

ROBERTSTOWN LUNCH RUN 17th April 2011

Dear SABERS

On Sunday 10th April I awoke to a damp morning. After checking the gloomy forecasts for Clare, Burra & Eudunda I rang our contact Jenny C at the Robertstown Bowls Club for confirmation of the miserable outlook for the day. I was hoping for a favourable report as I know how disappointed many would be if we had to abandon the ride at the last minute. Jenny was very chirpy despite the early hour & confirmed my fear that it was raining there as well...however she also said that she was expecting us the following Sunday! Oops...I had managed to get a week ahead of myself. After profuse apologies for the early morning wake up call I settled back for a sleep in.

On the correct Sunday we had perfect weather, low to mid 20's, no wind no rain. Many others thought so to. About 25 bikes including 3 tricycles and a car (4th tricycle was in the workshop!) gathered at the Caltex Munno Para. Amongst the great turnout we had a few new visitors and some returning ones. After the usual socialising and ride briefing we headed off pretty well on time. As this ride was long between stops and had few turns we dispensed with the usual jacketed corner marshalling system. Next behind the leader took responsibility where required and it worked well on the day.

First stop was Tarlee for the obligatory wee break...much appreciated by our older members (& those without prostates!). Then on through the picturesque Clare Valley for our first fuel stop. We passed a caravan and sedan which had sideswiped on a bend. The sedan was extensively damaged, the van slightly dented. Not sure which had slipped across to the oncoming side but we were relieved that no one seem to be injured and that it had happened nowhere near our ride.

Further socialising at Clare while some fuelled up and then on to Burra via the Farrell Flat Road. The country side was not so green out this way but still many pleasant views to be had along one of my favourite mid north roads.

Burra was where I needed to fuel up and suffered an unnecessary wait while an ignorant ute driver left his ute in the small fuelling area at the BP while doing who knows what inside the shop. Upon returning to his pretty car he then stuffed around some more doing again who knows what in the cab before moving off. It's so easy to be courteous going about your daily business but some just don't get it.

Up the Morgan Road and the obligatory leg stretch after the World's End turnoff...long straights and beautiful wide, open turns on good bitumen...another favourite mid north road. Soon enough we were in Robertstown.

The lovely Bowls Club members did not disappoint as usual with a 2 course lunch. This time it was grilled sausages, patties and bacon with a huge selection of delicious salads. Fruit salad and home made slices finished off the meal very nicely. The bar was open for cool drinks. It would have been very easy to spend the whole afternoon here...great SABERS and Lawn Bowls company...no wonder it is a favourite ride with many.

Jenny C related to me how all this began. One fine day she saw a group of riders in the main street of Robertstown and chased down the leader with an offer of coffee and biscuits. Leader Bryan White was of course all for it and it became a regular run. First few were just coffee and biscuits events however as the ride grew in numbers the venue was changed to the Bowls Club and lunch came onto the menu. Fabulous hospitality is displayed by this small town in welcoming us year after year.

After lunch we headed to Eudunda for another fuel stop and then finished up in Gawler at Café Nova.

A beautiful day, fantastic incident free riding, good company and great hospitality. AWESOME!



Photos taken at Clare behind the BP.

Good day
Fred

