

Vintage Trail Bike and Ride to Captains Flat - 9 April 2017

After our access to our regular route for the Vintage Trail Ride from Uriarra Crossing was now no longer available a new location to run a trail ride was needed, so an idea was put forward from Alan B about doing a trail ride to coincide with the Captains Flat ride. After two Reccy rides in the Tallaganda State Forest the route was sorted, one easy loop and one challenging loop.

Sunday the 9th of April It's raining at 07:00 and the forecast is for more rain, I get out to Captains Flat at 08:30 and Glen, Maria and Aki are there getting sorted for their coffee, breakfast, lunch etc.

09:15 there are 8 Trail bike riders ready to take the new challenge of the inaugural new location Trail ride and Mick G using Phil S's four wheel drive as the backup.

At 09:30 the group headed off with no rain although the radar showed a good downpour coming through from the west, we headed off and got to the 19 kilometer mark when Peter D's 1949 BSA B33 broke the rear exhaust mount, a bit of wire tired up to the frame and off we go, this bike with it's popping, crackling and occasional backfire and the smell of Castor made it a real old-school atmosphere.

We managed to get 26 Klm's to Lowden Forest Camp without any rain, the whole area has been redone with new drop toilets and a revamped campground, well worth seeing even in a vehicle, a brief stop, and as it was obvious that rain was about to hit on how dark it was getting, the decision was made that we don't do the challenging section and all take the alternative route home, we leave Lowden Forest Camp and only five minutes later the heavens opened, we headed onto Main Range Fire trail and we were literally riding in the cloud line while it was bucketing rain with visibility down to about 5 to 10 meters in places, all managed to get through and back to the park in Captains flat making it a 70Klm loop, a handful of road riders did make it out, however the rain kept coming.

I'd like to thank Glen, Maria and Aki for their excellent catering and there making the best of the raining and challenging conditions, I also thank Alan B and Damian H for doing the Reccy run with me so this could go ahead.

See you at the "dry" next one.

Lou B