

Samrats ride report for Sun 3 Nov 2013

Ride leader Ken / Tail end Charlie Reani in the am and Darren in the pm.

14 riders and a 3 pillions turned out at the Mount Barker at start point for the annual ride to Karoonda which actually happened on this day after begin cancelled twice earlier in the year due to bad weather. We had a relatively chilly day for the second month of spring at 22 maximum with a strong wind chill factor and a lot or riders including myself were underdressed.

After the safety talk we headed off at 10am to Wistow, Winchester, Callington and then took the Old Princes Highway to Murray Bridge where we had a short rest stop. A couple of riders headed back from here with pressing matters to attend to at home. The rest of us carried on to the next stretch along the Mannum Rd on the eastern side of the Murray then a right turn onto the Loxton Rd to Karoonda. This 60 kms makes a good motor cycling road with the only down side being the some what uneven undulating surface in the last 15 kms before Karoonda.

Lunch at the Karoonda bakery in the main street was a tasty affair and then we were off doubling back about 20 klms and taking the left turn onto the back way to Tailem Bend which is also a good road to ride. A quick fuel up and we were off to Wellington, crossing the Murray on the Wellington ferry and travelling along Langhorne Creek Rd. I made it a free ride from Wellington to Langhorne Creek for those who wanted to stretch their wings away from the confines of the group. We met up again and took the usual direct route to Strathalbyn and then took the Paris Creek Rd to Meadows where we had afternoon tea.

My view is that Paris Creek Rd is as good as Bull Creek for a spirited ride through some beautiful countryside. As we had only one 10 minutes rest stop and only about $\frac{3}{4}$ hour for our lunch stop we arrived at Meadows at the relatively early time of 2.30pm and had covered 283kls by my trip meter. 10 out of the 14 riders made it to the end of the ride and most of us stayed to enjoy some refreshment and sit in the sun. A nice ride day to an different easterly location which was not too long and finished in time to get home for some other afternoon activities. Thanks to Reani and Darren for going tail end and to all the riders who came out on the day and who are such a pleasurable ride group to belong to.

Ken King Samrats Coordinator