

SABERS SUNDAY May 18th 2008

Hills Chocolate Run

Ride report by Bryan White, SABERS Rides Captain



Rain... I lay in bed and all I could here outside was the pitter patter of rain. Mind you it was only 6am and I wasn't leaving for the run until 8am so that was 2 hours to clear up.

So 8am there I was wrapping myself up into my wet weather gear and getting ready for the ride. Even if it didn't rain I was going to be cosy and warm.

Once I was all rugged up I threw my leg over the bike and headed off to MaxiMoto.

Leaving Gawler the clouds were looking decidedly grey towards Elizabeth. Yes; as I got towards Munno Para it bucketed down and it was like that all the way to Salisbury. Then, wow as I got to Parafield it was like flicking a switch. Clear skies that looked like the call of the day!

As I pulled into MaxiMoto there were already guys there ready for the ride and with the smiles on their faces I knew I couldn't call it off I wanted. HAHA chocoholics!

As soon as I pulled up Henrick came and greeted me and every rider that turned up.

It was great to see the regular riders and some new riders.



David had a smile from ear to ear Why?

He bought a brand new bike. A silver 2008 Suzuki Bandit complete with ABS.

It must have been the day for new bikes. Lochie has got himself a TLR1000.



Come the ride briefing it was a very quick as nearly everyone had been on our rides before. The ride is a pretty straight forward one and keeping everyone together was easy as there were only 17 bikes and plenty of SABERS marshals. With the briefing over it was off to thank Henrick for opening an hour early for us and then it was helmets on, gear up and let's get on the road.

From MaxiMoto we rode straight down Main North Road to Gawler and through the picturesque Barossa roads to Tanunda.

The first stop was Kerry's Lolly shop at Tanunda. I have to admit that I was feeling a bit ordinary until I had some lollies here. Yes, I love my sweets and from the people buying lollies here it was just as well most of us had brought our top boxes & tankbags.

After about 15 minutes everyone was itching to get on the road again. We decided to add a dog leg to Sedan after Angaston. It added about 20 minutes or so onto the ride but the ride into and back out of Sedan is lots of fun. Twisties going into Sedan then on the way out there are some lovely long straights and then there is a nice climb back up the hill with some great twisty roads. Once back up into the hills the roads are a bit slower but very scenic.

This a great section of the ride.

Then it's time to stop at Melbas Chocolate Factory.

We pulled up and all went inside and hit the free samples and bought up big again.

The top boxes and tankbags were filling up fast! Again after about 20 minutes we were back on the bikes and heading to Hahndorf as there were tummy rumbles. Time for lunch and food other than lollies!

The ride from Woodside to Hahndorf is pretty straight and nothing very exciting but the entrance into Hahndorf is postcard perfect with the trees hanging over the road and as you get into the township the buildings bounce out at you.

Parking is easy as the old petrol station has been bought out but they are not open on Sundays so it makes for perfect group motorcycle parking. So we did! Haha.



The good thing about having lunch here at Hahndorf is that you can easily get a meal from one of the many eateries up and down the main street. Oh and there are 3 lolly shops here and they all sell

awesome fudges. We all agreed to meet up after an hour so we all headed off to eat and get more lollies.

After lunch we had a change of route back to North Adelaide. Instead of heading back down the freeway we decided to head back through Balhannah and down Greenhill Road. It's more interesting and has a lot more twisty bits.

Once into the suburbs we got a little split up but we all ended up at Dairy Bell in North Adelaide all within about 5 minutes of each other.

What a great way to finish the day.

A coffee, an ice cream and a chat with your mates!

Ride Summary:

17 riders + pillions

Cool/damp in the morning - the showers cleared up for the ride.

Lots of lollies bought - lots of free samples eaten

See you on the next ride.

STAY UPRIGHT!