

## **Samrats ride report for Sun 14 April 2013**

Ride Leader Ian / Tail end Charlie Ken

13 riders and 1 pillion turned up at the Civic Park Modbury meeting place for the once a year Samrats run to Swan Reach. Even though this was a much lower attendance than usual for this run those of us who did attend had a good day out on the road. The weather was excellent with only a few clouds to the south of our destination no rain and it was warm to hot.

After the safety talk the group which included a couple of new riders took off up North East Rd through Inglewood to Gumeracha to Birdwood. This section is usually quite a good ride but on this day there were a lot of cars on the way to the Rock and Roll Festival at Birdwood which slowed us up considerably. When we reached the edge of Birdwood the traffic stopped altogether so we turned up Warren Rd and did a loop into Mount Pleasant which bypassed Birdwood. This was quite an enjoyable road to ride and only added about 30 kms to the journey.

Morning tea in Mount Pleasant was a good opportunity to get to know the new riders and enjoy the warm day which as it transpired did not rain at all despite the forecast. We then descended from the hills down the Angus Valley Way which is always a great ride especially so as we had left all the cars behind in Birdwood. At Sanderson we turned left onto the Sedan Rd, Ian made this section a free ride and we regrouped at Sedan for a rest stop.

The Sedan to Swan Reach is usually an uneventful leg of the journey but on this day one rider had the misfortune to blow a radiator hose about 8 kms out of Swan Reach. The coolant sprayed out every where like a fountain and the bike was going no where unless the cooling system could be refilled. We soon found a solution by riding into Swan Reach, getting the phone number of the local mechanic from the ferry operator, procuring a piece of rope which a friendly guy from the caravan park donated, riding back out to the stranded bike and then Ian who has a tow bar on his Suzuki Bandit slowly towed the bike and rider into town. The mechanic was phoned and various hoses were purchased and after a relaxed lunch at the pub over looking the river the boys went to work on the bike replacing the hose, once the right size was found and finding a water source (with permission from the owner) to fill up the cooling system and bleed out the air.

We ended up spending a couple of hours in Swan Reach including lunch and the repair time and we found the locals to be most friendly and helpful especially the caravan park guy who gave us the rope without which an expensive ride on a truck or trailer would have been necessary. We all worked as a team to get the bike fixed and up and running.

The day at Swan Reach turned out to be quite hot and humid so after a couple of hours there we were glad to be back in the saddle. As it was then much later than usual for our journey back to Adelaide we decided to take the simplest and quickest way back which was to retrace our steps to Mount Pleasant. We had a fuel stop in Sedan and by the time

we reached Mount Pleasant it was 4pm so we passed on the usual afternoon tea and made out separate way home.

An enjoyable and pleasant ride day was had by all and it was great to see how we were able combine our talents to help fix the bike, find the right tools etc.

Thanks to Ian for organizing and leading the ride and to all the riders who helped out with the towing and repair job.

Ken King Samrats Coordinator