

Iron Indian Riders Association

7th June 20 Ride to Alexandra

It was -1C in Tallarook, 2 degrees at Mill Park but showing a potential of 14 degrees in Alexandra, our change of destination from Mansfield. Day was crisp but no sign of rain, it was 2 degrees in Werribee when I stepped out, but I didn't care as I still can't ride a bike yet and was going in the cosy comfort of a car. We had a good turn up at Mill Park with the promise of meeting Noel Thornby in Yea. It was good to catch up with the usual suspects as well Martyn Goodwyn on a Japanese thingy, Rhani Edwards not on his Triumph but a Harley Knucklehead (?) Allah Peter Fonda without the fancy paint work. David Catterall brought his mate Bill along who was on a brand new Royal Enfield 650 that he thought was a great ride .Ready and willing to go were 14 people, 11 bikes and 1 car. Everyone fuelled up on coffee and was ready to go. Owen Jones swung in with his Chief and Dusting Sidecar, but you could not see Linda. Owen had fitted a new screen to the side car and settled in behind it was Linda, snug as a bug and no inclination to get out, she was as warm as toast. About this time we had a call from George Fitzpatrick, he was coming on his 42 Chief put noticed as he got near Plenty Rd he had lost his bag from the back of the bike. George was turning back to see if he could find it and was not sure if he would meet us in Yea.



Linda was not getting out of her cocoon, snug as a bug in a rug.



Just before take-off Alistair let us know that Glenn Ridge from Garage 41 had been in touch with him a couple of days before and that he would be on the road outside Molesworth to film us as we went by and would also catch up with us in Alexandra so that he could interview us for a part in the next series of Garage 41 (look for it on 7 mate every Saturday at 3:00pm.)

We all took off from Mill Park to fight with the traffic light along Plenty Rd to Whittlesea. As we got through Whittlesea it was a smooth ride through to Yea, not a lot of traffic and the sun was starting to shine through the trees showing the promise of a lovely day to come.



We arrived in Yea and began practising social distancing after filling up at the BP Service Station. I had heard from Noel just before entering Yea and he was going to wait for us at the Petrol Station. Unfortunately he thought he had missed us and headed for Mansfield. Just as we were mustering up everyone to get on their bikes George turned up. He had fuelled up at Mill Park and made good time getting to Yea before we took off. Unfortunately he did not find his back, he said he made it almost to his home before he turned around and headed back to Mill Park. His old Chief must have been running well to catch up with us in Yea. While we congregated at the BP Servo you could see that a lot of people were out to get some fresh air, not many parking spots and people lined up outside all the eateries.

Next stop was Molesworth where Glenn Ridge was going to be on the side of the road to film everyone as they rode past. We passed at a leisurely pace and continued into Alexander. Again the ride from Yea to Alexander was perfect, not much traffic good roads and the sun on our backs. The pace was just right and Owen maintained a speed that was comfortable for both old and new bikes.

We pulled in on Downey St in Alexandra. There were a few places to eat including the pub where you could have a coffee and a sandwich. I noticed that the group were hungry as soon as they parked their bikes they were off. All Cafes etc. were only serving take away so a line up was inevitable. The Pizza place near where we parked had a consistent line up all the time we were there. Most got a feed of Fish and Chips or a Hamburger and came back to sit down on the benches on the foot path to eat their meal. Rahni topped every one with his fish and chips as well as a hamburger, a big boy with hollow legs. A local sat with us and his dog was sniffing out everyone's food, he could not get to Rhani as his lead was too short. It was about this time that Noel Thornby turned up, good to see him again and impressed that he road from Inverloch to meet with us.

Glenn Ridge turned up a spent a lot of time talking to everyone, talking to them about their bikes and taking heaps of photos of the Indians. He seemed impressed with the line-up and was a nice bloke to have a chat to. He had a genuine interest in Indians and was impressed how the old and the new stuck together. Alistair supplied him with footage from his Go Pro so we hope the review he is doing for Garage 41 comes out as a good representation of our club.

The interview and photos will be on Garage 41 Sat 27th June 20, Channel 7 mate at 3:00pm. We will also be given a copy of the review to put on Facebook.

After lunch we packed up and started to head for home, Glenn stayed on the side of the road and took more photos as the bikes took off.

Thanks to the riders that turned up.

Phil Pilgrim - Polaris Scout, Alistair Piercy - Polaris Chief, Noel Thornby - Polaris Chief, Gary and Sandy Wilkins - Polaris Chiefton, David Catterall - Polaris Chief , Owen & Linda Jones – 1946 Indian Outfit, Sandy Ayres – 1946 Chief, George Fitzpatrick – 1942 Indian Chief, Phillip White – BSA A10 Super Rocket, Bill – New Royal Enfield Constellation , Martyn Goodwin – a Japanese thingy, Rhani Edwards – Harley knuckle head (the quietest Harley I have heard for a long time.) Peter Kime – Renault Captur.

Another great ride with some great people.

Thanks to Owen for organising the ride and to Alistair for getting Garage 41 involved with us.

We look forward to the next ride on the 5th of July.