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## **HOG - Day Ride to Wyong Milk Factory**

### **Sunday 16 August, 2020**

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Our ride today takes us to the Wyong Milk Factory via country roads with river and valley views.

The milk factory is now retired and is repurposed, hosting a variety of outlets including cheese, chocolate, gelato and candle shops as well as a café, tavern and more. We have a booking for lunch at the tavern. That all sounds good to me!

This newsletter contains 59 images taken on the day of the ride as well as 7 downloaded images, and some fun memes.



**Image 1** - Our meeting point is the Red Rooster car park on the M4 west bound at Eastern Creek. There is plenty of parking available and McDonalds is also next door for those free seniors' coffee's! (If you are over 60 years of age and have a senior's card, McDonalds will give you a free coffee!).

The winter weather is right for the ride with sunny skies and temperatures predicted to max out at 18°C. Perfect! The company is right for the ride too with your usual bunch of friendly Hoggies!

Hey, what about some fun doggie memes just for a change? They are from Pinterest and are hilarious! Say, what if I include one after each ride photo.







**Image 2** - Catching up for a chat with Craig and his wife Kelly is Freddie (at centre of photo).





**Image 3** - It's all friendly banter amongst the Hoggies!







**Image 4** - Lets check out some Hoggies! Here we see Trevor at left with Gary.





Image 5 - And here we see Sparkles (Mark) with wife Chris.







**Image 6** - This is Tarzan (Steve) who will be on Road Captain duties today.







**Image 7** - Here we see Albert with his 2015 Sportster which he has just recently sold but still has. He also has a Harley Fat Boy in his garage.





**Image 8** - This is my friend Giuseppe with his BMW Cruiser. He is not a HOG member but came to check out the famous camaraderie amongst us and the great rides we do.







**Image 9** - This is new member Barbara with her 2019 Harley Sportster. It's her 3<sup>rd</sup> bike but first her Harley.





**Image 10** - Again we see Barbara, this time with husband Craig and his 2016 Harley Fat Boy Lo.







**Image 11** - Regular on HOG rides are Pete with wife Fifi.





**Image 12** - Today we see Craig with friend Rosie. Rosie, like most normal people, wants to experience the pleasure of riding on a Harley and at the same time check out the Hoggies! Rosie's husband and Craig's wife fully support this bucket list accomplishment!







**Image 13** - Regular HOG riders are Dick with partner Jen.





**Image 14** - Dick pointing out a “Don’t be a Dick” sticker on someone’s helmet. But our Dick is not a Dick if you know what I mean!







**Image 15** - The Road Captains are meeting which means that soon we will be heading off. The Road Captains discuss riding protocols and safety measures before addressing all members present.

Did you know that the Road Captains work out the itinerary for each and every ride and have it all scoped out first? That means they trial run the ride and determine what corners need to be marked and where to take breaks or regroup as necessary. Our rides are always successful for a very good reason!





**Image 16** - Today the Lead Road Captain is Smiddy (Ian) seen here with white shirt addressing the Road Captains. Dave, at right of photo, is riding Shot Gun today.







**Image 17** - It will soon be 9.00 am so it's time to address all riders present on ride procedures and protocols and Covid-19 Pandemic requirements.





