

Ride Report SABERS Cats Cruise 6th June 2009

The forecast all week for Saturday was rain. The weather during the week was just rain, rain & more rain. Surprisingly we had 9 bikes & 1 tricycle with 3 pillions. A learner rider joined us for the second time & a new rider came along to check us out. Christie & Katie saw us off from BP St Mary's & Brenton took on Tail End Charlie duties by car as he was recovering from a bad cold.

This run followed the route of last year's Cruise for Critters put on by the RSPCA. SABERS marshalled the Critters run for the RSPCA and we enjoyed it so much we asked for permission to use the route ourselves.



With the ride briefing out of the way we headed uneventfully down South Road and up Flagstaff & Blacks Roads. From here the route took us along some scenic roads with the odd corner with tightening radius and all too soon we were in Clarendon enjoying the fine hospitality & pastries at the bakery. The SABERS "big brothers" were soon giving our learner some pointers on cornering.



From Clarendon we headed further south through Blewitt Springs & McLaren Flat...more great scenery & not so twisty roads. After McLaren Flat we took some straighter roads past Kuitpo into Meadows for lunch at the bakery. Biggest grin was on the face of our learner already enjoying the benefits of the cornering advice given at Clarendon.

A couple of riders left us here for commitments not compatible with our ride finish. After a leisurely lunch break we headed to Macclesfield, Flaxley, Echunga & Mylor enjoying more fabulous scenery & nice cornering roads. From Mylor we headed back towards Coromandel Valley with more twisties to be approached with caution as there are many concealed entrances through here. From Coromandel Valley we headed to Windy Point via busy Blackwood & Belair. At Windy Point we took in the sights & noticed a large part of the south western skyline was black with imminent rain.



A few more riders left us here and the remainder headed down Springbank, Daws & Oaklands Roads to Glenelg for the finish of the ride at the Fresh Bite Cafe in Waterloo Street off Jetty Road. We parked our bikes out the back of the shop & just made it inside before the heavens opened up. Hot Soup, coffee & other delights were enjoyed here. As usual we sat around socialising amongst ourselves and with our hosts for quite a while and eventually after the rain had gone headed off home our separate ways.



Thanks to my marshals for the day & those who stepped in as needed as this route has many intersections. Thanks to Tail End Charlie for bringing up the rear. Good to see our more experienced riders giving advice to our learner who immediately showed improved confidence & enjoyment of the ride as a result. Thanks to our hosts at the Clarendon Bakery, Meadows Bakery & the Fresh Bite Cafe in Glenelg.

This was one of our shorter rides at only about 125 kilometres. A relaxed run with no rush to be anywhere with plenty of socialising along the way.

Good day
Fred