

Hi to all;

This is the first of the rides and reports that I will as SABERS Ride Captain will get one of our committee to lead and report on.

By all accounts everyone that was on the SABERS ride on the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2007 thought it was a great ride and I have to admit it was great to see our committee members putting their hands up to lead these rides.

Haha okay I have to admit Tony was sort of reeled into this one but he totally enjoyed himself out the front. He set a great pace and never lost anyone, lol yes that has happened in the past. I have to emphasise that was when we started doing runs many moons ago.

I won't detract from Tony's report other than to say well done to Tony and everyone that corner marshalled.

It was as far as I was concerned another perfect SABERS ride ☺

So over to Tony .....

### **Ride Report for 11-Mar-07**

Report by: Tony Wood – SUZUKI 250 Across, soon to be Honda Blackbird CBR1100XX Pilot.

Young Riders choose a destination and go; Old Riders choose a *direction* and go. And so it was, on this 'possible light morning shower' Sunday, forecast 26 C, that 15 riders set off with a view to going 'south'.

Tony Wood was the ride leader for the first time (last month he was the 'tail-end charlie', so a smart aleck might have suggested that he has ridden ridden back-to-front). It might also be the first time that a 250cc bike took the lead, and almost certainly one for the books of the Suzuki Across! Tony kept a marginal lead through the twists and bends up Greenhill Road, through Summertown and Uraidla to Balhannah.

Between Balhannah and Mt Barker we experienced the 'possible light morning shower' - several times. A few more sprinkles later and we were looking at breakfast/morning tea/pre-lunch at Meadows Bakery. Lots of bikes here today - seems the BSA club had a bit of a gathering in these parts, and we were treated to a ride-by of a beautifully restored Matchless while we sipped our hot chocolates.

From Meadows, it was Strathalbyn via Ashbourne. A couple of new riders with us today, that somehow got themselves to the front of the group and found themselves on 'corner marshal duties. Something went wrong with the marshalling at the turn-off to Strath, so Grant ended up continuing on towards Goolwa. Bryan (tail end) caught him some distance later, whereupon by a couple of different routes we mostly all made it to an RV at the Garage at Strath. I say 'mostly' because Bryan spotted two of our newer riders coming back the other way amongst another ride group - not sure how or why this happened.

A quick dash down to Langhorne Creek for lunch and laughs. We spent about an hour here - the 'possible light morning showers' had passed, and it was quite pleasant (except for Joyce, who seemed to be shivering) sitting out front, talking bike stuff, and wondering whether there might be any boring bits on the Easter weekend ride to Ceduna .

The group broke up progressively from here. Peter peeled off back towards Strath, while the remainder headed through to Hahndorf via Woodchester and Mt Barker. Hahndorf was pretty much the final bunching up for farewells, as some were going home via the freeway and others going on through Lobethal for one more coffee. As we geared up to depart Hahndorf, Joyce accidentally dropped her keys between her fuel tank and the faring, which caused much rolling of eyes and the occasional look of despair, especially from Bryan, who somehow managed to get the keys out (must be double-jointed). Ah well, it's good to end with a laugh.

Overall, a good ride. No spills or thrills - just good riding and good company. Isn't that what it's all about?

Cheers,  
Tony Wood  
SABERS STOCK CONTROLLER