

## **Samrats ride report for Sun 31 March 2013**

Ride Leader Ian / Tail end Charlie Michael

It was the Easter weekend so probably a lot of people were doing the family thing or had gone away for the Easter break but we still had 10 riders and 1 pillion turn up for an Easter Sunday mystery ride. Ian had more of an idea in mind as to where to ride to than I did so he did the safety talk and led us up Gorge Rd to Cudlee Creek where we had our first rest stop.

There was only one other motorcyclist there which is pretty unusual as it is normally packed out by 10.30am on a normal Sunday. The weather was also threatening to rain but so far we had only a few spots coming up Gorge Rd but the damp probably kept a lot of riders off the road as well as it being a holiday period.

On average it is a fair comment that almost all the roads in the Adelaide region are getting worse and Gorge Rd is no exception. The road surface on some of the corners is broken up making for a reduction in traction which is especially suspect when accelerating out of the corner.

After our quick rest stop we were off to Lobethal, then Mount Torrens, Tungkillo and Palmer all great roads for the Motorcycle. We had a muster up and decided to go to the Sedan pub for lunch as they usually have a barbeque at Sunday lunch. We rode towards Mannum and then 5kms out turned left onto the Sedan road. 45 kms later we arrived at Sedan and luckily they were just starting the barbie at about 11.45 am and they did have enough supplies to feed us the usual steak sandwiches, hamburgers, sausage sandwiches and salads. The sun came out for a while and warmed us up enough for T shirts and we had a laid back, relaxed lunch with the friendly locals who always play some loud rock music and on this Sunday it was the AC DC 'Back in Black' album which was great especially if you are a fan.

We eventually left to transverse up the Sedan Hill to Keyneton and going up the hill is probably more fun than going down. A rain belt was moving north east across our path but we only got the side of it though the temperature drop reminded us that winter is on the way. We only got a little wet as we went through Eden Valley and Mount Pleasant and continued on to Birdwood where we stopped to don our wet weather gear. It was 2pm and we had done about 170 kms and as the temperature was dropping and the rain belts still coming over we called it an early day and made our way home. Some of us rode as a group back to Adelaide via Charlestown, Woodside and back to the freeway where we turned off to our respective suburbs.

It is good to have some shorter rides leaving time at the end of the day for other things. This was a great ride day with good route, reasonable weather, little wind to contend with and good company. It was a mystery to both Ian and I as to where we were going to but Sedan turned out to be an excellent destination for lunch. An enjoyable and safe ride day was had by all. Thanks to all the riders who came out on the drizzling day and especially to Ian for leading the ride to a Mystery destination and to Michael who did the great tail end Charlie job that he always does.

Ken King Samrats Coordinator