

Samrats ride report for Sun 24 June 2012

Ride Leader Jim / Tail end Charlie Les

Mount Barker was sunny when we gathered in the car park but by the time we were ready to go at 10am a light drizzle had commenced making it necessary to break out the wet weather gear. It only lightly rained for the first half hour of the ride and then fined up to be mostly sunny for the rest of the ride.

15 bikes and 1 pillion set out following Jim out of Mount Barker heading towards the only blue sky to the east. Les Dicker volunteered to go tail end Charlie as he had not done the job for a while. Les has MRA membership number 6 and is a Samrats veteran and former ride captain, having been riding with Samrats for over 25 years since Samrats inception in the mid 1980's.

We took the Old Princes Highway to Nairne and Kanmantoo and turned off to Callington. The roads were wet and in some places quite mossy and a few of us had the back wheel slipping out making for a slower ride than usual to keep it safe. Once we crossed over the freeway the sun came out and the roads were dryer making for a bit more confidence. At Woodchester we turned to Langhorne Creek, then a right turn off the Wellington Rd to Milang for morning tea. The day had warmed up and stayed sunny and after some good bakery food and good company we were off following the lakes edge to Clayton, Finniss and Currency Creek.

The recent local rains had not had a chance to fully run off and the water was over the road in a couple of places giving the trail bikes some fun and wetting the rest of us. The water was not very deep and no mishaps occurred. As predictable the back way to Goolwa via the Finniss Creek ford was closed with strong flowing water over the causeway so we picked up the main Strath to Goolwa Rd and had lunch at the Goolwa bakery.

For the afternoon ride we followed Jim back up the main road towards Strath and then a left before Currency Creek which is a great road with winding corners rising up to meet the Victor to Mount Compass Road. After Mount Compass we went via Nangkita road to Bull Creek Road and then onto our usual stop on southern rides for afternoon tea at Meadows. The clouds had come back and some rain had recently fallen as the roads were wet again making Bull Creek road more slippery than usual but we all made it safely to the end of the ride.

I think all 15 bikes came to the end of the ride at Meadows and most stopped for a coffee and chat. A nice shorter winter ride of about 200klms and we pulled into Meadows about 2pm. By 2.30pm the clouds were looking dark and felt like the big rain was on again. We made a run for home and hopefully most riders made it back home before the heavens bucketed down again in the later afternoon. Thanks to Jim for leading the ride, to Les who did a sterling tail end Charlie job and all the riders on the day who make the club such an enjoyable riding and socializing experience.

Ken King Samrats Coordinator