

# Iron Indian Riders Australia

HUB RALLY 16 to 19 March 2017 – The Grampians by Peter Kime & Phil Pilgrim

## GRAMPIANS



How good is life when you can have 4 to 5 days of perfect weather, good roads, leisurely riding, lots of food, wine and great company?

Many thanks to Chris for putting this ride, on it was perfect. Rides were well planned and led by George. Always able to find good rides and the best bakery or café for a meal and a chat. There was not one person who had a bad word or a whinge about the venue and the organization of the Rally.



The Cottages at Dunkeld were very comfortable and the rotunda proved to be an ideal meeting place for a BBQ or to sit around for a chat. The views around the area saw some very impressive rock out crops. The Royal Mail Hotel was a good spot for a meal. The pub had good reasonably priced food or you could have fine dining in the restaurant. The problem with getting to and from the pub is the bush track the drunks had to navigate on the trip back to the Cottages.



There was an interesting mix of bikes, some bringing 2 bikes along.

Phil Pilgrim had his Vindian and son Heaths Triumph Bonneville ( good choice for the roads around Horsham), Chris Horner his new Scout, George his Drifter as well as his newly registered 44 Chief.

Noel had his 2014 Chief and 47 Chief, John Fontanella his Chief, Alan Wright and partner Lisa on K1000 BMW. Peter Kime had to take the Drifter as both the Triumph and Chief are still in dry dock, Mark Barthelmie on new Triumph Bonneville (up for sale if anyone is interested in a 1 month old Triumph with all the good gear on it for a reasonable price \$15,000.) Mark has decided to buy a new 2017 Dark Horse as a replacement

Every day was perfect for riding although humid with trips ranging out all over the place from Dunkeld, Hamilton, Horsham, Port Ferry and return, trips were around 280 klm's a day.

The roads covered were to Halls Gap (returned again on Sunday because the roads were so good.), Rose Gap, Horsham, Hamilton and down to Port Fairy.

The entertainment (with home brewed whiskey supplied by Alan) was getting Georges 44 Chief sorted out. Between Phil White, Phil Pilgrim , George Fitzpatrick, Chris and intrepid test rider Noel the bike settled down to a nice idle. It was foiled by a clutch problem so did not get to check out the bitumen. The next day though after Mark delivered a clutch pedal actuating rod George was seen riding the old Chief, the carby had a short low speed needle fitted with a wrong taper so the taper was fixed with a drill and file and the needle stop spring shortened to get the mixture to lean out. The rally fee provided a egg and bacon breakfast then a ride on the Sunday morning to Halls Gap, Phil Pilgrim returned to Dunkeld with Chris Horner at lunch time, Phil loaded up to go home, the others (except for Mark who headed to Melbourne via Stawell) , continued on a run to Rose Gap in the quite humid heat of the day, the pleasant parts of the weekend were the BBQ's, and watching kangaroo's feeding a couple of metres from the well furnished cabins in between the chickens free-ranging.

Unfortunately Phil White's Springfield did not make it home, Phillip had the bike go out from under him while travelling home on the freeway. Thankfully Phillip is OK, but the Springfield suffered serious terminal damage and is a write-off. Looks like "Chip"s is coming out of moth balls.

