

A ride report of the shortest ride ever!

Tuesday 17th June 2025

Present:

1. John Killingsworth, BMW R1200GS, 2011 (Official Ride Leader)
2. Paul Beukelman, Triumph T120R, 1970 (Apprentice Lead Rider!)
3. Peter Trathen, Suzuki V-Strom 650
4. Danien Lewer, Live Wire Harley Davidson.
5. Peter Hanson, Triumph T140V, 1974, (Tail end Charlie and Mr Fix-It)

We started off from Chirnside Park on another cold and wet Tuesday morning.

Damien after arriving announced he “felt flat” and needed a (electric) recharge (on his Harley Live Wire). I’d never seen an electric Harley – it seemed to wizz around well, only trouble was no noise! He came back about 15 minutes later – feeling recharged.



The group – with Damien in (yellow jacket) feeling flat!

Captain John took the opportunity to get a coffee and utter the words “Oh no, I’ve got a screw (loose)!”.



John's immortal words; Oh no!



"I've got a screw (loose)!"

Peter Trathen instantly offered his tyre plugging kit for salvation; however, this was declined due to uncertainties of his or the kit's capability to handle the screw – hence Peter Hansen jumping into instant action.



Peter “Mr Fix-It” springing into action but needing a bent “thingy” (valve stem elbow adapter).

Advice was given (without being requested) – to attack from the other side of the bike where there is no disc brake, with the bike on centre stand.



Captain John supervising (or holding bike on centre stand?)

After Mr Fix-It added 4PSI, he was rewarded with a sip of Captain John's coffee.



Peter with his reward

Once the morning's festivities had somewhat subsided, there was discussion of where to go, on this wet morning – either abort (and letting Captain John get his tyre repaired) or a ride. Consensus was to go for a ride. It was proposed to go to “Flour Flower” in King Lake West for morning tea and then Yea for lunch.

Off we finally left – with Captain John leading, apprentice Paul following closely. Going along Jumping Creek Road in Warrandyte, apprentice Paul, when approaching the busy Warrandyte Road roundabout was a little too close behind Captain John, and used the front brake (with twin leading shoes) a bit too enthusiastically – causing what is technically termed a “low speed front wheel washout”.

Next thing Paul was down (with no bodily harm – other than a severely injured ego) and a large queue of cars behind us. A chap from a car behind us jumped out and offered assistance to lift Paul's Bonnie up... Paul agreed. Without any further hesitation he lifted the bike up and put it upright on the footpath, on the side of the road. He must have been a weight lifter!

By this stage the group started to re-assemble 15m down Jumping Creek Road at the entrance to Potters Reception – doing masking tape repairs to indicators, at which time the reception centre maintenance staff also arrived – again offering help. The world is full of kind people!

Captain John recommended we “lick our wounds” of the “coffee shop 500m down the road on the right, its name I at first couldn’t recall” – which turned out to be the excellent Warrandyte Stonehouse Café.



Team undertaking masking tape repairs to apprentice Paul’s Bonnie – fitted with the excellent twin leading shoes

At the Stonehouse Café the team settled in next to the fireplace....



The Team discussing the problems of the world – and how to solve them. Paul while taking the photo was eyeing his excellent cauliflower soup

The prolonged morning tea became the early lunch stop for the wet and by now weary team. Captain John spoke up and said that he would prefer to end the day and seek a repair shop for his rear tyre – and the rest of us were free to decide what to do.

At this point everybody agreed to call it quits, and after the grand total of only 15 miles the day ended very early! Better luck next ride!

Report by Paul Beukelman (Apprentice Ride Leader)