

# Grampians Long Weekend Away.

What happens in the Grampians stays in the Grampians!!!!

## 27<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> November 2010

**By Rebecca Just**

Leading up to the ride I eagerly checked the weather forecast regularly. The weather was not looking good for the ride over but the day before the ride it was reported to be dry in SA but wet in VIC. I had been speaking to the Mace's and Gill had decided to drive this time offering me a seat in the car if I liked. After much deliberation I decided to ride but did take Gill up on her offer to take anyone's panniers in the car. OMG did I love that idea!!!

The day of the ride I decided to wear my dririder gear just to be safe. When I left home there was a light drizzle but the more I headed up the freeway the heavier it got. By the time I reached the meeting point it was raining. We made shelter under a house veranda until most people arrived and then the adventure began.



It was a very wet ride to Tailem Bend but there were patches of clear skies which was a nice surprise. Although it was wet it wasn't too cold so I really enjoyed the ride and open roads.

We stopped in Tailem Bend and as we arrived Mr & Mrs Strathalbyn arrived. When we first arrived the weather wasn't too bad however as we geared up to leave it started to rain again. We left Tailem Bend and headed to Keith where we had to pull over and wait for Morris to arrive as there was a misunderstanding of the start time. We had only been waiting for a short time when a blue bullet teared past us. Then he realised it was us so he did a U-bolt and came back. At last we where altogether.

We headed to Bordertown to refuel and have lunch. During this time Marcus decided to go get some wet weather gear as he was a little wet from all the rain. I am so glad he did!!! As we headed over the border it stopped raining and the sun came out!!! Last fuel stop was Horsham and it was nice weather, a little windy but still nice. This is the fun part of the ride with great scenery and even better roads. Due to the terrible weather over the past week there was a lot of debris still on the roads, as a result it was a careful ride to Halls Gap.



At last we made it to our destination all together! Thanks to Tony & Gill Mace for organising for the accommodation proprietors to pick up our food this year as there were quite a few more ppl that had joined us! That evening we had a lovely dinner of assorted BBQ meats and yummy salads with a few drinks. We were all in bed at a very respectable time, as I recall it was about 8.30pm!!!



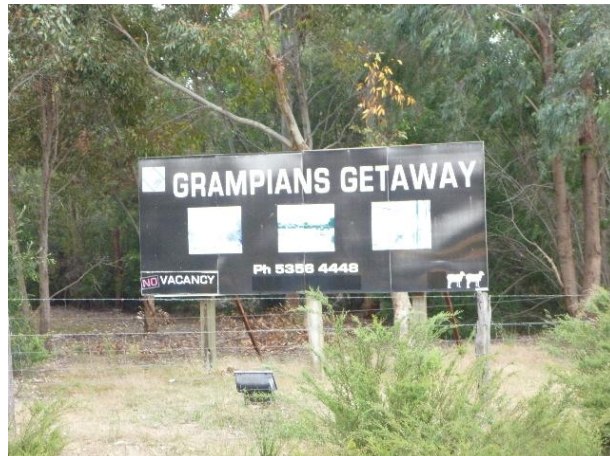
Sunday was a free day for people so you could do anything you liked. Some went off on their own to sight-see, others caught up with friends in the area, and some went for a walk to the local zoo - which as always was very entertaining! Some people spent the day relaxing and recovering from the long weathered ride....



So all in all it was a very relaxing day and for dinner it was homemade pizzas which I have to say were amazing!!!



Monday morning we woke up very bright and early to enjoy breakfast and a pack up for the nice ride home. We had a lovely weather forecast and I was looking forward to the trip home. In the last minutes we got cabin group photos for memories.



We came home a different way as to the way we came. It was a nice change and we saw alot more of the Grampians on this route home. The sun shone down on us all the way which was a lovely way to end the weekend.

Yet again it was a lovely weekend away with great friends. I look forward to next year and hope you can join me too.

Just remember what happens in the Grampians stays in the Grampians!!!!



I would like to finish off the ride report with a MASSIVE THANKS to Tony & Gill Mace for all the effort they put in to make this such a memorable stay for all that went.

You're both the bomb!!!!