

Samrats ride report for Sun 29 Sept 2013

Ride Leader Jim / Tail end Charlie Les

Jim always takes the last Sunday of the month ride and this ride day was his annual ride to Clare. Jim usually has a big following, partly left over from his leading the previous Honda Rider's group. This day was no exception with 34 bikes and a few pillions at the Caltex Bolivar start point and a couple of others joined us along the way. This is one of our longer rides coming in at about 420kms for the day there and back.

The weather was warm but not too hot, no rain and only mild to moderate winds so the day promised to be a good day to be out on the road. After the obligatory safety talk we took off up the Northern Expressway to get up north a fair way before turning off onto the more country type roads. A quick burn up the expressway running along as a big group and sitting at the legal speed is always a good buzz and a nice start to a ride.

We left the freeway at the Roseworthy turn off and went past Freeling and on to Kapunda for a quick rest and morning tea stop. From Kapunda we travelled north east towards Eudunda, then to Robertstown and north up the World's End Highway to meet up with the Burra to Morgan main road where we turned left and headed into Burra. Jim made this Robertstown to the Morgan road turn-off section a free ride for those who needed to blow out the cobwebs and not stay in the more orderly procession of the main group for all of the ride.

A quick fuel up in Burra for those with the smallest tanks and then we turned back in a south westerly direction and travelled down the barrier highway for about 15 kms to Hanson where we turned right and took the road to Clare which is about 40 kms. We arrived at Clare at about 12.30pm with no mishaps with only about 3 riders gone having had to turn off for home earlier in the day. We had phoned ahead from Kapunda to tell the pub of the size of our group so serving the lunch in the courtyard over looking the main street did not take too long. A few of us went to the many cafes or take away in the main street but most sat down together for a hearty and tasty roast of the day, fish and chips etc pub meal.

After lunch most of us needed a fuel up at the BP across the road from the pub and then we were ready to go again by about 1.45pm. A few of the bunch took off to get home earlier and about 20 of us headed out as a group for the afternoon ride back. Jim led us south to Auburn, Marrabel and to Tarlee mostly by a round about zig zag route that took us along back roads rather than the main highways. Next leg was Tarlee to Eudunda via back roads then a right turn and southwards down the Dutton / Truro road which is a classic road with turns and undulations for the motor cycle enthusiast.

The final leg was Truro to Nurioopta, Angaston, Eden Valley and to Mount Pleasant for afternoon tea. Some riders had turned off along the way and the group arrived at Mount Pleasant at about 4pm where about 15 riders completed the last leg and had afternoon tea before heading for home.

The day turned out almost picture perfect with blue sky, green grass after all the rains and colorful ripening crops lining many of the roads. Taking these regular jaunts into the country side does make one realize there is more to SA than just the Adelaide City and it's immediate surrounds. Thanks to Jim for planning and leading the ride, to veteran Samrats member Les for going tail end Charlie and to all the riders who supported the ride on the day.

Ken King Samrats Coordinator