**Image 18** – Here we see Smiddy (at right in foreground) delivering the ride brief to all in attendance.





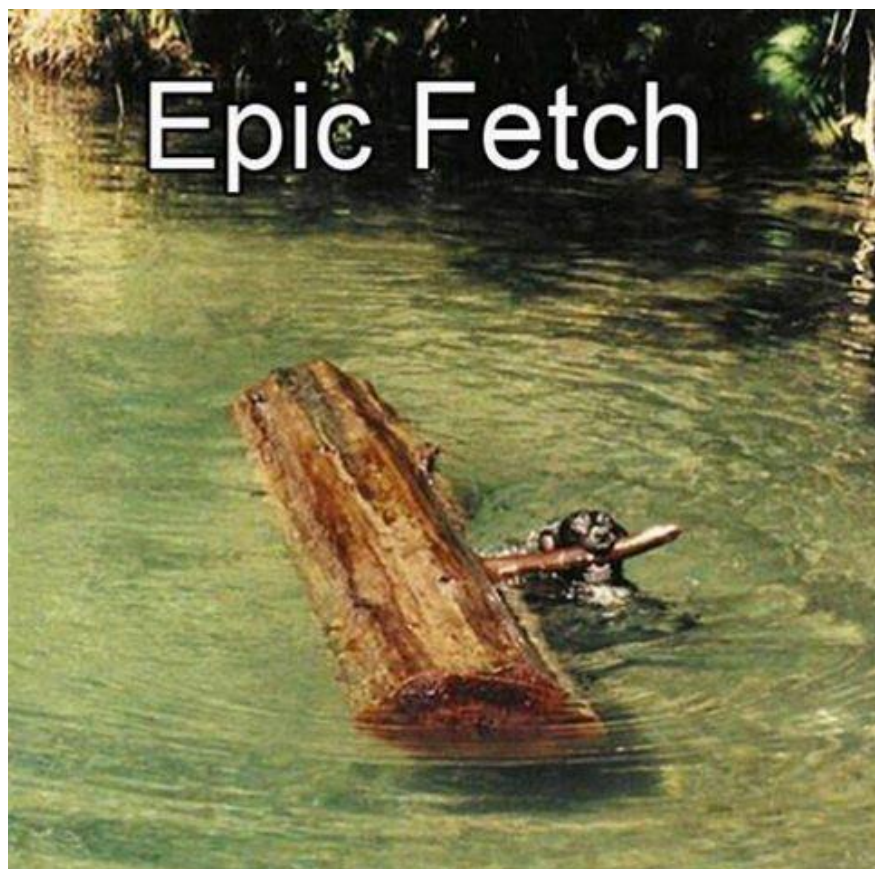


**Image 19** - Smiddy doing a mighty fine job with the ride brief.





**Image 20** - This ride gets underway right on time at 9.00 am. Our rides run like a swiss watch! Here we see Rosie with Craig aboard his Harley Wide Glide. I'm sure she will have a fun experience today.





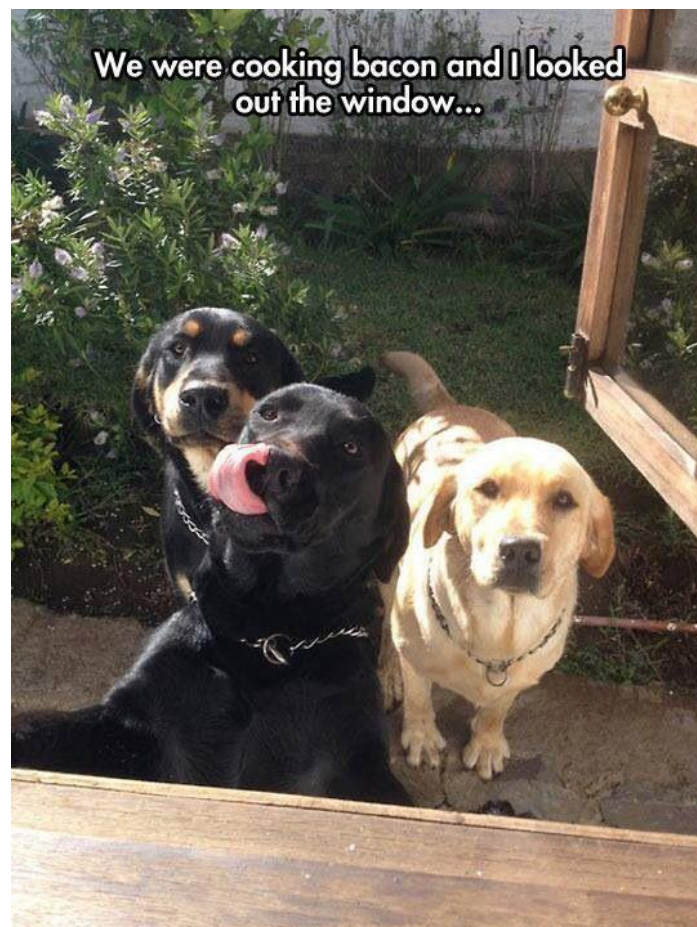


**Image 21** – THAT’S not surround sound, THIS is surround sound!





**Image 22** - Here we are about to turn right onto Rooty Hill Road, early on in the ride. There is no APP that gives you this experience!







