14/8/08

CMC Review of Motorbike Noise Laws G.P.O. Box 3123 BRISBANE 4001

ATTENTION: NADINE SEIFERT

RE; MOTORBIKE NOISE

Yes I do – myself. I live next door to the property
ride with their high powered and very noisy bikes.
So yes I would like to put in a complaint and have my say.

My family & I have lived here for 30 years. We purchased the amount of 140 acres which was then known as but the name has since been changed to

My mother sold 30 odd acres to approx 20 years ago which they now use a transportation pit (rubbish dump) So the rubbish dump is all that stands between us and all the noise from the motor bikes.

I realize that everyone is allowed a hobby and allowed some noise — but this is ridiculous. All day — most days from early till late, especially all weekend when my family and I would like some quiet time we have to put up with the continuous blare of those bikes. Of course it is much worse on a windy day and then the dust. Especially since the dry weather the ground is just like powder and with the bikes stirring it up all day — it does wonders for the clothes on the clothes line.

I came to live in the bush for peace and quiet not to listen to the noise of high powered motorbikes.

It's a worry that the number of riders keep growing and growing.

I have complained a number of times to both the Police and the

Police on days when the noise is really bad, but by the time the police arrive all the bike riders have disappeared. It's like they have prior knowledge that the police are on their way and they all leave and then come back early the next day. So if they are not doing anything wrong why do they run away like mongrel dogs and not face up to the police and talk about it.

I even went to Council with one of my neighbours to talk to the Mayor and other official officers about the problem, but nothing was solved. It doesn't seem to be a

problem to them as they don't live near it and don't have to put up with the continual noise and dust.

I would really appreciate you looking into this problem and seeing what can be done to eleviate it.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and listen to my thoughts

Yours faithfully

To: Date: Nadine Seifert

Subject:

5/09/2008 1:19pm XXXX Nerang 4211

Council yesterday erected barriers along Teasdale Drive in an effort to stop trail bike riders destroying natural habitat along Nerang River banks and to stop noise irritating residents. Unfortunately the bikes have arrived a short while (12 noon) ago, been lifted over the barriers and are proceeding as normal. Seems a task now for your Trail bike police to become involved, council having made a genuine effort to stop this.

Regards, Teasdale Residents.

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To:

Nadine Seifert

Date:

16/09/2008 10:59am

Subject:

45 Y/O Dirt Bike Rider Getting Fatter By the Day.

Nadine.

Nice talking to you this morning.

Just letting you know that dirt bike riders are not all teenage hoons.

Dirt bikes for me are a major part of my life. The only sport I have ever been passionate about and reasonably good at is off road riding. Until recently I was able to ride for 3 hrs once a week with a group of business men believe it or not. These guys are in their thirties and forties. They range from insurance brokers to property developers even a cosmetic surgeon. But it has become impossible because of more and more areas being restricted to us. As a result in the past couple of months I have put on quite a bit of weight. "Not happy Jan".

Years ago I had a friend who was representing Australia at the International Six Day Enduro. The I.A.S. in Canberra wanted to test these guys fitness as the sport had never been classified from their point of view. To cut a long story short, the I.A.S. were completely amazed by the fitness of these guys. Comparisons were made with Olympic level rowers and cyclists. Needless to say that it is a great form of exercise that I no longer get the chance to conveniently enjoy.

I say conveniently because although there are areas to ride like Black Duck, Mt Mee etc, the distances involved make these places expensive and whole days have to be put aside because of the travel time required. The other problem with the State Forests that are legal to ride in is that so many people are riding there that they are becoming dangerous. A head on collision between two bikes is not pretty.

From my point of view something has to be done to put some balance back into our sport. I don't know of any other sport where the misperception of the participants is so high. As a result we often feel victomised. I heard on the radio recently that after a bush fire was started in our area that there was a teenage trail bike rider seen in the area. The thinking being that of course dirt bike riders are teenage and irresponsible pyromaniacs. Why is it ok for the State Government to legalise prostitution but make riding a registered bike in some areas an offence. A better approach has to be to manage areas so that we can ride safely, quietly and conveniently. Most of the guys I know would happily pay an annual levy for instance which could go towards maintenance of riding areas and insurance etc. This would also give authorities an idea of who is participating in the sport.

My three sons are saving for their first mini bike right now. It would be much easier for them to save up for a Nintendo. It doesn't take a social expert in childhood behaviour and developement to work out which option would have the most benefits for my boys. Is there a future for them in this sport or should they divert the funds into Nintendo?

It would be appreciated if my families views regarding our sport are considered when the review is conducted.

Regards,

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To: Nadine Seifert

Date: 22/09/2008 4:35pm

Subject: Off-road motorbike review

We are a family of three that participate in recreational trail bike riding and it is thanks to people and clubs like Ray Buchannan, Dalby Moto and RTCB club etc. who organise legal rides. The downside to attending a legal ride, that the whole family can partake-in, is the distances we need to travel from Brisbane (sometimes 3 hours) to be able to ride once a month (we would ride more often if an organised ride were available and closer to Brisbane). The upside is that many communities and school P&C's benefit from the organised rides.

Although a few State Forests can be ridden in, not the whole family can partake as the riders need to hold full driver/rider licences (not learner license) and bikes need to be road registered so this is not an option. A requirement to ride the Dalby Moto and Ray Buchannan rides is to hold Motorcycling Australia licence, as this provides insurance cover for riders and property owners, which is great, as the risk of litigation is one of the reasons why property owners were reluctant to have these events on their property.

Recreational trail bike riding is totally different to other riding styles in that the trail bikes are quieter but we do have MX bikes joining us at these riding events and it is not a competitive sport. The noise is not confined to one area at the same time such as at an MX track as the loops we ride on range from 15km's to 70km's.

We enjoy our recreation immensely and it is unfortunate that negative aspects always overshadow positives. The organisers mentioned above have a shortage of private properties to use for legal rides. Off road bike sales are high and the government benefits from stamp duty, GST and petrol taxes and it would be great if the government contributed by providing properties for our activity so that organizations can arrange legal rides on the government properties to curb illegal, uncontrolled riding.

I also find it unfair that the milestone for obtaining a motorcycle licence is moving all the time, as my son who has ridden off-road motorcycles from the age of 3 and has held Motorcycling Australia licences for many years, can only obtain a Qld motorcycle learner licence once he has turned 18 and a year of Red P Plates has passed. To be able to ride in the State Forests he needs a full Qld motorcycle driver licence even though he has 14.5 years of motorcycle riding under his belt. Maybe we could have an "off-road motorcycle licence class" to ride in State Forests, as he will not be riding on the road, only off road.

Regards XXXX Family