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Reference Woods Point and Surrounds

Hello all

Another Anzac day done.

I was looking through accident statistics for Woods Point over the past ten years for a project I have on the go and I noticed something interesting.

Of the one hundred and fourteen injury collisions reported since 2008, seventy four of them involved motor cycles. Most of these occurred on mountain tracks all over the Woods Point Response Zone in all kinds of weather. Most riders crashing into downed trees, washaways or off the side into trees. This is only the reported incidents mind you and does not count non-injury crashes.

I also observed that the majority of these accidents have been reported to police sometime after the date of the collision to police stations other than Woods Point, with no police or ambulance attending the scene. Quite a few of these collision injury's included broken bones, legs, arms, collar bones etc.

I would like to reiterate to all motor cycle riders that under the Road Safety Act

Section 61 Duty of driver etc. of motor vehicle if accident occurs

(1) If owing to the presence of a motor vehicle an accident occurs whereby any person is injured or any property (including any animal) is damaged or destroyed, the driver of the motor vehicle—

(e) if any person is injured and no member of the police force is present at the scene of the accident, must as soon as possible report in person full particulars of the accident at the police station that is most accessible from the scene of the accident if that station is open

If you get into trouble use Channel 7, 8 or 5 (40 for trucks) on your UHF Radio or 000 from the phone, someone will hear you.
K.J. DWIGHT BM VA Leading Senior Constable 26884 OIC Woods Point Police Station



and, if it is not open, at the next most accessible station;

The fact that the Track you are riding on is a bush or mountain track does not negate this duty. The majority of named tracks in the Woods Point response Zone are Gazetted Roads, however Section 61 does not mention any particular Highway or road and these accidents can occur anywhere as long as motor vehicle is involved.

I understand the difficulties of reporting to the nearest Police Station when riding in this area however most riders will have to go past the closest police to get home.

My other problem with taking yourself home without medical intervention is the danger you pose to yourself and other roads users on the way. If your mates drive you home without at least getting you to medical help they are also leaving themselves open to some serious issues.

Everyone of you who do not report their collision as soon as is possible when injured to police is liable to a charge under this section. I will be asking our IT techs to flag every incident that occurs in my patch, wherever it is reported to let me know of the details, I will do my best to follow each one up and ask you the question.

It is up to all riders to check their competence to ride on the mountain tracks and to take care of each other, obey the rules, ride safely and concentrate on what you are doing in the bush. Make sure the bike is registered and roadworthy for the task.

Ken

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