

Editor's Report



Hello Folks,

Welcome to the next issue of Harbour HOG. This month I'm excited about the article below, and the request for our involvement in the new *STONE* movie. Those of you who were at the September meeting will have heard Richard speak about this project. If you haven't seen the original film, rent or buy it as it really is a piece of Australian bike folklore.

The weather has been kinder recently, and we have had some fantastic rides in the winter sunshine. Thanks to all the members who have sent in photos and stories of these rides.

Talking about rides, Little John has done us proud again with his report on the European HOG rally. Participating in a HOG rally is always fun, and even more so when it is in a foreign country.

As usual I'd like to thank the contributors to this issue. Please keep those stories coming. We are a big Chapter with a lot of members and all of you have a Harbour HOG story in there somewhere!!!

Cheers

Andy Draper, Editor

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From the Desk of Richard Cartwright, Writer/Producer *STONE* - taking the trip again.

Dear Sydney HOG Chapter members,

It is indeed a privilege and an honour to be invited by Andy Draper to write for your newsletter. I would like to give you some insight to what is happening with Stone, background on the new custodians and invite members to be part of the new project.

As the Writer and Producer of the new Stone, I am extremely mindful and respectful of the importance this film holds in the bike-riding community. It wasn't just a film, but a cinematic road map to the counter culture that existed in the early 70s and still resonates with power and passion today.

Sandy Harbutt's Stone is an iconic, classic piece of cinema and to quote Quentin Tarantino, "my favourite biker film". In 2009 at the Cannes Film Festival, I had the great honour of meeting the famed filmmaker and we discussed Stone. I was able to give him as a gift an original 35mm print of the film and to say he was like a kid in a candy store with eyes wide and a smile like a split watermelon, is evidence of the reverence Tarantino holds of Stone and Sandy Harbutt, who he calls 'a visionary'.

I told Quentin we are not 'remaking' Stone and he enthusiastically replied "Good. Stone's too good to remake." We are paying homage, but not mimicking. A re-invention, taking elements and some characters of the original, bringing it into the 21st century, transposing the sub text of the Vietnam conflict, where young men returned from battle, ostracised by society and formed their own society, with their own code, their own rules, in the new Stone we have a continuation of this theme with the backdrop of Afghanistan and just like the original, which included participation from members of the public in the 'funeral ride down the F3' there will be an opportunity to appear in the film and more details to come once production gets underway, which we expect late in 2010, or early in 2011.

Writing the script has been a privilege and at present, the draft is in the hands of my very experienced co-producer, David Blake. David is a film industry veteran, from the UK, who has spent more than 30 years making films and working in Hollywood. Notably he was part of the producing team of the 1978 Academy Award winning film *The Deer Hunter*, was a producer on the late Denis Hopper's 1973 *Mad Dog Morgan* and produced a definitive documentary on Harley Davidson, so he's no stranger to Harley himself. He also has a who's who of film industry connections and is passionate and committed to making Stone.

My own experience is 30 years in the entertainment industry: the music recording industry specifically - so Stone will have a killer rock 'n roll soundtrack -both the music and film industry are driven by ego and money and large amounts of both in equal quantity, so the transition from music executive to film executive per se, is not too unfamiliar. My Stone Movie Limited production company partners Jeff Beaumont, Glen Whiteman and Richard Ochojski, all have extensive corporate, financial and business backgrounds to add strength to the creative team. I am also a published author and lecturer of entertainment business management studies at university.

It's an exciting time for the original Stone, having recently had its debut New York screening to a sell out crowd at the Lincoln Centre. We are set for a Hollywood debut on September 12, where I hope to meet up with Quentin Tarantino and continue our dialogue on the project. Post the LA screening, plans are in place to put Stone back into the cinema's on a global scale including a re-release within Australia, so not only those who know and love this film can enjoy it again on the big silver screen, but a new audience can discover the biker classic.

I invite you all to be part of this resurgence of this timeless piece of Australian cinema and you can participate from an investment perspective, whereby you can have a real piece of Stone. Details at www.assob.com.au/sto

On Tuesday August 24 at 6pm at our Sydney HQ, we held a Stone presentation, maybe some of you were there.

Support from clubs and organisations like yourselves is imperative to our plans and the integration of our marketing of Stone, both the original and the new Stone. So it is indeed a benefit to be able to reach out to all members via this channel and I appreciate the opportunity.

In 1974, many took the trip. In 2010 and beyond, those and many more will be taking the trip again. It's all good.

Ride on...

**Richard Cartwright
Writer / Producer
Stone - take the trip again.**

