

# OLD FARTS RUN

## 7<sup>th</sup> May 2011

Dear SABERS

A perfect day for us again. The previous Sunday I cancelled the pre-run on the morning due to rain...well it was raining at my place and that's my story! So Sunday morning saw about 20 bikes (including 3 tricycles) and one pillion gathered at the BP on West Terrace. Good to see new visitors and returning ones also.

A quick route briefing from me followed by some group riding tips from Brenton and we were on our way. Greenhill Road was clogged with cars behind me frustrating some riders very early in the run. Further along the traffic improved however some of the quicker riders were being held up by slower ones not watching their mirrors. Please everyone ride to your ability but look out for others who may be wanting to pass...it's so easy to be courteous.

We stopped a few times to allow regrouping and picked up 4 more riders in Balhannah. The Balhannah stop became an extended one as a couple had to pee already! On to the back of Mount Barker via Bald Hills Road and then across to Wistow and soon enough we were in Strathalbyn for our first scheduled stop. Coffees and pastries were consumed and we picked up yet one more rider!

The next leg was through Langhorne Creek to Wellington...nice open roads, no wind and few locusts saw most having a ball and a leg stretch along the way. Left turn at Wellington and past the dairy farms around Jervois (no wet mud & poo tracks across the road this time) and we were soon enough in Murray Bridge. The Murray Bridge District Club was ready for 20 of us. We commandeered a couple of extra tables for the 26 strong we were. Meals were good but 2 never made it out. We think some confusion at the till on ordering as we were offered 2 meals we hadn't ordered. Kurt and newcomer Dave were refunded their money as we left. Sorry to have you guys hungry.



Then a quick crossing of the river to Dean Hogarth's fascinating Norton Museum. This was the highlight of the ride...listening to Dean tell yarns from his speedway days and talking us through each bike in the shop. Quite a selection there and even a BSA "Dandy" scooter out back...never seen one of those before.



Back through Murray Bridge and right turn onto the Old Princess Highway. A lovely peace of road nowadays fairly devoid of traffic. Down the hill and past Callington, through Kanmantoo (must stop for lunch there one day I hear the Sicilian menu is tops), Dawesley, Nairne, Little Hampton,

across the freeway and into Mount Barker. End of the ride here at Giovanni's Pizza. Time for more coffee and chat. Very busy in Mount Barker...don't expect that you can just step off the kerb and cross the road.



We made our goodbyes. Mark, Michael and I went back through Hahndorf and Woodside to Lobethal and then down the nice Cudlee Creek Road to Gorge Road. Michael turned right here...Mark and I continued on down Gorge Road to home.

A great day, great riding, no dramas and safe home. It does not get much better than that. Thanks to Tony W for bringing up the tail and to everyone who marshalled a corner.

Good day  
Fred

