



THE AUSSIE & THE INDIAN TELLS...

Two women from a world apart **WORDS/PHOTOS** CHRIS KEEBLE

You may have read stories from Chris in these pages before. She rides an Indian Chief Vintage and has inspired many women to get out there and ride. Here she tells the stories of two motorcycling women from worlds apart. AMM

THE GEMINI IN JO – IT’S DOUBLE TIME!

JOANNE NIX LIVES a double life. Well there seems to be two of everything and after speaking to Joanne, I think her life and work balance seems to cope with that very nicely.



She started riding in 2008. With a high level executive position with Woolworths corporate in Sydney, Joanne leads her other life down on the south coast of NSW. This two-way street has, of course, two motorbikes. A 2009 Bonneville Black 865cc and a Triumph Tiger 1050SE in Diablo Red.

A triumphant achievement (excuse the pun) for this Gemini double life lady!

Sharing the love with two bikes is not a problem for Joanne, but she explains that at this stage she has only modified the Bonneville. She has added some sweet Staintune pipes that sound terrific, a King Queen seat for comfort, a steering damper, some racks for leather pannier bags. The Tiger has not been played with...yet...

Joanne started riding with a few guys from work who were very patient and as she explains “Put up with my slow

speed until I could learn to corner fast”. Now she regularly rides with several groups and joins in as many charity rides as she can.

Like many ladies, the love affair with motorbikes often started as a pillion way back when she realised it’s not the position you want to be in. A constant desire to improve her riding skills, which was behind the purchase of the Triumph Tiger, was to learn a new style of riding on a sports adventure bike.

Joanne says: There is always an underlying feeling of rebelliousness. I have conquered a male dominated pastime, one that my mother doesn't approve of and it is not what people expect of a me as a woman, especially a corporate executive!”

She urges all women to get out there and no matter what, jump in and find a way of facing any fears. To conquer her fear of road conditions in a city she would get up at 4am a few times a week and return by 7am. All this for 6 months to practise dealing with traffic lights, roundabouts, stop signs and the odd car. Plus finding a big empty car park and practising over and over.

For Joanne, the bucket list of places to ride are mainly in Australia, especially Tassie. It’s a big country and Joanne wants to discover it all. Although there

