Presidents Report 2015

August 2014 and a discussion between myself and Nick Maxfield that continued over 4 days, sowed the seeds to VinduroWA.

Without the input of Nick and sound advice from Steve Melvin and support shown by other people I spoke, to this club would have not taken off. There was something missing in the classic era motorcycling and that was enduros, every other genre was catered for but not the one that catered for the majority of people who didn’t race but rode for fun. I thank those people who supported and encouraged me to start this club. Though being chased around a paddock at Boddington by some demented man screaming I’ve been looking for you is quite frightening

November saw a social gathering at Kirup to gauge the response and give impedance to forming the club.

January a meeting was held in Bunbury and committee formed. Kevin and Debbie Shaw, Asry Bizar, Hayes Forsyth, Nick Maxfield and Craig Foster all came on board and the club gained momentum. I always believed that if we could get 40 members then the club would be successful, because it was more about riding with your mates than anything else. 10-20 people at a vinduro meet was always enough people to enjoy the day.. We achieved our 40 members and now believe that in 2016 we will achieve my next goal of 50 members, doesn’t sound like much but that is a 25 per cent increase.

Easter we held our first event at Jindong and I was terrified of failure, but thankful 20 people turned up to the event and had a ball, we were off and running.

Events followed in May and then June with our only competitive event at the Collie Motorplex in July. I worked to get a lot of sponsorship for the event and ended up with over $1000.00 of trophies and prizes. This was done to show that even a small club with the right product can get decent sponsorship. Nick just reckons they gave me the sponsorship to get me out of their shops.

The second half of the year fell away due to the August event being cancelled to due the weather and location of the event on the Vasse river, just too much water. September was also disrupted, my personal circumstances changed rapidly as we had sold our house and had to find other accommodation and with many members being involved in the Classic Nat Titles at Jindong, though arrangements were made to run at Boddington and I believe we can do this one a lot better. A great location

The Bridgetown Classic scramble was run at the end of September to great critical acclaim, this has been Nicks baby that had gone in the wrong direction, but was now bought back on track. We had sponsorship from Smarter than Smoking and provided trophies for two events.

I had left the state in October enjoying the good life in a caravan for a while. I believed the momentum of the season had slowed to snails pace as we all wound down. A final get together was held at Kirup.

So how did we do:

Formed a very viable club that has a great future

We did things differently to other clubs, members and interested parties received electronic information on events etc that I thought might be of interest. Though we only held a couple of meetings, this information was disseminated to members to ensure they were up to date with what was happening. Some say too much, well at least you were given information!!!

We ran non- competitive meeting at minimal costs, that were all about fun. A competitive event with trophies and prizes something not done in this state for era events.

What many people might not be aware of is the work we did healing rifts between the two other Era clubs, trying and being quite successful in staying out of the politics and just enjoying the events and put on an end of season event for all three clubs

How did I do:

Loved every minute, discussion and fight I had regarding the club. I upset quite a few people in the other era clubs by forming the club. But believed it was worth it.

I did heaps of things wrong and can definitely improve, but I had the time and didn’t want to disturb committee members who were busy working. I need to get more people involved in the organising and running of events especially. Let other people be responsible for differing aspects of event.

I would personally like to thank the following people for all they did for the club, my wife Christine, Nick, Steve and Alison Melvin, Hayes, Asry, and crew, Trevor Bushell, Kevin and Debbie Shaw, Lex Porebski, Craig Frost, non- members, Penny and Emilio Pappicio. There are others and apologise if I have not mentioned them. Without this assistance from these people we would not have had a great first season.

2016 is a new year with new ideas, bring it on, be involved in the club, it is only going to get better. Our catch cry should be ‘less coffee blood rock’. Thank you for allowing me to be part of a great club.