



## HMCC Presidents Report March 2024

Hello All

Priority this month is Frankton Thunder which is on this weekend March 10<sup>th</sup>. HMCC in partnership with "Ride Forever" is running a Motorcycle Show and Shine competition. We will be recruiting a few volunteers to assist with entering bikes into classes to be judged plus man a security for bikes and gear for those. Please bring your bike and enter and we will mind it while you take in the Thunder. Please let me know if you can assist us.



Also April 14<sup>th</sup> is our "Flagship" Quine road Hill climb

I have not long return from the Sound of Thunder motorcycle event at Ruapuna in Christchurch this event is for British, European and American bikes plus NZ as it the birthplace of the Britten. This year I was racing my usual bike which has had a few major up grades as well as a Ducati V4. Both bikes have consumed a considerable about of time to be race ready. Unofficial practice on Friday was the first time I had ridden the V4 and after racing a couple of Superbikes that I struggled to get comfortable with I was slightly apprehensive on how I would handle especially as these bikes had significantly less than the V4s claimed 214hp. Instantly however the Panigale is the easiest Superbike I have ridden due to its electronics. Its acceleration is little had to compute but with the traction control keeping it in line its not unmanageable even for me. The gearbox is just as impressive holding it pinned and tapping the gear lever it changes instantly and then throttle off change down with no clutch it is seamless even if you go a gear to many. The down change was something new and it did not slip though perfectly if I tried to help but I quickly got to grips with no clutch either throttle on or fully off and it worked great. The handling was felt good with no issues needing attention, not at my pace anyway. I did have trouble with touching the gear lever which would cause it to hesitate as well as grinding my toes as the standard pegs are slightly to low. A pair of F1E Motorcycle Works rearsets will solve one of these

issues if not both. My results for the weekend were average but that's down to being old, slow and lack of time to sort two new bikes. Luckily results are a small part of it these days it was another fun trip with a great team. A huge thanks to those who made it happen John Steer, Steve Degroot and Steve Bridge and team mates.

Unfortunately, with the highs of Motorcycle racing comes the lows and following an incident on the 27th February at this years Sound of Thunder race meeting Leonard Tomasi #749 passed away. On behalf of the Hamilton Motorcycle Club I would like to convey our deepest condolences to Len's family and friends and also to the Bears club the officials and competitors.

I find it hard to except that something that can bring such a high can take such a toll.

My thoughts and love go out to Lens wider family

Chris Bridge

HMCC President

Come along and check out the Ducati Panigale V4 at this Thursdays Club night



## **Up Coming Events**

March ride

End of Road Rally, off Forgotten Highway, 9th & 10th March, watch this space.

Racing:

Quine Road Hill Climb, April 14th

## **February Road Ride**

There was a good turn out of 11 bikes/riders for our February road ride. The initial plan was to ride towards Te Anga, but go to Marakopa on the coast and keep heading south to Awakino.

Well, Te Anga now has an inviting café operated by Rosanna Cole of the Cole motorcycle racing family. So we decided to socialise there and try some of the goodie goods. We had two riders, the Triumphs of Auckland, Bob 'n Brett, who'd come down the night before and had the extra ride to get home.

So, we decided to stick together rather than split up and carried on to Waitomo for lunch. And, while we're at it, we'll drop in on the Sunday afternoon vibe at the Whatawhata pub on the way home. The ride of just over 200 km seemed just perfect for a perfect day.

The cooler air of the day kept the roads from melting. We were made aware how bad it probably had been as the council had put out 50 km signs for a lot of the road between Te Anga to Waitomo. Just as well they weren't needed to be heeded.

Welcome to Jay on his Suzuki GSX1000 naked. He saw the ride on Facebook and showed up at BP Massey St to ride along with some of our more regular riders; Chris Bridge, Mark Hatton, Steve Smith, Steve de Groot, Kevin Hooper, Bruce Delaney, Richard Brister and myself.

Looking forward to the longer End of the Road Rally over two days in March





### **March Club Ride - End of the Road Rally**

Saturday March 9th and Sunday March 10

Day - day riders welcome

Leaving Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 9:30 a.m. from BP cnr Massey/Hall St & Greenwood S

Overnight at Bushlands Campground on the Forgotten World Highway (SH43). Will be going via SH4 side and will go to Whangamomona Hotel prior to going to the campground.

Bring a tent. Good facilities (kitchen/utensils and showers) and outdoor fire for social gathering.

Initial plan anticipates having Saturday fuel stops at Te Kuiti and Taumarunui, with a Sunday fuel stop at Taumarunui on Sunday. This is to accommodate bikes with a range of less than 280 km (to be on the safe side). If your bike's range is < 280 km, contact me on 022 3400118 and we will arrange a fuel stop at Ohura to cut out the Saturday fuel stop at Taumarunui and save a bit of time/kilometres.

Routes:

Day riders – There's a shorter and longer ride possible for day riders. We will go to Te Kuiti via Pirongi/Otorohanga and then Barber Rd/Rangitoto Rd. This is an outward distance of up to 100 km. You could stay with us bit further to where the

Waimiha/Ongarue road comes out at SH4. This is an outward distance of about 160 km. This intersection is 21 km from Taumarunui.

For End of the Road riders a fuel top up will be needed at Te Kuiti BP.

End of Road riders – From the intersection at SH4 we will travel over the general area of Matiere - Ohura back roads to SH43 on Saturday. From where the Ohura Rd meets SH43 it is about 48 km ride to the Whangamomona Hotel. It is then 28 km back to the turn off to the camp, and 6 km to the end of the road (the camp).

Saturday meals: Lunch at Te Kuiti. Early dinner at the Whangamomona Hotel, otherwise, bring more than supper for Saturday night and use the excellent kitchen facilities.

On Sunday, we'll ride to Taumarunui and we'll go home via Ongarue Back Rd, then the Okahukura Saddle Road and Ohura Mokau Road/Mangapapa Rd back onto SH4, then Kopaki Rd to SH30 and Te Kuiti.

Sunday meals: breakfast – bring your own and/or fuel up with food and petrol at Taumarunui (about 54 km from the camp). Lunch at Te kuiti.

No gravel roads ... Oh, I forgot about the 10 km bit just east of Tahora

BIKES WITH A RANGE OF LESS THAN 280 KM (be on the safe side), ARRANGE FOR A FUEL STOP AT OHURA. Suggest you provide a filled 10 litre petrol container. Contact me asap so we can arrange this.

Cheers, Ray  
022 3400118

**“AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:  
TO PROMOTE MOTORCYCLING FOR THE GOOD OF MOTORCYCLING”**

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