.

Friday night will be all things Green, with a St Patrick's Day themed party at

Queenstown's Ice Arena.

Saturday morning will have us riding to Arrowtown in the Thunder Run. The Show and Shine will also be held at Arrowtown in the common green (at the end of Buckingham St). Registration for the Show and Shine can be done at registration in the memorial hall.

Entertainment will continue back in Queenstown in the Village Green Saturday afternoon.

Registrations are now open and stay tuned for more information very soon.



THE WORLD WAS MEANT  
TO BE SEEN FROM THE SEAT  
OF A HARLEY-DAVIDSON  
MOTORCYCLE



WAIKATO BOP  
HOG AREA

## NEW MEMBERS INFORMATION

The basics of being a HOG!

## ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

### A REMINDER TO MEMBERS

On the last day of the month in which your Local and/or International H.O.G membership expires and you have not renewed your membership, it will become inactive.

- You will no longer be an active member of the Waikato/Bay of Plenty H.O.G Chapter and will not receive any further correspondence or be able to partake in Chapter activities.
- Your Local and/or International membership will need to be renewed before you are able to enjoy the benefits of being a member of the Waikato/Bay of Plenty H.O.G Chapter.

**NEW MEMBERS ORIENTATION** - held on the first Saturday of September, November, March, May and July at Road & Sport. Times are stated on the Runs calendar unless otherwise specified by email. Please contact Wendy at [membership@waikatobophog.co.nz](mailto:membership@waikatobophog.co.nz) if you are interested in attending.

**BE ON TIME** - it pays to be prompt at the organized rides, which means you need to be fully fuelled up before arriving at the designated departure point. All rides depart from Road & Sport and departure times are stated on the Runs calendar, unless specified by email. All BOP Rides depart from Caltex, Tauriko, at the time specified by the BOP Co-ordinator, unless otherwise specified.

For more information on any of the rides, please contact your Road Captain.

**GENERAL MEETINGS/GATHERINGS** - as a member of the Waikato/BOP Chapter you are encouraged to attend our quarterly gatherings/meetings. These vary each gathering/meeting (guest speakers, meals, fun nights) with varied venues, starting at 7.00pm. (unless otherwise specified). This is a great time to socialize and get together with old and new friends.





**HOGWASH MAGAZINE** - our magazine is issued 6 times per year and includes our ride calendar and other information for members. There are write ups/stories on what has happened in the club over the past couple of months. Our newsletter only works if you submit your write ups/ stories, so please don't forget to send them in. And of course, photos of the rides are always appreciated by other club members.

**OBTAINING HOGWASH NEWS** - the magazine will

be electronically sent out as an Adobe Acrobat PDF file, and on the Chapter Website.

**WAIKATO/BOP WEBSITE** - [www.waikatobophog.co.nz](http://www.waikatobophog.co.nz)

You will find heaps of interesting items including a Photo Gallery, Ride Calendar, links to other Chapters and a lot more. Remember to save this in your 'favourites' for easy access.

For change of contact details, please notify the Chapter Secretary in writing/email.

# RENEWING YOUR INTERNATIONAL H.O.G MEMBERSHIP

It is important that your International H.O.G membership remains current. This is to ensure that your local Waikato / Bay of Plenty membership can continue.

The following are a couple of ways for you to renew your International H.O.G membership, either by phoning 0800-464258 or, through the H.O.G website [www.members.hog.com](http://www.members.hog.com) You can also access this site through [www.hog.com](http://www.hog.com) upon entering [www.hog.com](http://www.hog.com), click on New Zealand, then on the far left hand side click on "members only."

For new members to the H.O.G website ([www.hog.com](http://www.hog.com)) If you are new to this site and have not entered your details before, you will need to click on "create profile". Ensure you keep your password details, as you will require this information to log onto this website in the future.

For members that have already created their profile previously:

Enter your "password" into the login area on far left hand side. Near the top of the screen, you will see your name and member number in a light green box, under this, click on "Renew Membership", this then takes you to a secure site.

Under the "Membership Renewal" area, enter your membership number, your last name and then choose length of time you would like to renew your membership for. Then, enter your email address and then, enter your email address once again as confirmation. You can then click on "continue to confirmation and payment" and complete details.

If you have any queries regarding your International H.O.G. membership you can also email, [hogau@harley-davidson.com](mailto:hogau@harley-davidson.com)







# MAKE YOUR MILES COUNT

## H.O.G. MILEAGE PROGRAM

The H.O.G. Mileage Program rewards you for doing what you love most ... riding. Harley recognizes the accomplishments. The more miles you log on your Harley®, the more recognition you receive.

