

Name: Doug Browes deceased September 13, 1988

Born: December 18, 1932

Voted in to the WCMC 1967 Rejoined in 1978

First Bike : 1947 Indian Chief

Current Bike: 1986 BMW K100

Bikes owned: Several Indians (Scouts, Chiefs, Papoose, Arrow, BMW R75 and a BMW K100

Doug on his first Indian



I became interested in motorcycles when I was about 15. mechanical things interested me and I played with airplanes a bit but my true love became Indian Motorcycles.



Doug on his Indian in 1970

I joined the club in 1967 when I was transferred to Welland for my job on the railroad. I was the surveyor in charge of constructing the Tunnel for the trains under the new canal. Due to my surveying skills I volunteered to help lay out the track.

I volunteered to help run a checkpoint on the Massasauga Enduro, checked in trials and lots of other projects around the club.

I was transferred to Northern Ontario (Capreol) and left the club for a while in the mid seventies and returned around 1978 and rejoined the club.



Doug on the BMW, Crash on his Harley and Farmer on the Venture Ride around during intermission with the Motor Maids

I did a lot of long distance riding with fellow club members. Dave Brand introduced us to a campground in Suches Georgia and Mike Sullivan, Jack Lightfoot (my good friend) Al Fair and Myself went down with Dave and roughed in in a 60 ft. trailer. Another trip to Daytona with Jack, Al and Al's friend Tracy Knowles. Doug talked the police in Georgia into putting Jack over the hood of the police car for a photo opportunity and it was a great picture.



Welland County
invades Georgia

Welland County
Clubhouse



Doing a few BMW repairs
in the living room



Doug on his BMW R100 RT

Memories from Al Fair:

Doug was a great guy. I first met him in my hunt for Indian motorcycle parts and we became fast friends. He was always joking around and making everyone laugh. He loved to ride and we put many miles on together. We both lived near Hamilton and rode to the club every week. We did trips to Florida, Georgia, the Blue Ridge Parkway several times and various other rides and rallies. I am sure we would have ridden many more miles if he was still with us.



Doug (front) making light of the weather on the Blue Ridge Parkway 1985

Memories from Dave Thomas:

I went with Doug to **Escanoba, Michigan for BMW National Rally**. Doug on his new, or nearly new, R100 RT and I on my 1970 R75/5..

It was a hot day. We pulled into a little town and picked up 1/2 dozen cold beer then went into a vacant fair grounds for a rest and a beer. We parked the bikes on their side stands in the shade of a building then cracked open a beer each and sat on the ground leaning against the building staring at the bikes.

Suddenly it dawned on us Doug's bike is slowly leaning more as the side stand sank into the ground. We scrambled to our feet, just getting to the bike in time to see it hit the ground.

Picking it up we saw the left side mirror had broke through the beautiful RT fairing.

Never a pleasant experience, Doug took like the long time rider he was and who had been there before.

Other memories:

I remember Doug as a guy who knew how to get things done. He never hesitated to beat the bushes to find what he needed to get the job done.

He was a great asset to the club from bringing in good new members. I believe he set up our original moto cross track featuring two big hills on our newly acquired land received from the Seaway in return for some feet they trimmed off the back straight of our new race track for the Townline Tunnel Approaches.

Doug arranged for all the dirt to be brought from the Seaway By-pass construction to build the hills.

Doug was killed in a motorcycle accident by a drunk driver while on his way to a Canadian Vintage Motorcycle meeting. He was just about to retire from CN railway after working there for many years.