**Image 23** - What a glorious sight, Harleys taking up the whole roadway! Sounds good too!





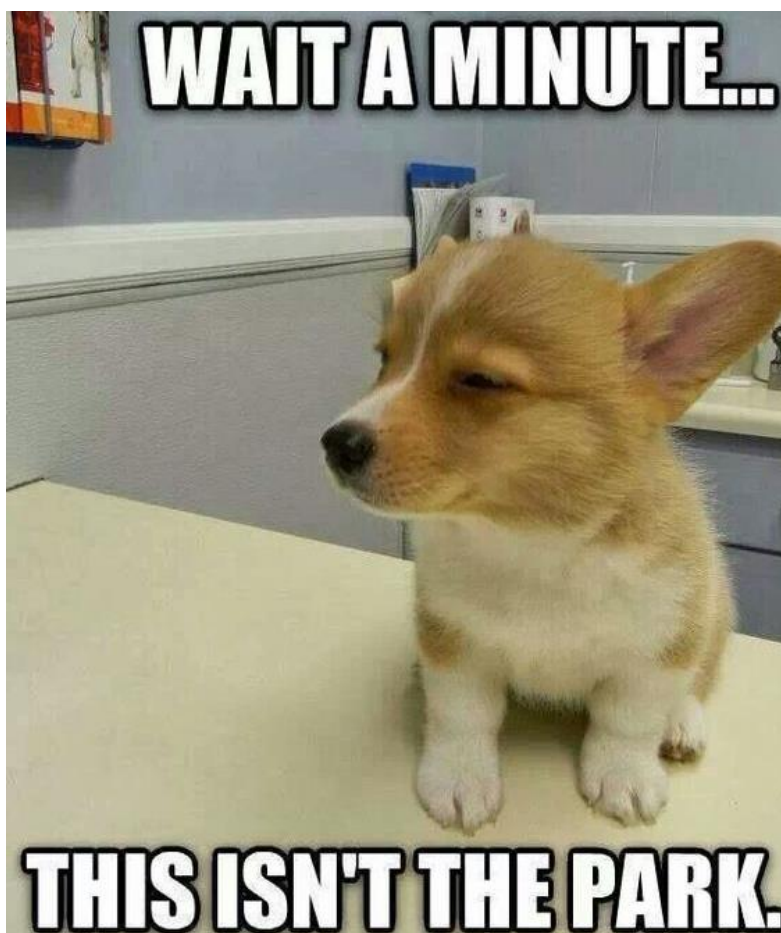
**Image 24** - The further we get from Sydney, the more the traffic starts to thin out. Physical distancing requirements are easily maintained whilst riding your motorcycle.







**Image 25** - Sparkles (Mark) and Chris are obviously pleased they came out today.





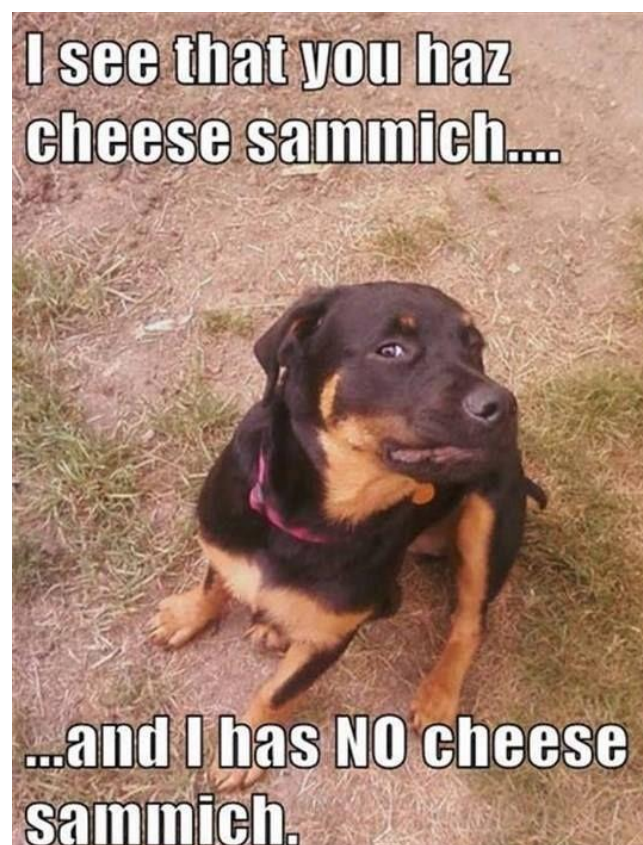
**Image 26 (downloaded)** - The Old Northern Road takes us through rural and bush areas on our way to Wisemans Ferry.