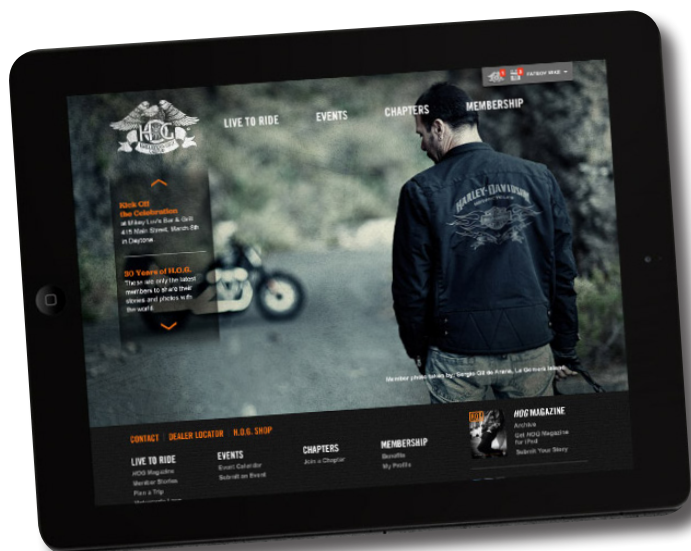
A H.O.G. Mileage Program pin and patch will be sent to all H.O.G. members upon enrollment in the program. If you have more than one motorcycle, be sure to enroll each additional bike. After enrollment, additional awards can be earned by satisfying set mileage levels.

See [HOG.com/miles](http://HOG.com/miles) for details.

## A MEMBERSHIP EXCLUSIVE!

Harley-Davidson has launched an entirely redesigned website, making it easier than ever for members be in the know. Get VIP event info, photos, stories, videos and rides available only to H.O.G. Members.

ake some time to check out the all-new [members.hog.com](http://members.hog.com) today.



## CHAPTER RIDE CARD\* DRAWS

### HOW MANY OF US LIKE TO WIN?? HOW ABOUT WINNING A \$20 PETROL VOUCHER?

When you come along on a Chapter ride, rider or pillion, you will notice the Road Captain with a pack of playing cards offering Chapter members the chance to draw a card from the pack. The winning card prize is a \$20 petrol voucher and the chance to provide the write up on the ride for the Chapter's newsletter - the HOGWASH. The write up is optional. But what isn't optional is the winner being a current financial member of the Chapter. The Road Captain relies on the honesty of those drawing a card that they are a current paying member of the Waikato/BOP HOG Chapter.





# INTERISLANDER FERRY DISCOUNTS

**Account name;** Harley Owners Club

**Account code;** FA5357.

Group Booking conditions and instructions for members are:

- Each reservation must be made direct with Interislander
- Book online at [www.interislander.co.nz/Booking/Group-Bookings.aspx](http://www.interislander.co.nz/Booking/Group-Bookings.aspx) putting FA5357 in group discount box
- Every reservation will be given an expiry/payment date, required to be paid in full by that date
- Space is subject to availability at the time of the booking request
- All owners need to bring their own tie downs
- HOG membership card to be shown at check in – no card then retail fares will be charged.
- Bookings are 90% refundable if cancelled after payment.
- Fares valid for travel from 01 February through to 18 December 17

The below rates are based on return travel, prices to date, inclusive of GST and subject to availability.

Fares:	Off Peak each way	Peak each way
Adult	\$45.00	\$52.00
Premium Lounge	\$45.00 – 18yrs plus	\$45.00 – 18yrs plus
Child	\$25.00	\$25.00
Motor Cycle	\$39.00	\$49.00
Car/Van/4x4/trailer up to 5.5 metres	\$124.00	\$137.00
Each half metre over 5.5 metres	\$19.00	\$22.00

**Off Peak Dates:**

01 March -12 April 17

19 April – 18 December 17

**Peak Dates:**

01-28 Feb 17

13-18 April 17

Please note: This is for HOG members only and must not be given out or used for non HOG members. It is important we protect this for our own or we could lose it.



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| <b>2</b> MORE POWER, QUICKER<br>ACCELERATION | <b>4</b> RICHER<br>EXHAUST NOTE | <b>6</b> REDUCED<br>VIBRATION | <b>8</b> IMPROVED<br>CHARGING |



## NEW EMULSION REAR SUSPENSION

- |                                      |                                     |                              |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> MORE PRE-LOAD<br>ADJUSTMENT | <b>2</b> NO MAINTENANCE<br>OR TOOLS | <b>3</b> IMPROVED<br>DAMPING |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|

## NEW FRONT SUSPENSION

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| <b>1</b> NEW, BIGGER<br>PISTONS | <b>2</b> DUAL BENDING VALVE<br>FORK TECHNOLOGY |
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\*COMPARED TO 2016 MODELS. BASED ON ESTIMATES FROM LABORATORY EXHAUST EMISSIONS TESTS SPECIFIED BY EPA. NOT DURING ON ROAD RIDING. ACTUAL MILEAGE AND FUEL ECONOMY WILL VARY DEPENDING ON BIKE MODEL AND CONFIGURATION, HOW YOU RIDE/MAINTAIN YOUR BIKE, ROAD CONDITIONS, AND OTHER FACTORS.  
ALL COMPARISONS HERE ARE DRAWN BETWEEN NEW 2016 TOURING MODELS AND NEW 2017 TOURING MODELS.

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