

## **Samrats ride report for Sun 15 April 2012**

Ride Captain Ian / Tail end Charlie Ken

Swan Reach is usually a popular ride and with the autumn weather being near perfect 22 bikes with 3 pillions set off from Civic Park. We had 3 new riders which is great to see and the rest were our likeable and motley crew of regular die hards.

Ian led the way along our usual route to Swan Reach via Gumeracha, Birdwood, Mount Pleasant to Eden Valley. Here we turned right to Keyneton where we had a muster up and Ian made it a free ride to Sedan for those who wanted to blow out any cob webs.

A quick rest at Sedan and then a left turn and down to the Swan Reach ferry, crossing the river and ready for lunch in the pub overlooking the water. The weather so far was warm to hot and more like a typical summer's day than autumn. There was virtually no wind and very few cars on the roads we travelled making a very relaxed and pleasant ride. Even on the free ride section every one seemed to be taking it easy in a laid back way and going with the 'we have nothing to prove to anybody vibe'. We make up a bunch of motor cycle riders on all different types of bikes enjoying a simple and honest ride day with out any BS pretensions. Only 2 riders had turned off along the way so we took up a few tables and enjoyed the good food, river views and pleasant company. The afternoon ride took us along the eastern side of the river where the Murray could be seen to have filled up almost all it's lagoons even before the main flood waters have arrived from the eastern states.

We crossed back on the Walker Flat ferry and fueled up at the general store. Then through the Angus Valley turning left at Sanderson and meeting the Mannum Rd outside Palmer. Then riding back along one of our favorite roads around the boulders to Tungkillo, Mount Torrens and then to Lobethal for afternoon tea. A few riders turned off along the way to head for home leaving about 12 or more of us for afternoon tea. In the morning one rider seemed to get caught up with another club ride and went further north to Angaston before turning right onto the Sedan Road but no harm done as he caught us up at Sedan. Otherwise it was a day thankfully free of any difficulties or incidents. The weather had stayed brilliant and hot for all the afternoon with only a gentle wind which cooled us off a bit rather than blowing us off the road like it sometimes does.

Coffee, cakes and cool drinks and we were on our separate ways home after another relaxing days ride with the most agreeable Samrats. The ride was about 250kms in total with a bit more for some of us to get to the starting point and back home again. Thanks to Ian for planning and leading the ride and to all the riders who turned out on the day.

Ken King Samrats Coordinator