

Samrats ride report for Sun 19 May 2012

Ride leader Andy / Ken, Tail end Charlie Gary

I was a bit surprised that given the mild autumn weather with no rain and a mostly sunny day that more riders didn't turn out for this ride. We had about 10 riders at the start but some had to depart to take care of pressing matters at home so we had 8 riders for the morning ride.

Andy volunteered to lead the Mystery Ride for the morning so we took off from Crafers up Summit Rd to Mount Lofty then Greenhill Rd, Wood Hill Rd and onto Lobethal Rd which we followed all the way to Lenswood where we turned left into Coldstore Rd. Thus far we had done a lot of good twisties and from here the roads were a bit straighter. Coldstore Rd to Fox Creek Rd and then left into Cudlee Creek Rd and past the Cudlee Creek Café which was crowded with motor cycle riders as usual. Next turn was right into Main Rd, around Chain of Ponds and left into Little Para Rd to Kersbrook for a quick rest and fuel stop. We then doubled back a few kilometers south towards Chain of Ponds and turned left into Checker Hill Rd which we continued on until we met up with Forreston Rd where we turned left and headed north again to Williamstown. Here we turned right in the centre of town along Mount Crawford Rd and then left at the caravan park to take Springton Rd to Springton. This road ends in a T junction with Angaston Rd where we hung a right and travelled south to Mount Pleasant for lunch. This was a great morning ride that Andy led us on taking in some roads that we rarely go on and putting them all together one after the other is what gives the good buzz. The weather was warm all morning and most of us had to take off some layers to avoid boiling. We also encountered very few cars so we were able to transverse the 100 kilometers without the nasty tin tops always being in the way.

We had an amicable lunch at the Mount Pleasant Café Bakery and then 3 more riders had to get home for family commitments etc. The rest of us decided to have an afternoon ride to Meadows so with my self in the lead we took off from Mount Pleasant and turned left onto the Tungkillo Rd then right just before Tungkillo onto the Mount Torrens Rd which is always a joy to ride. We continued on and instead of going on to Lobethal as usual we turned left onto the Onkaparinga Valley Rd which we took all the way to Hahndorf where we turned right into River Rd which we followed to Mylor and then to Echunga and then turned right into Battunga Rd to Meadows for afternoon tea. Riders have to be careful to watch out for the frequent speed limit changes on Onkaparinga Valley Rd as it repeatedly goes 60, 80, 100, 60, 80 100 etc. Once we were off this stretch and onto River Rd the roads were back to the type that were created just for the motor cycle. The 4 of us that stayed for afternoon tea at Meadows had a jovial time with lots of laughs. The afternoon ride was almost exactly 100kms making for a good autumn days ride of 200 total which even after a leisurely afternoon tea still finished at 2.30pm getting us home by 3.00 or 3.30pm. A good time was had by all with the only negative being we could have done with a few more riders out on the day to enjoy it with us.

Many thanks to Andy for leading the morning ride with a challenging and interesting combination of roads and to Gary on his magnificent new Harley steed for going tail end Charlie.

Ken King Samrats Coordinator