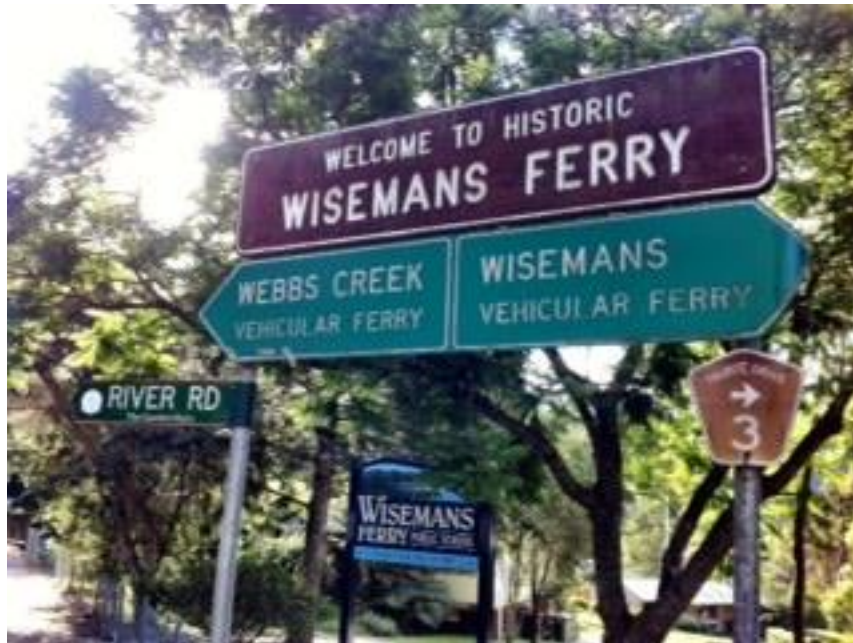






**Image 27** - A stop for roadworks allows me to take a photo showing you the typical scenery along the Old Northern Road.





**Image 28 (downloaded)** - We are heading to the Wisemans vehicular ferry. There are 5 car ferries crossing the Hawkesbury region's waterways. The Wisemans vehicular ferry was in fact the very first ferry crossing of the Hawkesbury River beginning in 1827.







**Image 29** - Road Captain Ralph pulls alongside as we wait for the road to reopen. As a Road Captain he is constantly moving up through the convoy of bikes after stopping to mark a corner, and he is also acting in his capacity as the Chapter Safety Officer watching out for everyone's safety.





**Image 30** - My friend Giuseppe is most impressed and envious of the great spirit in the HOGS and the terrific rides we organise.



**Mmmmm.  
I see...**

**Have you tried barking at nothing?  
That might help.**



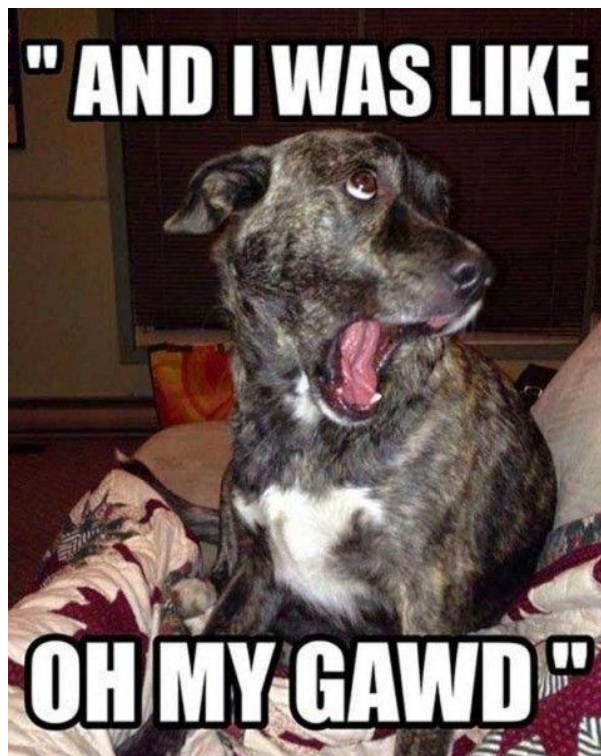


**Image 31** - We arrive at the Hawkesbury River ferry crossing at Wisemans Ferry at around 10.25 am to see that the ferry is mid-stream and heading to our side of the river. It's only a brief wait until we can board the ferry.





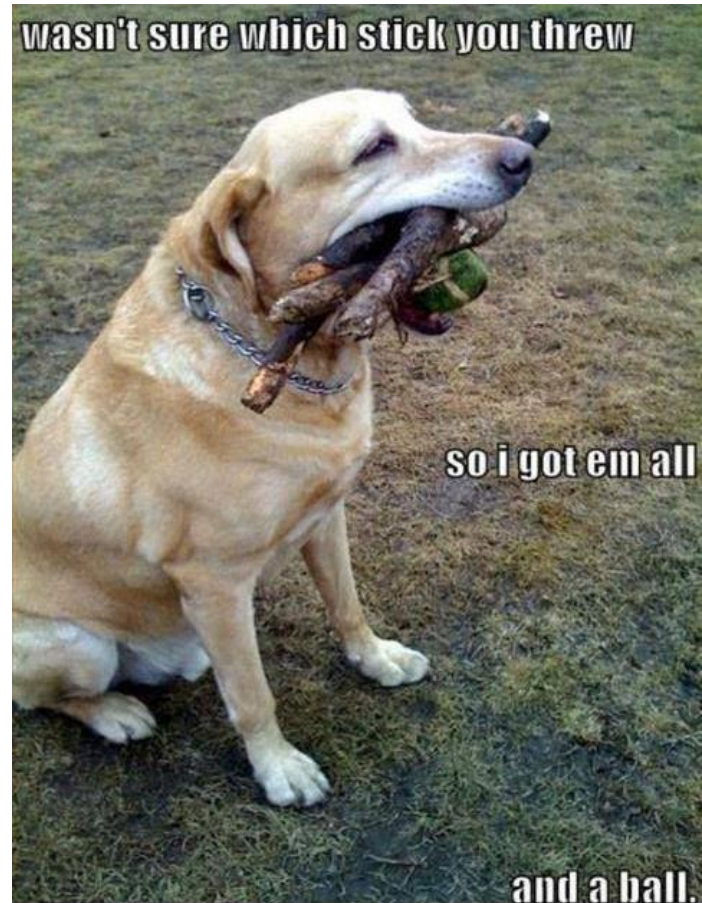
Image 32 – Also with us today is Yogi (Rob) with his new Harley CVO.







