



Honda CBR1000	Ben Warden (leader)	Ewan Haig (1 st ride)	Suzuki GSXR1300
Honda CBR1000	Dave Byrne	Ron Johnston	Suzuki GSX1250
Honda CBR1000	Misho Zrakic	Jeff Beaton (1 st ride)	Suzuki GSXR1000
Honda CBR1000	Tony Stegmar	Dean Bonthorne	Suzuki GSXR750
Honda CBR1000	Paul Southwell	Raphael Alikakos (1 st ride)	Suzuki SV650
Honda VTR1000	Alistair Sobotker (1 st)	Quinn Myers	Kawasaki ZX14
Honda CBR929	Scott Bowden (1 st ride)	Aiden Baker	Kawasaki ZX10
Honda CBR600	Roman Biaroza	John Willis	Kawasaki Z1000
Honda CBR600	Pina Garasi	Rod Merrett	BMW S1000RR
Honda CBR600	Jesvin George	John Innes (1 st ride)	Yamaha FZ600
Aprilia RSV4	Dave Williams	Tom McKenzie (1 st ride)	Aprilia 750
Honda CBR600	Dennis Lindemann	Rod Silver (rear)	KTM RC8
Honda CBR250	Luke Innes (1 st ride)	Peter Jones	MV Augusta F4

It was a perfect day weather wise when we met up at the starting point at Yarra Glen. This was my first ride since early in the year due to being busy with our new house, a couple of trips away with work, and being on double jeopardy so being too scared to ride! But I can't hide forever from the revenue raisers so today I decided to ride and see if I could have fun and a license at the end of it.

There were many new faces at the start but still some familiar ones as well. I found Ben and told him that I would go rear rider because that way I wouldn't drive someone else mad as I obeyed the ridiculous changes of speed limits that appear every kilometre or so. There was the usual riders' briefing and introduction of some first time Club riders and then off we went.

The first stop was Warburton for morning tea. The route took us via Healesville, Launching Place and then down Old Warburton Road, which I had not done before, in to Warburton. It is always good to do new roads and I enjoyed this one. It was easy to see that this was the first good day for a while because there were plenty of bikes in Warby and getting a park at the bakery was not so easy.

After a cuppa and a cake it was off to the Reefton Spur. This was the first time I have been there since the overzealous policing started a couple of years ago. I was a bit worried because the RC8 ticks all the boxes that others have been booked for: noise, fender eliminator and, until this trip, speeding would have been likely as well. It must have been my lucky day because there were no police. It was surprising how clean the Reefton was considering how crappy the weather has been lately. I had expected it to be covered in wet bark but pleasantly, it was clear.

After a brief regroup at the top, it was on to Marysville and Eildon for lunch via the Back Eildon road. We dispersed in all directions to the three main eateries.

After lunch the ride was along Skyline Road to Alexandra and Yarck where we turned off on some new roads again. I'm not really sure which roads we took but they were all good and we ended up at Broadford where the ride ended. I think we were on Highlands road for a while and I know we went through Tallarook but the exact route I'm not sure.

I managed to last the whole ride without getting booked and although at times it required a huge amount of self-discipline, I'll do it again. I thoroughly enjoyed the ride.

Thanks to Ben for leading and to everyone who came for a ride.

Rod Silver