

The Cats' Cruise Ride Report.

The Cats' Cruise is based on the RSPCA Cruise For Critters, a ride which SABERS marshal each year to help out the RSPCA and we loved the ride route and countryside so with permission from the RSPCA, we adopted the route, made it a bit longer and put it on our ride calendar.

This year we put it on in February as one of our Saturday Rides and I was going to lead it. Last year I was supposed to but was unable to due to other commitments.

Saturday morning came and I had played with the GPS getting the route set up as well as having done a pre-run the weekend before with Grant and Fred, so I geared up hoping that we wouldn't get lost or go the wrong way (a usual pastime of the ride leader at least once)

It was beautiful day weather wise and though it was a bit chilly to start, the estimated top was in the high 20's so summer gear on and liner in the jacket to start.

Bronwyn had decided that her Saturday off was going to be a shopping day and not a riding day, so I headed off by myself to the Caltex to fuel up and wait for the others once I had checked my tyres and topped them up at home.

Grant arrived soon after I had finished fuelling up and by departure time we had around 15 bikes, which for a Saturday run was quite pleasing.

Fred volunteered to go tail end after our pre-run the previous week and after a quick briefing we headed off through Flagstaff Hill to the twisty roads into Clarendon.

The roads were dry, litter free and the weather was great as we zipped round the numerous bends and into Clarendon.

After Clarendon we headed towards Meadows, but turned off and took the scenic roads into McLaren Flat, Kuitpo and finally arrived at the Meadows Bakery for morning tea.

Once we left Meadows, instead of bearing right and doing Bull Creek Road, a favourite of mine and many others, we headed left towards Macclesfield, Ironbank and Upper Sturt Valley Road. At the ride brief I had warned everyone of the very slow hard left bends in this area which I had found the previous week. I saw Alli swing wide on one of them in my rear view mirror and up the top of one of the hills on a straight bit, my whole bike moved to the right on the slope on the rode. I thought it was me until at the next stop at least three others commented on the same feeling on that bit of road. We decided that the road must have been very slippery there. Luckily it was on a straight bit or we may have had some mishaps.

From Mylor to Cherry Gardens and then on through Belair and down to the bottom of the hills via Windy Point. The ride finished at Becks Bakery in Somerton Park where the pies are great and the rest of the fare is just as good.

This was the official end of the ride though some decided it was too nicer day to head home yet and were off to wind their way back through the hills.

In Summary

- ◆ Great weather
- ◆ Great roads
- ◆ 15 bikes
- ◆ No mishaps and no wrong turns (for a change)

Thanks to all those who joined us and thanks to the marshals and those who helped to marshal when we ran out of official marshals.

Next ride is Brenton's Ride South on 6th March 2010. Check the web page at www.sabers.com.au for further details