

IIRA Crazy Horse Rally - Corryong

Sept 15, 16 & 17th



Side panel supplied by Chris Horner for everyone to put on their bikes. Certainly let everyone know who we were. Nice touch and well done.



Another successful Rally. The IIRA filled up every room of the Mountain View Motel with the exception of 2 rooms.

A total of 21 people attended with a mix of 8 Springfield Indians, 7 new Indians (Scouts & Chiefs) as well as new Triumph Thunderbird, Gary's Triumph Trident (finally back on the road), Ricky Gow had both his scout and his triumph chopper, Owen Jones on a BMW (no outfit on this one) and Richard on a Kawasaki 600?

The award for distance travelled and perseverance went to Steve McCulloch who had only recently got his 47 Chief (Phil Pilgrim's ex-Black Bastard engine) on the road and road it all the way from his home in Nundle NSW to Corryong and back again. A total of about 1800 kms before he even went on the Crazy Horse Rally. Steve had a few bugs with the Indian but over the course of the rally got most of them ironed out. Full credit to Steve, not only did he put the Ks to get to Corryong he had a ball doing the ride as well.

After discussions with Jim Tierney and Jackie from the motel we had to make a decision on what roads we would travel on Saturday. The road up to Jindabyne had a bit of snow on it. Jim came through on his way to Corryong and said the road was a bit slippery and we should avoid it. Jackie showed photos of her car on the road surrounded by a light sprinkling of snow. It was decided rather than risk it we should take the alternative ride Gary had organised.

Friday night was a meal and laughs around the table at the pub just up from the motel. All tucked into bed for an early rise get to get stuck into the full breakfast being put on by the motel.

Stepping out of the room early Saturday morning showed the weather had turned and a decent rain was falling, everyone was getting a bit wary about riding so off to breakfast to see what happens after our stomachs were full.

Low and behold when Gary arrived and he had brought the sun with him, it was still a bit brisk but the roads were drying out and it looked like being a good day.



All assembled out the front for the riders briefing and photo shoot. Gary announced we would take the ride through the valley up to Walwa, through to Tallangatta for fuel and coffee and onto Yackandandah for lunch.

Bev Hogg was back up driver with Russell Arthur keeping her company. Russell made the trip up Friday night and stayed overnight, coming into Corryong early in the morning to come on the ride.

At this stage we left Ken Hager behind, he was not feeling 100% and decided to stay in Corryong, going down to have a look at the machinery show.

As expected the roads were great and smooth riding under the guidance of Gary. This area has some beautiful scenery and was further highlighted with spring in the air and a lot of trees coming out of winter hibernation to show all their glory.

Couple of stops on the way to regroup and allow Bev to catch up.



Off through Walwa and eventually entering Tallangatta for fuel and for some a much need coffee.

Steve McCulloch again announced how much fun he was having as we fuelled up. Steve is a big man and following him on his Chief he made it look like a mini bike. He wasn't afraid to give it a bit of stick either, for a bloke who has only just started riding an Indian he certainly did it well, it was a joy to follow him.



Uneventful run to Yackandandah, everyone just enjoying the roads. The new bikes helping out with corner marking and being able to give their bikes a bit of throttle to pass those on the older bikes.

Lunch in Yackandandah was up to your own discretion and with all the bikes pulled up outside the pub and the shop opposite it was a beautiful display. After paying homage to John Smiths girl friend who was still sitting in the same spot he left her about 8 years ago. Although I think she was a blonde when John cuddled up to her.



After a pie and coffee we saddled up again to make the 130 k ride back to Corryong.

Riders got a bit spread out on the ride back and was not without a few mishaps.

Steve McCullochs bike ran out of battery power and I passed Tallangatta thinking I would have enough fuel to get to Corryong. Fatal mistake on my behalf, ran to an empty petrol tank stop about 10k before Corryong. With Steve broken down another 15k further back it was nice to be able sit on the side of the road and enjoy the peace and quite. Phone calls to Those that had already made it to Corryong had Mark and Richard loading Marks van with petrol and a spare battery for Steve.

I was amazed at the number of people who stopped to make sure I was OK. Even caught up with Andrew Guy who was just on his way into Corryong to spend the night with us and then ride home in the morning.



Eventually Mark and Richard arrived just as Bev was coming around the corner with Steve being mobile again and Georges 42 Chief on the trailer suffering from a minor electrical fault. After giving the Chief a smell of petrol it was off again for the short run into Corryong, making sure that the first servo was visited to ensure the same fate did not happen again.

Eventually arrived back into Corryong, got into some liquid refreshment before tidy ing ourselves up to go up for dinner in the fancy restraint up the road.

2 table loads later we all had ordered and were seated to enjoy a magnificent meal put on by the restraint. Pretty flash for blokes only used to pub meals or a pie in the bakery.



By the comments and chatter around the table I think this was a very successful rally. Everyone said how much they enjoyed it and how good it was to catch up with everyone.

A special presentation was made to Steve McCulloch for his effort making the rally, Steve also won one of the prizes in the raffle. He was a very happy boy when he left to return home to Nundle.

Raffle prizes were donated by Indian as well as 2 very smart looking hat and coat racks designed and made by Keith Collins. They had the Indian head emblem on the bottom with a position to hang a jacket and a helmet above it.

After enjoying every ones company it was back to the motel for more liquid refreshments and a good night sleep. I was informed that enough wood was cut during the night to keep the home fires burning in Corryong for the next 12 months.

Sunday was going to be a short run up to Khancoban for morning tea before packing up and heading for home.

Imagine our surprise when we strutted outside in our jocks in the morning to find everything covered with a layer of frost. Promptly got back inside to get dressed and over to the dining room to warm up with the sumptuous breakfast put on by Jackie.



Again the weather warmed up and off we went to Khancoban for coffee. It was a bit brisk but still a beautiful morning for a ride. Plenty of coffee taken and lots of chatter before we all headed back to Corryong to pack up and head for home.

We should really thank Gary for the efforts he puts into these rallies and for continuing to provide great weather. Also thanks to Jackie and the crew at Mountain View, they have never failed to look after us.