**Image 33** - As we wait for the ferry, Tail End Charlie Road Captain Danno (at left) arrives reporting no-one is left behind.





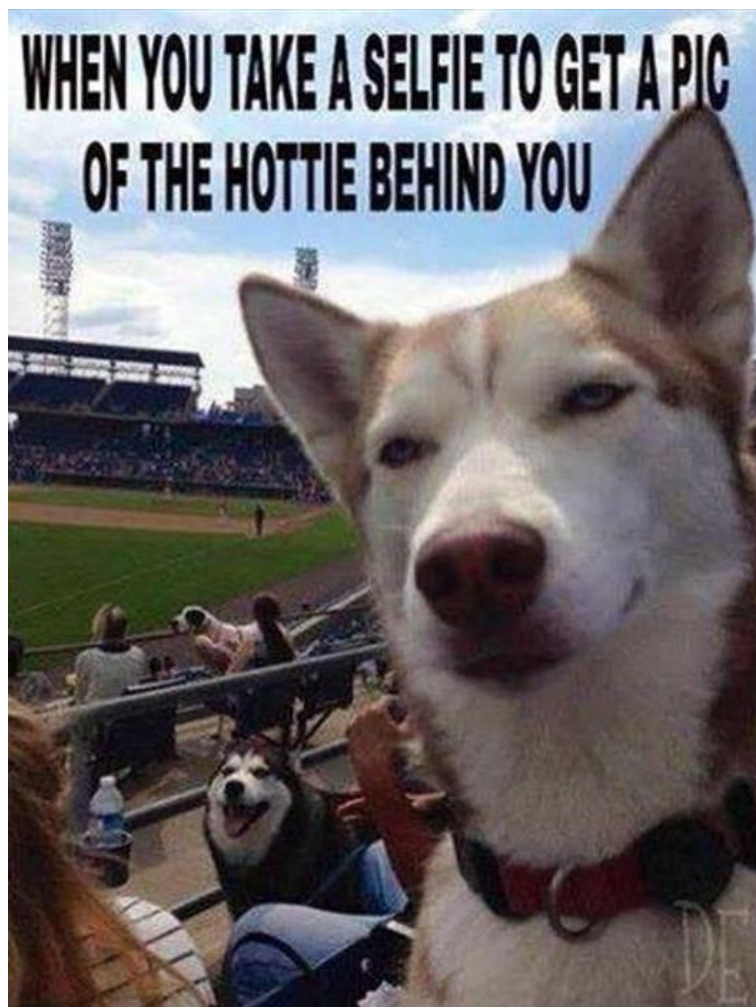
**Image 34** - Enjoying the ride and the warming sun is Nigel with Lillian.







**Image 35 (downloaded)** - Travelling across the Hawkesbury River on the car ferry is all part of the fun and adventure and is an opportunity to enjoy its natural beauty. This ferry is capable of carrying 24 cars each trip and has a 120-tonne load limit. It operates 24/7 on demand and is toll free.





**Image 36** - We are on-board at 10.30 am making the crossing. We all fit on easily with enough room for a few cars as well. It's a slow and steady crossing.

Did you know that until the opening of the Bridge across the Hawkesbury River at Brooklyn in 1945, this ferry was on the main route north out of Sydney?







**Image 37 (downloaded)** – Lets digress for a moment and talk about the bridge across the Hawkesbury River. The bridge crossing the Hawkesbury River at Brooklyn (known as the Peats Ferry Bridge) was completed in 1945 which then became the main route north out of Sydney. It has just one lane in each direction.





**Image 38 (downloaded)** – Of course progress in ongoing and here we see yet another bridge crossing the Hawkesbury river built adjacent to the Peats Ferry Bridge and it was completed in October 1973 with three lanes in each direction. It is 600 metres long and now carries the M1 Pacific Motorway.

The Peats Ferry Bridge on the right carries the Old Pacific Highway and is still in use.







**Image 39** – Now back to the ride. We are still on the ferry and the crossing is 366 m in length and takes approximately 4 minutes to complete.

