

Samrats ride report for Sun 23 Feb 2014

Ride leader Jim / Tail end Charlie Ken

This was a top day for good weather with 23 to 28C all day and not a cloud in the sky and hardly any wind. Hopefully the heat waves are now over and it will be great riding days ahead for the next few months until the cold and wet of winter set in. 30 riders on 25 motor cycles, a few with pillions, turned out for this ride. The riders were mainly Samrats seasoned long termers but also with a few newer riders.

After the safety talk at the BP Evandale start point, which was the same start as Andy's ride last week making it necessary to get out of the city via Payneham / Montacute Rd onto Marble Hill and then Lobethal Rd giving us a good and prolonged dose of great twisties. After a few kilometers of Lobethal Rd we hung a right turn into Deviation Rd and then a left turn to meet up with the top of Greenhill Rd to Balhannah. Few to no cars so far which was excellent for us to keep in the flow of things.

Next leg was via Onkaparinga Valley Rd to Woodside where we turned off to the left and took Tiers Rd and after a short detour which ended in a dirt road we came back to Tiers Rd to Lenswood where we crossed Lobethal Rd and onto Coldstore Rd which was also part of Andy's ride last week. These roads are such excellent routes for motor cycling that no one would ever complain about doing them two weeks in a row. Coldstore Rd to Fox Creek Rd to meet up with Cudlee Creek – Lobethal Rd where we went through Cudlee Creek observing that the Café is nearly always full of riders making it hard to accommodate a large group like ours.

Next leg was Little Para Rd to Chain of Ponds and before reaching Kersbrook we turned right and went up Checker Hill Rd and left turn into Forreston Rd which we followed to Williamstown for a rest stop and morning tea.

After the usual affable and hilarious chit chat we took off along the Williamstown - Springton Rd to meet up with the Eden Valley Way, then right turn to Keyneton Rd and left turn into Swan Reach Rd which we followed to Angaston. About half the riders hit the pub in the main street for a counter lunch, where the salads were particularly delicious and half walked up to the local bakery to then eat in the park. The pub did take a long time to serve a 3 course meal for an amazingly low price of \$19.00 so it took quite a while for us to re group and set out for the afternoon ride.

We headed south back down Eden Valley Way to avoid the Tanunda / Lyndoch 60 zones and corresponding traffic congestion. The afternoon ride went from Angaston to Mount Pleasant, Tunkillo, Mount Torrens Rd, Charleston and back to Onkaparinga Valley Rd through Woodside to Balhannah for afternoon tea. We arrived at Balhannah about 3.45pm and left about 4.15pm to go our separate ways.

The morning ride to Angaston was about 170 klms and the afternoon ride about 100kms making for approximately 270 kms for the day with a bit extra to get home again from the finish point. The weather was superb and all the roads were great fun to ride and every one of the riders seemed to have a very enjoyable day out in the beautiful SA countryside. Thanks to Jim for leading this ride and to Andy for leading the excellent ride last week.

Ken King Samrats Coordinator