

## **SAMRATS Ride Report**

Sun 22 January 2012

Ride Leader Rohan, Tail End Charlie Darren

The day promised to be hot but at least the BOM predicted only 33 C in Clare and 36 C for Adelaide. As it turns out the heat was not too extreme and 10 riders enjoyed a great day of riding, rolling hills, farms, sheep, deer and more sheep with one out on the road!, but we did not run it over. The rabbits were out in the heat but luckily none came to grief under our wheels. I don't think any of us even ran over any lizards or snakes so we did not add to the road kill at all.

Several members contacted me as to our heat policy and it is my current understanding that our policy is to cancel the ride if the predicted temperature is 38 C or higher but at predicted 35, 36, 37 C it is up to the discretion of the ride captain for that day. Depending on the other conditions like wind and dryness it is possible that we may need to cancel rides at 35 C. On this ride it did not get above 36 and we stopped frequently, mainly due to the heat, to rest up a bit and drink plenty of fluids.

We headed north from Munno Para up the Barrier Highway to Tarlee for the first stop for morning tea, a rest and some fluids. On to Clare for lunch at the pub in the main street which has passable food and cold drinks and then on to Burra for a fuel stop and more cold drinks. Next the Morgan road from Burra until reaching Worlds End Road where we turned right and headed south with a free ride to Robertstown. A quick rest and muster up at Robertstown and then to Eudunda, left onto the highway then a right turn off the road to Morgan a few kilometres out of town and to Truro for afternoon tea and more cold drinks.

The Burra to Robertstown and the Eudunda to Truro roads are great for motor cycling with little traffic, pretty good road surface and nice corners and dips. As we came south down these roads the cloud cover came over for part of the journey making a welcome cooling of the air. On reaching Truro for afternoon tea we still had 9 riders with one needing to hit the Stuart Highway to Adelaide to get home earlier. The next leg was to Nuriootpa, bypassing Tanunda and to Lyndoch and Williamstown. It was 4.30pm by then and we went our separate ways home with all of the riders except me living in the northern parts of Adelaide.

It was great to complete the ride even though it was a bit hot and the frequent stops made it a longer day than usual. Most of the riders on the day were SAMRATS regulars but we did have one new rider to welcome to our clan. The smaller ride days are nice in a way as in a smaller group it is easier to get to know people. My trip meter said just under 300 kilometers from Munno Parra to Williamstown which was a good achievement given the hot weather. Thanks to Rohan for leading and planning the ride and to Darren on the big M109 Boulevard for being tail end Charlie.

Ken King – SAMRATS Coordinator .