**Don't worry bro.**



**We'll get them next time.**

Fitgirl.com



Image 40 - On the ferry we see Barbara's beautiful smile which personifies our HOG spirit. Come and check out the vibe on the next ride!







**Image 41 (downloaded)** – Here we are heading to Spencer and this image shows the typical roads we encounter along our route with plenty of twisties to keep us amused. When on a motorcycle, its more about the journey rather than the destination.





**Image 42** - We arrive at Spencer for our morning break, 97 kms into our journey at 11.00am. This is the main street of Spencer.







**Image 43** - There are plenty of motorcycles parked in Spencer today as this is a popular biker route, especially on weekends. That's the Hawkesbury River at right of photo. That sign in the background on the right-hand side is in the next ride image.





**Image 44** - Spencer – the Hub of The Universe!







Image 45 - The General Store in Spencer.





**Image 46** - What a difference a few months makes. Only last Christmas the Fire Danger Rating was extreme around here with much of south-east Australia experiencing the worst drought and bushfires in living memory.







**Image 47** - The Hawkesbury River is quite wide around here and water levels are up with good recent rainfalls.

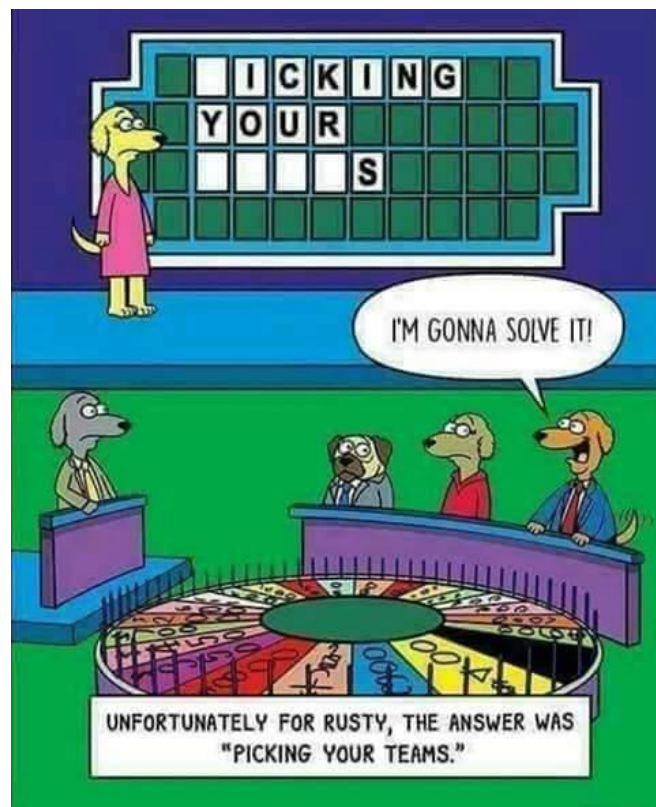
The Hawkesbury River and its associated main tributary, the Nepean River, almost encircles the metropolitan region of Sydney.

The Hawkesbury River is navigable from Windsor to the sea. There are no dams or locks on the river, and the effects of the tide are felt as far upstream as Windsor.





**Image 48** - We have time for some happy-snaps and here we see Kelly with her Fat Boy Lo motorcycle.







**Image 49** - Inseparable riding companions are Tarzan (Steve) with wife Jane.



Why dogs shouldn't  
play poker.



**Image 50** - Alyce, daughter of Dave (riding Shot Gun today) on her brand new 2020 model Harley-Davidson Street Glide Special.







**Image 51** - Spencer looks like a lovely little town.

We depart Spencer at around 11.30 am for the run into Wyong 55 kms away.

