

Bill Simpson (leader)	Suzuki GSXR1000	Ben Warden (rear rider)	Honda CBR1000
Cliff Peters	Suzuki GSXR1000	Misho Zrakić/Pina Garasi	Honda CBR1000
Glenn Aspden	Suzuki GSXR1000	Marc Marais	Kawasaki ZX10
Neil Silver (1 st ride)	Suzuki GSXR1000		<i>7 bikes, 8 people</i>



It was nice to wake up on Sunday morning and look out the window to see sunshine and dry roads. This was in contrast to Saturday morning which was cold, wet and raining.

My bike had a new rear tyre which I had got on the cheap from Cliff. He had bought two Continentals but didn't like their lack of grip. So he offered the second one to me at a really good price. Normally I don't vary my tyre choice at all but at \$50 I couldn't resist!

Five minutes after leaving home it was obvious that my first look out the bedroom window at home had deceived me as to the weather ahead. Or so it seemed.

I arrived at the Caltex Werribee and Cliff was already there. We waited for the main group, led by Ben (as per the pre-arrangement) till I took up the ride leader role in Anakie. Seven bikes, eight people making a nice size group. And to be honest, not a bad turn out considering that Saturday was apparently one of the wettest June days in history! No rain falling now, but wet roads meant the ride over to Anakie was carefully undertaken.

A substantial bit of road works were in progress just out of Werribee (no work on this actual day) and I got a bit of a laugh when I saw a Holden Barina security car bogged to the knacker bags in the very middle of it. No doubt the security person had been doing their rounds the night before and found out the hard way that his car doesn't like doing off road adventures. I couldn't help but think about the poor dude having to get out of his car in the pouring rain, pitch black, freezing cold, and in the middle of the night. Then walking through thick mud only to have to ring his boss and give him the bad news. Better him than me!

Amazingly, the weather and road moisture level improved dramatically only a few more kays up the road.

At Anakie I delivered a brief brief and met first-timer Neil. Turns out that we had crossed paths on a ride many years before. A small world, hey!

Riding in and around the Brisbane Ranges was good fun. The weather, whilst threatening, stayed kind to us. A coffee stop at Meredith included some laughs and stories. Then it was off to Inverleigh. Here we refuelled, had lunch, and had a decent break as well. Normally from here we would head over to Bannockburn via the back roads for a cup of tea and a scone at my place but not this time. Circumstances meant it couldn't be on this occasion but will resume on future rides.

Up until now we had really only had very light showers throughout the day. In fact, the weather had been pretty good! But on the way to the finish line it started to rain. Not heavy, but probably the hardest it had all day. Everyone on the ride was well prepared though, and no one got too wet.

Glenn didn't hang around too long at the finish line. I think he needed to be somewhere else and the rest of us had a good old chin wag before we said goodbye to each other and headed for home. It was only a short day's riding - 300 odd kays but I had a fun time and it's always nice to catch up with my MSR friends. Thanks to those that came along!

Bill Simpson