

SABERS - Semi Southern Run Ride Report - Saturday 5th July 2008



Hi all,

Thanks to everyone who ventured out on a cold but essentially dry day to ride on our Saturday ride. We are trying to organise one of these per month, usually the first Saturday of the month. If you would like to plan and/or lead a ride, let us know.

I was a bit nervous going to this ride as I was leading it. Not something I usually do as I frequently ride at the rear of the pack as the tail ender and I am probably one of the slower riders, but since I had planned the route of this ride with Grant and Bryan, no choice.

Was a bit chilly when I got to the BP St Marys, just after 8.30am. I wasn't the first one to arrive, there were already a few bikes waiting.

Had a coffee to warm up and wake up and then chatted to the others.

9.30am came and we had around 17 bikes and a pillion as well so after a quick briefing we headed off.

Travelled South on South Road and then up Flagstaff Hill Road. Traffic was not too bad and soon we had ridden up past the reservoir and on towards Clarendon. We had decided not to stop at Clarendon for morning tea as we would have only been riding for 20 minutes before stopping. At Clarendon the Black Forest Donuts at the bakery were just too tempting, so Tony pulled over and we carried on without him. He had to get back early to do some work anyway.

After Clarendon we cruised through the hills and at Meadows we all stopped and had a morning tea break at the Meadows Bakery.

Once we had all refreshed ourselves, back on the bikes and off to Strathalbyn by the Bull Creek Road. Lovely bit of road, dry, good condition with gentle twisties. Once the main part had finished, we turned left and headed into Strath. At least I didn't miss the turn this time like I did last weekend on the pre-run with Grant. Into and straight out of Strath onto the Goolwa Road heading towards Finniss.

A bit before Finniss we turned right and headed towards Nankita. Turned left not far along so we did not head back towards Ashbourne (seem to remember doing that last weekend as well, but got it right today ☺). Again some lovely sweepers and into Mr Compass for lunch. Don't know what it is about Mount Compass but boy was it cold and windy there again. Lunch at the bakery and enough time to have a good chat with everyone.



After lunch was still a bit early to head home so some of us decided to head down to Normanville to extend the day out a bit.



Left onto the Myponga Road and through Myponga, Yankalilla and onto Normanville where we rode down to the beach car park for a quick stop. Was looking a bit grey and raining further south so we didn't have a long break here and soon headed back towards Adelaide via Carrickalinga, the Myponga Reservoir and onto the very southern part of South Road. This was the only time of the day when it rained. Once we passed Seaford the group started to split up with people going their own way home. A few of us took the Southern Expressway and went to Glenelg for a quick coffee to warm up.

In summary:

These are lovely roads and many would be amongst my favourites (Bull Creek and into Strath, out of Strath. Well..... actually the whole lot). The hills were green after the recent rain, the roads on the whole, dry. A bit chilly but you learn to dress warmly when your bike doesn't have much fairings.

17 bikes + a pillion, no-one got lost and all stayed upright.

I won't be rushing to lead another ride but I am sure I will again at some stage, probably resume my place up the back but I hope all that attended had a good day out.

Thanks to the Marshalls who helped keep everyone on the right path and thanks to all who made it a great day.

David