



The Triumph Motorcycle Register of Australia

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## **SOUTHERN TRIPLES RALLY YASS 2022 RALLY REPORT**

**7 to 10 April 2022**

The Southern Triples Rally was moved to Yass this year, both for a change & as we had outgrown the facilities in Gunning. For those of you who don't know Yass it is a charming country town with lots of facilities about 70 KM from Canberra.

The late date this year was chosen to de-conflict with the 'Tassie Tour' which was being attended by several ACT triples owners.

After our ghastly wet summer & destructive floods in QLD & northern NSW I suppose it was inevitable that a similar 'Rain Bomb' would hit southern NSW, & so it did early in the morning of Thursday 7 Apr. It rained all Thursday from 0430 drenching Tony Eklom & Tony Hick who were riding from QLD as they passed through Sydney. I had intended to ride to Yass but decided in mid afternoon to trailer my T150V.

I met the heroic 'Two Tony's' at the motel in Yass & we spent the evening together at the Yass Soldier's Club. Where we met & chatted to Lynn an interesting 'lady of leisure' from Melbourne, who was passing through.

I had originally had 20 entrants; however two dropped out for medical reasons. Of the remainder, 6 cancelled, one of whom David Philis relented & arrived to join us on Saturday morning. I eventually had 12 riders.

The scheduled ride to Wee Jasper was cancelled due to the rain & a lack of riders however a small group of us decided on a short ride to the Murrumbidgee River Bridge late in the afternoon on Friday when the rain briefly stopped. This warmed up the bikes & got us in the mood for the weekend.

The Friday evening dinner at the Soldiers Club was a jolly affair when everybody socialised over good (very large) meals there were 17 of us at dinner. The rain had blown itself out late in the evening promising a fine Saturday, which indeed dawned.

With the help of Bernie Clark & his wife Sally, we put on breakfast at the motel's BBQ: this was a great idea & an opportunity for socialising.

We set off for the Main Rally Ride at 0930 after Steve Lord, assisted by Chris Robinson, fixed a fuel leak. Dave Philis & his wife Nadine arrive in their van with his T150V. Rick Moss & Barry Garner had arrived in a Car on Friday afternoon & Rick agreed to tow the breakdown trailer loaned from Attilio: this allowed Bernie to ride his T150V.

It was a glorious morning as we rode to Murrumburrah on sweeping roads & glorious hilly country. Murrumburrah has become something of a 'Light Horse Town' with several statues including a marvellous one of the famous horse 'Bill the Bastard' who famously brought out five stranded soldiers in one go.

We met the artist in his workshop, but whose name I did not recall. We were provided coffee & refreshments at the 'Light Horse Hotel' before the next stretch of the ride to Boorowa for lunch.

All bikes ran perfectly through the open roads of western NSW. We were provided a good lunch at the Boorowa Hotel where the publican was very pleased to see us. Our bikes were admired by another riding group on Harleys whilst we were there.

Some of us got fuel here in Boorowa as the ride was a long one of over 100 miles, including myself. The next leg of the ride was to Binalong & the Hotel there for afternoon refreshments. Several years ago Rick blew a centre piston riding here, an unfortunate memory for him. It was such a lovely sunny afternoon that we stayed in Binalong for quite a while before riding back to Yass. The total ride distance was ~115 Miles. One misfortune on the way back from Binalong: Tony Eklom lost his side cover from the T160 which was run over by a following Car & squashed flat. Did that driver run over it deliberately?

The Rally Dinner was held at the Soldiers Club again but this time in the terribly crowded & noisy bistro which was not conducive for awards & speeches, so we moved to a table in the quiet auditorium. I thanked everyone for coming & awarded the prize for the Best Trident to Tony Eklom (T160) & the best Rocket 3 to Tony Hicks, who incidentally had the only Rocket at the Rally: even so it was a worthy winner. The special award was given to Bernie & Sally Clark for their tremendous efforts cooking us breakfast. That award was a clock with a Lucas headlight glass covering the face. This amusing award was donated by Jeff Skillen who has often made awards for us. Jeff had withdrawn for a medical appointment. We thank him for this award. Bernie & Sally were delighted with the clock.

Sunday dawned sunny again & Sally & Bernie excelled with a most delicious breakfast, even better than Saturday's. Several left after breakfast: the 'Two Tony's' set off for their long ride back to QLD & the Wishart Brothers set off for Culcairn, two hours south. Chris Robinson & his wife Rhonda also left for the coast. This left only 4 of us to ride to Gunning which was a shame. Rick & Barry, & Chris Collins' wife Lorraine came over in cars. We awaited the arrival of the ACT VVCMCC on their Sunday ride & soon Gunning was crowded with bikes. Only three of us rode back to Yass: Bernie, Steve Lord & myself to load trailers.

I was home & unloaded well before darkness after a good Rally which was almost ruined by the latest 'Rain Bomb' courtesy of La Nina.

Yours Sincerely

Lorraine Litster

For Triumph Register of Australia