

IIRA monthly ride – 6 May 2018

Ride to Moto-Bean Café Malmsbury.



Ideal Autumn day to dust of the bike and go for a run around the foothills of the Great Dividing Range. 15 members waited eagerly at BP Calder Park to hit the rode and enjoy the weather we were going to have during the day. Rod had just pulled in after a run down from Castelmaine and said it was freezing as he came through the Macedon Ranges and was glad to get to Calder Park were it was warm and sunny.

The ride left Calder Park at a bit after 9:30 and was ably by led Richard on one of his magical mystery tours he pulls out of his hat. Owen picked up the rear on the Panzer Tank to ensure that there was no one slower than him.

We set of through Diggers Rest towards Bacchus Marsh This road is always a favorite of mine, not much traffic , road in good condition and some gentle winding bits as you get to Toolern Vale and then at the back of Melton as you head past Lake Merrimu and onto the Gisborne – Bacchus Marsh Road. Getting through Bacchus Marsh and onto the Pentland Hills road is always a bit of a pain, local traffic, traffic lights and the obligatory road works get in the way of a good ride.

Once on the freeway you only have to suffer a bit of pain on the freeway until you take the turn off to Myrniong and onto the Pentland Hills Road. This road is a comfortable road to ride on, not many exciting bits but it is good to be able to look down onto the freeway and see all the tin tops and know that your are not having to compete with them. Up through the township of Myrniong and head to the Pikes Creek – Greenvale turn off gives all bikes a chance to catch up and keep the group together. The problem becomes keeping up with Richard, not only does he know how to ride he rings his Chiefs neck and keeps the pace lively through some of the twisty bits and up the hills.

The run through Greenvale, Blackwood and through to Trentham is a beautiful run. The trees were still showing their autumn colours and the scenery on each side of the road was lush and green. I sat behind Michael Dietrich on his 47 Chief for the run into Daylesford and it was a gentile pace at 90kmph and a pleasure to here and see a Chief as nice as Michaels purring along.

Daylesford had its Farmers Market on and half the Macedon Ranges must have been there. No parking spots and cars and people every where. The group pulled up on to the grassed area opposite the Royal Hotel. Time for Coffee and a chat. The sun at this stage was high in the sky and the weather was perfect. Sitting back and enjoying the world go past it was impressive to see the number of car clubs out and about and driving through Daylesford. The were all types on the prowl, Jaguars with little old men in cloth caps, Chev Impalas and utes, the Mercedes club out from a very nice 59 model through to the lastest AMG. There was even a lowly Triumph Herald for those that could not afford the high end stuff.

After a hurry on from Richard it was off to the Moto Bean Café in Malmsbury for a 1:30 appointment with lunch. Michael and Guy peeled off in Daylesford to head for home while the rest of us followed Richard out through Glenlyon and Castlemaine to enter Malmsbury via the Elphinstone – Taradale Rd.

We picked up Rods Partner Toni in Castlemaine and most of the group made it to Moto-Bean for a drink and a feed while myself and prospective new member Gary sat it out on a corner waiting for Owen and Robert only to finally realize that they had missed Gary in Castlemaine and were heading off towards Harcourt. The corner marshals' gave up after ½ hr and a text from Linda telling us they would meet us in Malmsbury. They eventually arrived 5mins after the corner markers, Owen blaming Robert as Robert was the lead rider.

Moto-Bean had a full table set aside for us and turned on the beat service I have seen there in a long time, with most meals enjoyed by everyone.



As is usual on these rides the company was great, the conversations lively, riding 1<sup>st</sup> class, food good and everybody had a good time.

Thanks to everyone who made the day great and to Richard for putting on a great ride as well as Owen for backing up and looking after the slow riders.

Riders on the run –

Richard Onyon – 47 Chief (or do we call it the hot rod?)

Michael Dietrich – 47 Chief

Phil Pilgrim – Polaris Scout

Guy Allen – Gilroy

Mark and Sandy Barthelmie – Polaris Black Bomber (Sandy on pillion)

Alastair Piercy – Polaris Chief

Toni Lumsden – Polaris Scout

Rob Hadden – Harley Fat Boy Slim

Burger Drake & Pauline – BMW

Robert Hall – Triumph

Owen and LKinda Jones – BMW Outfit (aka Panzer Tank)

Gary (propective new member) – Polaris Chieftain

The IIRA Drifter chapter -

George Fitzpatrick – Drifter

Phil White – Drifter

Peter Kime - Drifter

Who do you think –

1. Would win the race?
2. Be still going in 5 years time.

