

## **SABERS WEEKEND RIDE REPORTS.**

### **SABERS SATURDAY SAUNTER 14<sup>th</sup> July 2007**

Waking up on Saturday morning was hard as the weather was to say, icy!  
At Gawler it was a whole One degree!!  
So it was one extra layer on, most people know the cold is one thing, but on the bike wind chill is another thing.  
I had to get to work and put 3 hours in before our ride.  
Hopefully before then the sun would at least warm up the conditions for our ride.

Hour by hour I was watching the weather and just as soon as the sun came out another cloud would cover the warming rays.  
By 11.30 there was no sign of rain and yes it had warmed up a little.  
Joyce, Paul, Sonya and I geared up and headed off to the BP to meet up with everyone else.

We were pleasantly surprised that so many people had turned up for this short notice ride. Everyone that chatted to me made mention that they liked the concept that SABERS has adopted: "All we want to do is ride".  
They also like the fact that we organise social drinks, chat and fun events and there is no ulterior motive other than having fun. Talking to everyone and seeing the smiles on their faces as they tell you their ideas and stories of favourite rides is what it's all about.

By 12.30pm we had some 28 riders and several pillions for the ride. The smiles on their faces as we geared up when they realised that we were going to get fair weather for our ride said it all. It was worth the gamble about coming out for the day.

We headed up Greenhill Road and although damp and some cars on this section of our ride, it is still a great section of road and a lovely scenic climb up into the hills. The winding roads to Balhannah were fairly clean of debris and were fun. After Balhannah we turned left to Lobie.  
We all pulled up to the Amberlight Café and we were met there by Martin, Rohan, Patricia and a few other riders.  
It's always great when you pull up for a coffee break the stories of their latest ride or even how they enjoyed the previous rides we have done.

After a break here at Lobie we were off on the road again. I cut off the dog leg section that would have taken us though Birdwood and Mt Pleasant and went straight though to Tungkillo. This is a very pretty bit of road with some great open corners that encourage good cornering techniques. It's awesome when you can nail every corner with near perfect entry speed and pick the apex and exit with a huge smile ..... yeah, I was having a good day  
Tungkillo behind us there was a nice open section to Mannum and a ferry trip over the river.

Once over the river the road to Swan Reach is very open and windy!  
Riding the top of the cliffs of this section of the river can be what seems to be very boring as there are no real corners as such. I made sure through here I kept a steady pace.

Once at Swan Reach it was a short ride on the ferry and a 28km ride to Sedan. Most of the riders did a splash of fuel and others went for something to eat before getting back on the bikes and heading through the up hill section to Angaston.

Riding this section of road was great... not a car in sight!

Well that was until Angaston, lol lol

The lack of traffic on the ride was all behind us as the Barossa is a tourist attraction area we had to just bunch up a bit and cruise with the flow.

We all kept pretty much together and were all looking forward to a break at Café Nova at Gawler.

What a great ride, 319 kms, 30 riders and pillions, no rain and lots of smiles  
From all accounts everyone had a great time.

HAHAHA, I called this ride a saunter, a 319km saunter.

## **SABERS Southern Poker Run. 15<sup>th</sup> July 2007**

Well after yesterday's ride and great turn out how can you beat that? Yep, you guessed it, another ride! Lol lol

Again it was freezing so I didn't bother with the leathers with thermals underneath; I went straight for the winter pants. I was not going to be cold for anyone. I hate wind chill. I was nice and warm all day.

We cruised into the BP West Tce to meet everyone and again today we had heaps of riders and pillions turning up early for coffee, munchies and a chat before the ride. It's great to see that this has become the normal thing to do before the ride and for everyone to socialise before the ride. It makes for a great social group and it's easier to know what you all want us to plan for future events.

There was a great buzz at the BP as there were people joining SABERS, others buying our apparel and others buying poker hands for the day's ride. As you can see from the pictures that we have posted in the gallery, we had good numbers on both days and especially today as there was the fear of isolated light showers during the day. We ended up with 28 bikes and several pillions.

SABERS rides are becoming very popular and we are attracting all sorts of riders, pillions and it would seem all types of bikes and skill levels, AWESOME!! The only bad news was that Rob's bike had battery trouble and contacted us and would catch us en route.

Before the ride we called a Marshall's meeting and then a briefing for all the riders. After this we all geared up and headed off down towards Anzac

Highway and up Brighton Road. We kept the speed fairly constant and the marshalling helped to keep the group fairly well together. That's hard as the traffic lights normally split us up.

As we cruised through Sellicks Beach the weather ahead looked suspiciously bad. The roads towards Normanville were starting to get wetter and caution was the best thing to take here.

At Normanville we stopped at the bakery and some of the riders put on their overpants ..... the bakery was great!

Once we had eaten and were ready we geared up and hit the road. The next section was the Delamere Road to Victor Harbor. It's no secret to everyone that this is one of my favourite roads as it is one of quite a few of your favourites, lol or soon will be. The Delamere has some beautiful open sweeping corners that are a dream to ride and the scenery is awesome. The only downer on the Delamere Road was the cloud cover turned to some light rain then it got heavier and slowed the ride down. This still didn't put a dampener on the ride though as it's still a nice road. Besides, as we went through the Victor Harbor side of the hill the sun came out. The rest of the ride was blessed with sunshine.

We all got into Victor with smiles on our faces and stories of over the top of Delamere in the clouds. We decided to stop here for an hour and have a decent break here. About 10 minutes into our lunch Rob turned up. He managed to get a battery but he had a new oil leak and that just after his bike was serviced not happy! It was good to see him though. We all headed off in different directions for lunch as we all have our favourite eateries in Victor. The other good thing was that it gave us a good chance to talk to other riders as they were eager to find out about SABERS.

After lunch the riders were eager to get back on the road and ride. We sent some of the group up to the petrol station and after a few minutes we all hit the road. We collected our riders and headed off to Langhorne Creek. This section of road is another interesting open section that goes from open farm land to vineyards all the way into Langhorne Creek.

Our stop at Langhorne was brief and we decided to go to Mt Barker via Woodchester rather than head to Murray Bridge. This would get us back before sundown.

The last stop was Mt Barker which gave us time to say thank you to everyone and to draw the last card in the SABERS Poker Hand. (At each of the stops we had been drawing cards)

The winner of the poker game was Chris & Gaby - \$40

Once we finished our thanks and announcements of up coming rides and events we all headed off home.

A total of about 345 kms

#### WEEKEND RIDE SUMMARY:

- ☺ lol I had a ball
- From the smiles on everyone's faces so did everyone that went on the SABERS rides
- 60 bikes and pillions over the two days

- No one lost
- No injuries
- No breakdowns
- Only 1 short shower of rain, lol

I would like to thank everyone that came along for the ride and the SABERS members that take the time to Marshall and make it enjoyable for everyone. Thanks to Jason for offering to take Caroline 2 up when Rob had battery problems.

Thanks to David for offering to follow the ride as the support vehicle. Hope you get back on the bike soon Dave

The photos are up in the gallery.  
Thanks Sonya

Be sure to look on our website for social events, impromptu rides and weekend getaways.

**STAY UPRIGHT!**

Bryan White

SABERS Rides Captain