

Iron Indian Riders 1 st Sunday Ride – 4th March 2018

Ride to Yea via Flowerdale.



8 Riders and 1 sidecar passenger left Mill Park at 10:30 to do battle with the Plenty Rd Traffic. Traffic reasonably heavy for a Sunday morning Slow going until Mernda than able to settle down to a relaxing pace through to Whittlesea.

The weather today turned out perfect; it looked a bit gloomy looking to the North West with some black clouds on the horizon. Luckily it kept moving and treated us to a 25 degree morning and a pleasant run through Whittlesea then up to the Kinglake turn off. Once past the Kinglake West turn off you are flanked by the Kinglake National Park on the left and Flowerdale Plantation on the right. The road did not have a lot of traffic and it was a steady pace through the twisty bits and up the hills. Robert Hall commented at lunch the it is amazing how Owen gets the BMW outfit through the bends at a good pace with what appears to be no real effort; the outfit seemed to take the bends better than some of the bikes following behind. Once past Hazledene it is a short run up to the Flowerdale Hotel. Pulling in to the pub for coffee we joined the lineup of bikes already parked outside the pub. .We all sat at the outside tables enjoying a latte watching the other motorcycles come and go. A Triumph Triple got everyone's attention when the rider gave it a bit of stick leaving the pub, a seriously quick bike with a fair bit of noise to go with it.

When it was our turn to leave the pub area it was a rather sedate group that gently pulled out of the car park and took off gently onto the Yea road. No heroics or loud noise from this lot. The ride from Flowerdale to Yea (while only being about 24k) is a pleasant run through a lot of heavily timber country on a road that has some nice twisty bits as well a couple of straight bits that let you admire the scenery. Always a great section of road leading to the picturesque town of Yea.



The town was packed, a lot of cars and quite a few bikes lining the street. After finding a parking spot towards the end of town and a good 5 min walk from the toilets everyone dismounted and stood around pondering the best eatery that we should attend. The choice was made to visit the Country Club Inn which was a longer walk to from our parking spot than the toilet block. The Country Club Inn has been recently renovated (due to a fire?) and our selection was to sit outside in the beer garden. The waitresses were extremely helpful and promised to get all meals out at us at the same time if we ordered all at the same time. They were good to their promise and not only was the service good but the meals were good value and a big serving. We occupied 2 tables and enjoyed the meal and the ambience of the pub. About 2:00pm we decided to head for home half headed back towards Whittlesea while the others headed towards Seymour. I found the road from Yea through Trawool to Tallarook a real delight, a really pleasant and easy road to ride.

Owen headed to home via Seymour while Robert Hall and myself turned off at the Tallarook turn off and onto the freeway. We both turned off at Broadford with Robert heading to Kilmore and myself heading into Broadford to visit a mate who had just brought an A65 BSA Spitfire he wanted me to have a look at. It was another good day for an IIRA ride, good weather, great roads and the comradery around the lunch table that goes with our rides. Ride as attended by –

Ken Hager – No.1 Chief 111

Chris Criddle – Indian Chieftain

George Fitzpatrick - Drifter

Robert Hall – Triumph T100

Phil Pilgrim – Triumph Bonneville (650)

Rob Hadden – 2017 Harley Slim

Peter Kime – Drifter

Owen & Linda Jones – BMW Panzer tank

Thanks Owen for another well run ride.