



SAMRATS RIDE REPORT

22nd February 2009

“An MRASA supported activity”

Ridden-On Ride 2009

What a special day Sunday February 22, 2009 turned out to be. This was our third annual Ridden-On Ride and the powers that be provided us with perfect weather for the day.

It was amazing to see the support from so many ride groups in South Australia; in fact it was probably easier to spot the ones who did not attend. I wish to express my appreciation to the groups who would normally have a ride day on the last Sunday in the month but postponed it or joined us at least until Second Valley then went on to do their own thing. This certainly provided their riders with an opportunity to remember special people and I thank you all for the financial support you have provided to the Hampstead Centre.



At 10.00 am we left the car park of the Victoria Hotel. Many riders gathered early and had been chatting, sharing and providing comfort for each other for some time before our departure. This was encouraged by the Victoria Hotel opening early to provide wonderful coffee. It is amazing how a nice cup of coffee loosens the tongue and warms the heart!

Let those who Ride Decide!



Back to the ride, we left the car park under SAPOL control and we thank the two officers for helping us. I believe we had some 204 bikes, 12 scooters, two trikes and three cars all leave the car park on mass.

This event is a little different as we ride in procession from O’Halloran Hill to Second Valley. We ride at about 10 kph below the speed limit so if anyone is snagged by traffic lights they can regroup without exceeding the speed limit.

Once we got out into open territory it was amazing to see the effect a column of 200+ bikes can have (we collected more riders along the way). You can follow the road as you look in your mirrors and see headlamps disappear into the distance. One riders comment amused me – “all I could see ahead of me was bikes, all I could see in my mirrors was headlamps!”



Once we arrived at Second Valley, many riders heeded the advice and parked in the top car park. It has excellent shade and the land has a slope that is more “bike friendly”. After everyone moved down towards the water Simon, our MRA Chaplin, conducted an elegant, eloquent and short prayer service to remember and pray for those we have lost and those of us left behind. A difficult job done well!



We then had a special moment at the end of the jetty to remember Bryan White in a way that I think he would have liked. It certainly tugged at the heart strings of many who were there. We then had a private moment so those who wished to remember a loved one could cast a paper fish out to sea. I think this confused those trying for the real thing!



Let those who Ride Decide!



After a short period of chatting and sharing it was time to ride again. So we helmeted up and headed for Victor Harbor along Delamere Road.

This provided a period of de-ja-vue for me as I found myself riding my cruiser alone on this road. It seemed eerily similar to the first time I rode this road, watching Bryan White disappear into the horizon. On my little cruiser of the day I just couldn't catch him. Neither could I on this day. Ride free Bryan!




Eventually we all gathered in Victor Harbor on the lawns. We soon found good food and good fellowship. It was pleasing to see so many riders chatting and enjoying each other's company. These are the little things that build fond memories for the future.

In time everyone wandered off when the time felt right and in time we too, headed for home. You can't call days like these great days, but they are special days and as time goes on, I believe they will become precious days!

2009 Ridden-On List

Sunday, 22 February 2009
7:25 AM

- ❖ Sonya Andolfatto
- ❖ Graham Bryant
- ❖ Andy Caldercott
- ❖ Wendy Van Gasteren
- ❖ Jayden Green
- ❖ Tim Hammat
- ❖ Tim Hunt
- ❖ Chris (Troppo) Lunn
- ❖ TJ Maxwell
- ❖ Wade McKinnon
- ❖ Lee McIntyre
- ❖ Phil North
- ❖ Geoff Parker
- ❖ Tony Pastuch
- ❖ Darren Rootes
- ❖ Robert Sadlier
- ❖ Scott Sampson
- ❖ Kym Strapps
- ❖ Christine Warren
- ❖ Bryan White





Let those who Ride Decide!



Now these days don't just happen and so I need to show my appreciation to many.

To the Hampstead Center for your support, thank you!

To Peter Goers, Radio 891 for his three years of supporting this event, I thank you.

To the Victoria Hotel for allowing us to mob up in their car park and for wonderful coffee, we all thank you.

To Radio 891 news for covering this event, a special thank you.

To the Advertiser, thank you for the interest.

To Channel Seven, for trying to cover this event, let's try again next year ☺

To SAPOL for providing a safe exit from the car park, a special thank you.

To the marshals and all those working on the little jobs in the background, we thank you!

To all our photographers who have sent in pictures and those who have promised photos I thank you. Pictures can be found here: <http://www.mrasa.asn.au/gallery/album146>

To all the ride groups for your support we thank you.

And last, but in no way least, to all the riders who joined in and worked so hard to "make it work" I salute you! You have done a great job in honoring the memory of those people special to you!

With great respect,

Jock Rogan

SAMRATS Coordinator.
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Let those who Ride Decide!