

Porepunkah Christmas Camp

26th Dec to Jan 2nd 2012

Tony Stegmar – station wagon, trailer, CBR1000RR and bicycle.

Ben and Julie Warden – car, trailer, bicycle and CBR1000RR.

Ron and Julie Johnston – car, trailer, bicycle and CBF1000.

Marc, Renée and Aven Marais – car, ZX10R and bicycles.

John Willis – ute, trailer, Z1000, DR450 and bicycle.

Rod Langer – van, KTM990, DL400 and bicycle.

Cliff and Barbara Peters - Car, trailer and bicycle.

Lyn Duncan – NSX650 and Peter Hill – KTM990.

Paul Southwell – van and CBR1000RR.

Ian Payne – van and CBR1000RR.

Ern Reederers – CBR954RR.

Ha Du – hire car.

18 people

Monday 26th Ben and Julie, Ron and Julie, Cliff and Barbara, Tony, John, Paul, Ian and Rob all arrived today. Ern was staying in Mount Beauty; Lyn and Pete in Porepunkah. The nightly run up Buffalo began. Interestingly the toll booth has now been demolished so you no longer need to pay for the trip up Mt Buffalo!

Tuesday 27th Today the group would ‘do’ the loop comprising; Bright, Tawonga Gap, Mt Beauty, Falls Creek (coffee). The next section of road was blanketed in fog! Then Glen Valley and return, Anglers Rest (road was covered with lots of flood debris), Omeo (lunch), Mt Hotham, Harrietville then back to Porepunkah. Rob Langer and John Willis then mounted up on the dirt bikes for an overnight ride to Dargo.

Wednesday 28th Today’s ride would encompass Porepunkah, Bright, Tawonga Gap (met Ern here), Gundowring, Eskdale, Dartmouth Dam and Mitta Mitta (lunch). Then Tallangatta (fuel), Granya Gap, Talgarno, Bethanga Bridge (for photos), Bethanga, Talgarno, Granya Gap, Tallangatta (coffee), Happy Valley Road, Rosewhite Road, Myrtleford Bakery (coffee) and back to camp.

Thursday 29th Today, we would do the ‘anti clockwise loop’ comprising Bright, Harrietville, Hotham, Dinner Plain (coffee or spilt chocolate for Ben), Omeo, Swifts Creek, Cassilis, Omeo (fuel/lunch), Benambra and back, Anglers Rest, Falls Creek (coffee), Mount Beauty, Tawonga Gap, Bright then back to Porepunkah. That evening a few of us dined at the up-market resort ‘Villa Gusto’ in the Buckland Valley. Marc Marais and family arrived today.

Friday 30th With another hot day predicted, only a short ride today; Bright, Tawonga Gap, Happy Valley, Rosewhite, Myrtleford (lunch), Lake Buffalo, Myrtleford, Porepunkah, up Mt Buffalo to the Chalet lookout then back to camp. John Willis did a tandem one hour paragliding flight! Ha arrived today after having spent Christmas in Canberra with her folks.

Saturday 31st More hot weather so up into the cooler mountains for a ‘lookout’ run which comprised Bright, Hotham, (Dannys Lookout), Dinner Plain (coffee), Omeo, Swifts Creek, Cassilis, Omeo (fuel/lunch), Benambra road to McMillan’s lookout, Anglers Rest, Rocky Valley Reservoir (admire view), Falls Creek (coffee), Mount Beauty, Tawonga Gap (Sullivans Lookout – Tony and Ben then did the 1.5km dirt up to the SEC Lookout), Bright then back to Porepunkah. Cliff and Barb headed home today. After a communal BBQ, we settled down to welcome in the New Year but very few actually saw it in!

Sunday 1st Rob, John, Paul, Ha and the Marais family all headed home today. Tony, Ben and Julie did an early morning run up to the Horn. Later Ben and Ian sought the cooler air of Falls Creek and then on their return helped Tony, Ron and Julie Warden pack up the tents for the Johnston evening trip home to Melbourne.

Monday 2nd The rest of us headed home today after another successful stay at Porepunkah.

Ian Payne