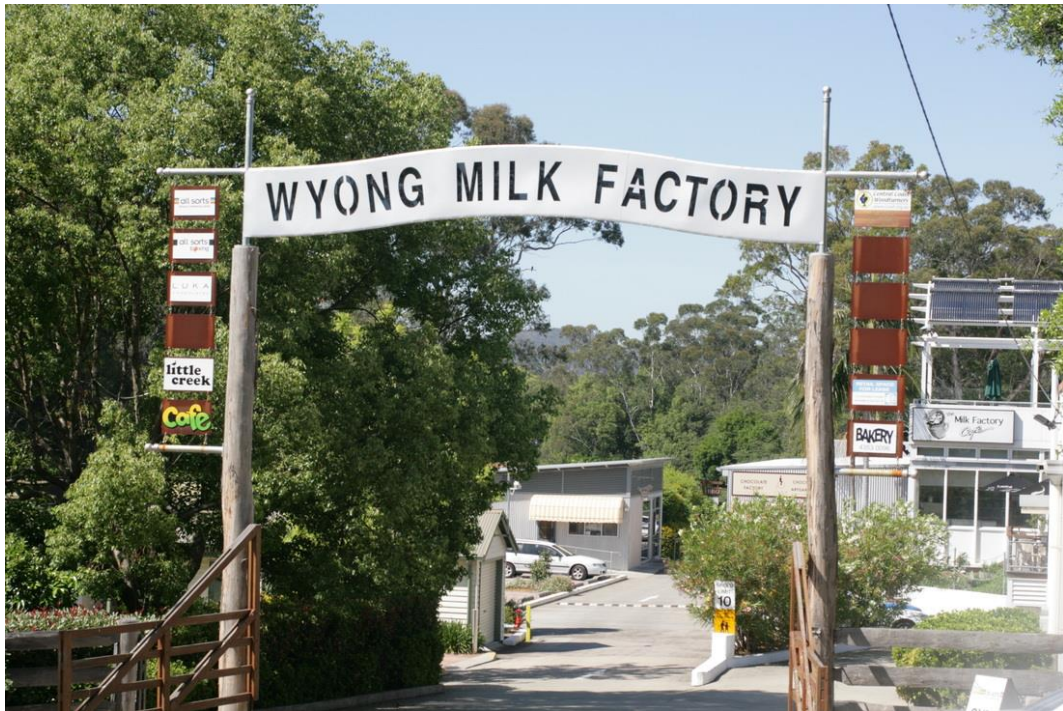




Image 52 - We arrive at our final destination at around 12.15 pm, the Wyong Milk Factory. Again our Road Captains planned a fantastic ride for us today. Well done guys!







**Image 53 (downloaded)** - The Wyong Milk Factory situated at 141 Alison Road at Wyong, was established in 1906 but is now retired. Its premises have been lovingly restored and salvaged and presently hosts a variety of outlets including cheese, chocolate, gelato and candle shops as well as a café, tavern, gymnasium and more. There is something there for the whole family to enjoy.





**Image 54** - We have a booking for lunch at the Milk Factory Tavern and they kindly reserved a parking area for our exclusive use.







**Image 55** - Craig and Barbara are obviously very pleased with their ride experience today.





**Image 56** - We head straight for the Tavern where we are booked for lunch.



When your human says,  
"Who's a good boy?"

And you know you're a good boy.



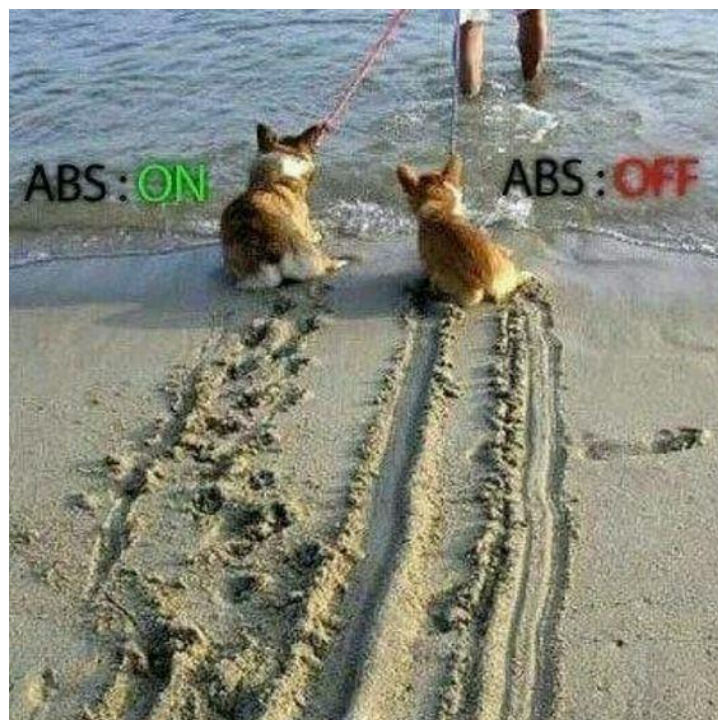


**Image 57** - This is inside the tavern entrance where you find a well-stocked bar.





**Image 58** - Sign of the times – Covid Marshal's roam the tavern constantly checking on numbers of patrons and social distancing requirements. Everything seemed to be in order today.







**Image 59** - The Tavern seating area is quite nice and spacious.





**Image 60** - Social distancing 1-0-1. Those sitting together are all closely related, all in accordance with health guidelines.

From left we see John, Nigel. Lillian, Dick and Jen.







**Image 61** - Not scary bikers but really nice people. From left we see Linny, Smiddy, Michael, Barbara, Craig, Kellie and another Craig.





