

SABERS Inc. - Wallaroo Overnighter 27 - 28 September 2008 Ride Report.



Saturday was here and it was time to get ready for the SABERS Wallaroo overnighiter. Weather forecast was for around 30 degrees for Saturday and cooler on Sunday, so the summer jacket came out of the cupboard for the first time in ages. Grabbed the liner as may need that for the ride home.

Trish came round at about 10am as I had offered her the pillion seat as Miriam my daughter and usual pillion was not coming. Once we had got the bike taped to not scuff the paintwork and all our gear into the soft panniers we headed off to Gardner Bearings, the start point of the ride.

Was quite breezy on the way and after topping up the fuel we got to Gardners' to find we were the only bike there. Paul and Sonya's BMW was inside and they said they were joining us for some of the ride but not staying overnight as Paul's back was still sore. With the way the wind was now blowing, we knew it would be a tricky ride. After a few minutes Chris and Garby rocked up on their ST1300 and told us they were on their way home. They had decided to head up to Wallaroo early to watch the Grand Final, but had only got to Dublin when they had decided the wind was way to strong so turned back. As we were heading up via Clare, we hoped the wind may be a bit better. As 12 o'clock approached we had no other riders, so I rang Kylie who we were going to meet at Roseworthy on the way and off we went. Heading up Main North Road was a quite gusty and as we passed Gawler and headed further north the wind increased. At Roseworthy we met Kylie and Paul and Sonya called it a day as the wind was blowing the BMW around and causing more pain in Paul's back. Down to 2 bikes and a pillion now.

Kept the speed down and headed into Clare where we topped up the fuel tanks and found somewhere for lunch. We could not believe the number of places not open on a Saturday for lunch and landed up at Subway. From Clare we headed towards Snowtown, Bute and then Kadina to Wallaroo. One train line on the whole journey and we caught the goods train. As we approached Wallaroo the wind had changed direction and dropped a bit in its intensity, so cruising was a tiny bit easier.

Once in Wallaroo we found our hotel and checked in. After a quick shower and change out of our riding Kylie and I headed to the front bar for a drink or two :-) whilst we waited for Michael who was gong to pick us up in his van and take us to tea at the new Wallaroo Hotel by the Marina. Michael had travelled up in his van with Cathy and the 4 kids. They were camping at the caravan park, which at least was sheltered from the wind. Our limo service arrived at 6pm and we crowded into the van and off for tea. The meal was good at the new hotel and we finally got back to our hotel accommodation at 10pm and off for a well deserved sleep.



Sunday morning was a leisurely affair and we headed off after breakfast at the local café around 10:30am and had a good ride into Port Wakefield where we got fuel. Then it was a single leg back to Adelaide. Kylie turned off at the Mallala exit to head back to Roseworthy and Trish and I continued back to my place. Wind was only light on the way back so it was a much more pleasant ride. Got home early afternoon and cleaned and put the Bandit away, ready for its next trip up to the Flinders Ranges in a few weeks time.

Ride Summary.

- Good weekend away
- A few bikes only but those who went had a real good time.
- No incidents or breakdowns
- Thanks to all those who attended

