

## **Samrats ride report for Sun 21 Oct 2012**

Ride Leader Ian / Tail End Charlie Simon/ Guy

This ride was in place of the weekend away in Melrose which was cancelled for lack of participants. As it turned out Ian led us on a long day ride which took in some of the roads we would have ridden had we gone to Melrose. The 12 riders who came out on the day were mostly Samrats regulars and we enjoyed a long ride of approx 400kms from start the point at Caltex Bolivar to the finish point at Tarlee.

We then had to ride the 90 kms back to Adelaide making it a big day ride for all of us and especially so for those who live south of the city. The weather was excellent with a warm but not too hot spring day with little wind.

The route was from Bolivar to Freeling, Kapunda, Truro, Eudunda, Robertstown, Burra, Spalding and then Jamestown to Gladstone for lunch. All these roads between these places are excellent motor cycling roads and we especially enjoyed the Burra to Spalding and then to Jamestown leg which we don't do very often.

Lunch was in the Gladstone pub that is not in the main street and is across the railway line. It was a friendly country style fare for a very cheap price. We needed the refreshments, the food and the rest to prepare for the long journey back. Our tail end Charlie Simon took off at lunch time to visit relatives at Port Pirie which was only another 31 kms down the road from Gladstone illustrating how far north we had come.

The afternoon ride was back to Adelaide via the most direct route via Georgetown, Clare, Auburn to Tarlee where we had a quick rest stop before the run back into town via the Stuart Highway and Main North Rd.

These long day rides are quite challenging for the riders on sports bikes but easier for those on tourers or cruisers with a more upright riding position. The Samrats certainly get around the state and travel a lot further than some other ride groups which is all good fun if you like long distance riding. It was a great ride day with good weather and good company and no mishaps or problems occurring.

Thanks to Ian for planning and leading the ride and to Simon in the morning and Guy in the afternoon for going tail end Charlie.

Ken King Samrats Coordinator