

# HOG

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2016  
Australia &  
New Zealand  
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**DANIELLE CORMACK**

This star of the small screen  
wields a mean spanner

**8-VALVE RACER**

A 1927 classic racing Harley®  
shows up in an Aussie barn

**TOURING TURKEY**

The roads less travelled in one  
of Europe's true treasures

FOR THE HARLEY-DAVIDSON® ENTHUSIAST SINCE 1916

## KINGS OF THE GONG

Having a real blast around  
Wollongong on the playful  
**2016 Roadster** and  
**Low Rider™ S**



NEW SPRING FASHION | BLING FOR YOUR BAGGER | GROUP RIDING SIGNALS



A \$2000 cheque gets presented as long-serving "Rab" Smith looks on

## Ride for Very Special Kids

MEMBERS OF H.O.G. Dandenong Chapter turned out in strength to support the Very Special Kids (VSK) foundation on Sunday 12 February.

The foundation cares for children with life-threatening conditions by providing a children's hospice and professional family support services.

VSK help more than 900 families across Victoria with ongoing support, from their child's initial diagnosis, through to recovery or bereavement.

This year marked the 20th year of Chapter support for VSK, with 65 members turning out on 51 Harley-Davidson motorcycles and several others in classic cars. It also marked the retirement of "Rab" Smith who has lead the VSK ride since 2001 – a huge effort from a man-mountain.

Everyone gets to check out the assembled vehicles, talk to the owners, ask questions and get their photo taken on, or in, their favourites before the thank you rides are organised. Some of the smaller kids or those with severe physical disabilities are still catered for by riding in sidecars or the classic cars.

This is followed by an open forum where kids, parents and VSK staff get the opportunity to share heart-felt stories of what the camp has meant to them. It turns out that the biker dress-code of dark glasses can also hide a few leaked emotions.

At the end of the day the DanHOG Director, Rod Gadsden, presented a \$2,000 donation to the VSK Camp Leader – Matt Devine.

To witness the excited laughs, smiles, joy and appreciation of these very special kids is heart-warming for all involved. Long may it continue.

## Big crowds at Brighter Days

**Impressive turnout for a weekend of family entertainment**

WITH AN ESTIMATED crowd approaching 30,000 for the weekend, the 2016 Brighter Days Festival was both brighter and most definitely bigger than ever!

Set in the scenic Victorian township of Bright, nestling at the bottom of Australia's premier ski fields of Mt Hotham and Falls Creek, the event was held over the Labour Day weekend.

Sublime riding roads combined with some superb musical entertainment, a collection of stunning collectable cars and hot rods, plus a bucket-load of Harley motorcycles made the perfect recipe for a great family weekend.

The Brighter Days Foundation was formed in 2012 by a bunch of keen bike and car enthusiasts who wanted to make a difference. As such, they offer support to two charities; DebRA Australia and SUDC (Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood).

They made it their mission to create a bike, car and music event that catered for families.

With sponsorship from Harley-Davidson Australia, Harley-Davidson Asia Pacific and Harley-Davidson Financial Services, plus ongoing exposure from the ever-

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popular H-Dtv, the momentum has been astonishing. The massive turnout for 2016 is testament to the support and enthusiasm of everyone involved.

What is even more astonishing is the fact that there are so many people in one place, dancing, riding

and partying in among families and large groups that don't know each other, and all getting along without a sniff of trouble.

With all entertainment at the festival provided for free and no pressure on anyone to donate, the organisers were very proud to be able to present cheques worth \$210,000 to their chosen charities. These were presented at the Brighter Days Festival Thank You Party held at the St Andrew's Hotel – a great bike and car pub.

If you were there, good on you, and if you weren't then make sure that you get there next year!

Big thanks must go to Adam Wright, Nigel Keough, Marc McAllister, Kim Williams, Marcus Wilson and the whole Harley-Davidson team plus the boys at Harley Central.

The 2016 event was a huge success – next year will be bigger, better and naturally brighter.