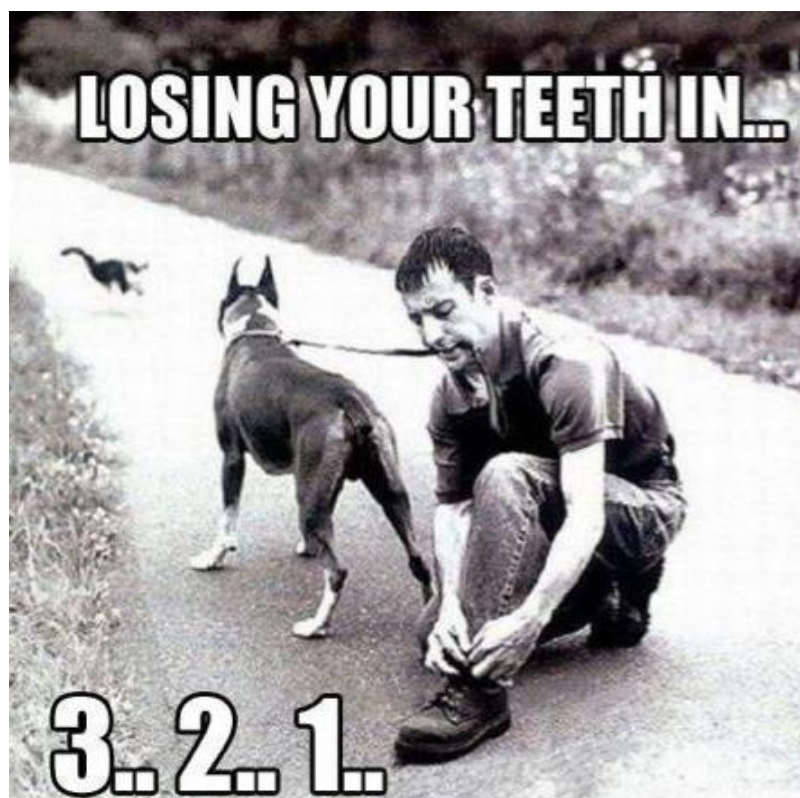
**Image 62** - We spread ourselves over many tables always being conscience of social distancing requirements.







**Image 63** - Social distancing is easy to comply with when you have such big, wide tables! Here we see Tarzan and Jane awaiting their lunch order.





**Image 64** - After lunch we have a quick look around to check out the other retail outlets found here. This is the Little Creek Cheese Shop which we could not enter due to restrictions on the number of people allowed inside at any given time. That's the 'new norm' we have to live with.

Here we see Nigel with Lillian.







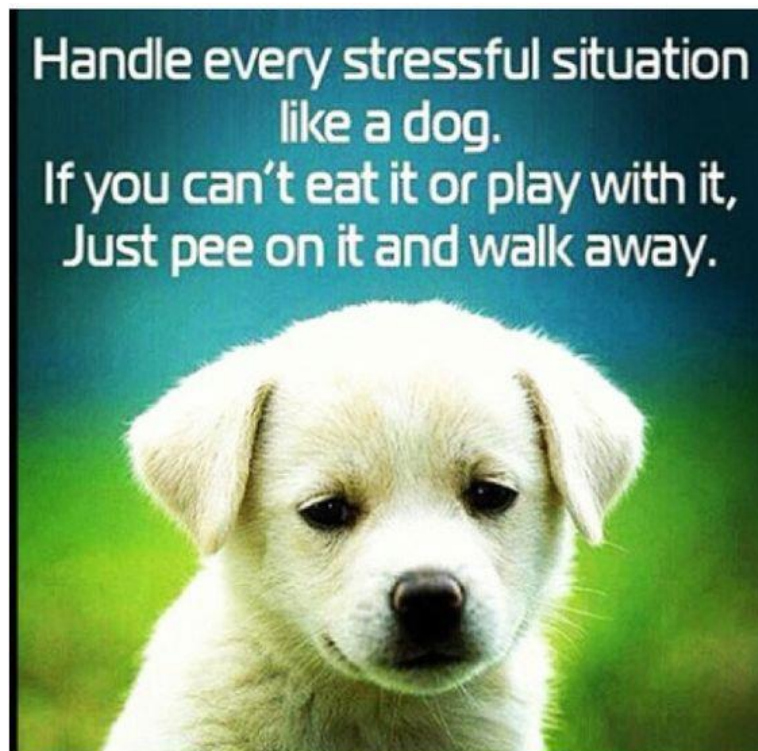
**Image 65** - We then moved on to the Chocolate Factory which we could enter as others were leaving. Again, Nigel and Lillian pose for happy-snaps.





**Image 66** - Inside the Chocolate Factory we see a range of artisan-made chocolates. I went for the dark chocolate covered coffee beans. Noiiiice!

After lunch we were all free to go home individually, and after a bit of browsing around I left at about 1.30 pm meaning I was home by 3.00 pm with enough time left to do home stuff! That's quality time management!



Ride Safe,

Sergio, Editor / Historian, NSW Chapter