

**Samrats ride report
for Sun 31 Jan 2016
Ride Captain Jim / Tail end Charlie Guy**

Excellent riding weather helped to bring out 30 riders to the start point at BP St Mary's for this day ride south. As we had a couple of new riders there was a lengthy safety talk and then we were off down South Road. Jim planned and led the ride which was a bit different in that we took the Southern Expressway to get down south which as there is a first time for everything made for an interested start. At Myponga we turned left off South Road and up over the Myponga Dam road, across the spillway, up the hill on the other side and then down into Normanville for morning tea. This can be a very windy winding road at times but on this day the air was still and the scenery and sea views were beautiful and world class natural environment.

A rest stop at Normanville and morning tea for those who needed it and a half hour later we were back in the saddle and off to Yankalilla and then a right turn onto the Inman Valley Road towards Victor Harbor. This road has a lot of uneven surface and towards Inman Valley is actually quite dangerous but a few kilometres in we turned right onto Parawa Road which meets up with the Delamere to Victor road (Range Road) which we enjoyed especially as there was still very little wind. We came down the hill and veered left taking the ring road around Victor Harbor to meet up with Canterbury Road and towards Goolwa. Just past Middleton we turned left along Flagstaff Hill Road, then right to Airport Road to pick up the Strathalbyn Goolwa Rd and left onto Bull Creek Road to Ashbourne where we arrived at the Green Man Inn at 1pm as planned for lunch.

Several riders needed to shoot off early and did not stay for lunch but about 25 of us sat down together on the front veranda and enjoyed the good food, views, cool breeze and each other's company. A good hour of relaxing, eating and talking and then a short ride along the top half of Bull Creek Rd to Meadows finished off the day nicely. Most riders zipped home from Meadows but a few of us had an afternoon tea or a cold drink before riding home. Everyone would have been home by 3pm to 4pm in time to do some chores or prepare for the week ahead.

A very enjoyable ride day was had by all with great roads, weather and excellent company. Thanks to Jim for planning and leading the ride and to Guy who did a great tail end Charlie job especially in helping the new riders along.

Ken King
Samrats Coordinator