

Camp Kedron Mid-Week Rally

Part 1 The trip

We assembled at the Caltex Muno-Para at 10.30 am on the Wednesday. The weather was not the best, very overcast and the occasional drizzle of rain. There were 14 of us including Jenny in here 4x4 with food and goodies. So at 10.30am. we ere off, and headed via Gawler bypass then on towards Eudunda for morning tea, by then the weather had cleared and looking much better. Allan and wife had a little mishap and over balanced on the side stand. A little damaged was done to the bike, but after picking the bike and dusting off his pride we were of again. Our next stop was for lunch at Morgan.

After stopping for while we continued towards our destination at Barmera.

When we arrived at the campsite, we unpacked and choose our bunkhouses.

Ross and Jenny and few helpers had the catering well organised and with no time at all we were all enjoying tea, coffee and nibbles in front of a warm fire.

Later in the evening we had a BBQ; and dessert, and after that we all got stuck into a few casks of Shiraz and Port. You can imagine after a short while the conversation was well ticking over.

Day two, the Thursday was started off by breakfast, and then we were off for a run.

We rode around the Riverland and together, and with fine weather it made for a real enjoyable day. We stopped of for lunch where most of us had ice cream cones sitting on the banks of the Murray. It was a great ride heading back to camp, where we rested with a cuppa. Later in the evening most of rode to the Barmera Football club for dinner. We suggested that Jenny drive us all in her 4x4 but 14 people would not fit.

Everybody voted that the meal at the club was great we all enjoyed it.

The night was finished off when we got back to camp where there we got stuck back into the Shiraz and port. I think we all covered every subject in the conversation; we solved the world's problems.

Day three Friday, our last day. We had our breakfast, then we packed up, we all chipped in for the camp clean up. First a few of us first rode into the town to fuel up before heading back, and about 9.00am we were off. We went the back road home, and stopped at Swan Reach for morning tea, before crossing the Murray on the river ferry. We had agreed at Swan Reach at our stop, to head to Birdwood and break-up on our homeward directions.

In all we had a terrific weekend, the group was just big enough to get to know each other. Ross, Mick, Jenny etc had the whole week well organised. The weather was fine, good company, what more can you ask for.

Part 2 The Bike

As for myself this mid week rally was a good opportunity to give my new bike a good run to get the feel of it. For, the week before the rally I had bought a new BMW R1200RT, at the moment the bike is a bit tall for me, or I am too short for it. I had to pick my parking spots very carefully. But I have arranged to get the bike lowered by Technoflex next week. It was John Mikutta who put me on to theses guys as they did a good job on his bike, as his bike is the same make and model. Being 5'3" it is not easy to find a bike that will accommodate my height; I think they make bikes for people that are six feet and over. I had to take time and do my homework in choosing a bike, as the last bike I had was a disaster. My last bike was a Triumph Speedmaster, and from the day I bought it was nothing but trouble. Every rally I went on, something either fell of, or broke, and trying to get good back up service was a task in its self. So a quick decision was made to get rid of the Triumph. I now was looking for something that was reliable, good back up service, and set up for long-range touring. After searching for some months it came down to a choice between two bikes. The 1800 Goldwing or the BMW R1200RT. I took both of them for a test ride, and did many of hours research on reviews etc. From my point of view in the end, The BMW walks all over the Goldwing. So I am now looking forward to many years of trouble free riding.

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