

Samrats ride report for the Ridden On Ride

Sun 17 Feb 2013

This Ridden on Ride day turned out to be hotter than usual with a forecast 37C and this may have contributed to the reduction in the number of riders who participated. A few years ago we had 200 riders, then 150, then 100, last year 70 and this year 60. I have talked to other ride group captains / coordinators and it seems to me that the motor cyclists in Adelaide who like riding in club runs are happy to come along to our normal club runs but are generally reluctant to go on interclub runs, theme rides, charity rides, money raising rides etc. This seems to be a trend across most of the clubs with low turn outs for these types of rides.

As a group motor cyclists are fiercely independent individuals who don't like being told what to do and are becoming more spontaneous in going on rides at the spur of the moment rather than attending organized group rides. This trend seems to be across all of modern society as numbers are dramatically falling in all community groups such as volunteer organizations and political parties and it is mainly older people who are still joiners and participators in community groups.

One solution to get the Ridden-On Ride numbers up again for all us riders who do like the feeling of belonging to a group is to move the Ridden-On Ride later in the year where we can avoid the heat. Even though the numbers of riders were down we still had a great day and the heat was not too extreme down south.



We left Victoria Hotel and went straight down the Main South Rd which is a good ride for a main road. Once you are past Sellicks Beach the road is a nice mix of curves and the scenery is world class which I think is taken for granted by a lot of South Australians.



Second Valley is a beautiful place and we went down the jetty and took the south path around to a nice spot with a shady rocky over hang. The sound of the ocean lapping on the rocks was a very peaceful place to remember our loved ones who are no longer with us.



Simon gave a very moving address and helped put us in an emotional space to remember and honor our friends and family who have ridden on to a better place. He also reminded us all of our own mortality and how we can be happier and closer to our spiritual selves if we live each day to the fullest.

The day was getting pretty hot by 1pm so I decided that we would not have the usual organized afternoon run to Victor Harbor for lunch. A few riders pushed on and did an afternoon ride while most of us headed for home and a cool drink in air conditioned comfort. The Ridden-On Ride is a very worthwhile event on our annual calendar which we intend to continue on into the future.

Ken King, Samrats Coordinator