

Towong Day 3 Monday 4th November



My eyes light up when I see the Bondo and Rosewood Roads written on the Day 3 itinerary... Hmm, the 'race tracks'... Time for a speed fix with the 'best' - Dave Ward, and with my 'bestia' (Italian for 'beast') - Misho; with the added bonus of no marshals telling us to "slow down". This is my only opportunity these days to do a pillion ride on a 'race track' since the demise of the Honda Ride Days, and alas, much to my disappointment, the Phillip Island Ride Days don't allow pillions.

Misho 'the man' does his stuff and thrills me to bits on the Bondo Road; I absolutely love the 'speed-Misho' experience.

Time to change over to the "Tassie Devil" (Dave Ward) on his deceptively-named "Fairy Blade" (name bestowed by Dave Ward after purchasing a mighty powerful Kawasaki ZX14 or "the bus", as Misho refers to it) to polish up the Rosewood Road.... aahhh - brilliant.... I'm in speed heaven... oh, but hang-on, both these roads comes to an end much sooner than last time and leave me wanting more; I think these boys are getting faster every time... I may need to do lap times for my future reference.

Now, Dave Ward, being such a rascal, likes to throw in bit of entertainment when I'm on-board by doing a wheelie or 2 or 3 or 4, preferably randomly, occasionally just before a blind corner, just to check if I'm alert - yes, I am, as I commence to gesticulate urgently to Dave to put the wheel down and then reprimand him for causing me such alarm... I can tell he's laughing under his helmet.

But wait, there's more... we do some crazy random farm road (Adjungbilly, I think it is, or as Misho thought he heard Ben calling it "headjob Billy") - consisting of unmarked corners, narrow, undulating and bumpy roads, cattle grids, potholes, causeways, etc... and just to show a bit of motor cross skills, Dave Ward proceeds to do airborne jumps from one road hump to the next...clever boy... except I wasn't prepared for these either, hence causing my alert/alarm factor to urgently escalate. Doesn't take me long though, I get the hang of this routine and hold on really tight when I see what's coming. Bless that man, he gives me the craziest pillion fun you could ever imagine... I just love it and feel most grateful at having such an opportunity...thanks Dave x

A lovely part of these long-weekends' is the post-ride socialising, with drinks, dinner and lots of blah-blah with fellow riders... a nice dimension to the 'hard-core riding only' Sunday rides. Thanks to my fellow riders for all the fun you brought to the rides and thanks to all who did the rear-riding - Nigel, Andrew, Stoimen and Cindy; I appreciate the patience and tolerance this task requires.

Many thanks to Ben Warden for all your meticulous planning, organising, co-ordinating and ride leading that you do; it all contributes to making these Cup Weekend so successful and enjoyable... you're the best Virgo I know!

Pina Garasi