



HAMILTON MOTOR CYCLE CLUB INC

HMCC Presidents Report August 2024

Hi All

Not much to report for me except we have some nice new bikes lined up for the next two club nights

First up is this Thursday is the latest retro offering from Yamaha the XSR900GP plus a couple of mystery machines



Get along this Thursday night at Hamilton Motorcycle Clubrooms, 149 Seddon Rd, 7:30 and check them out

Chris Bridge

Hamilton Motorcycle Club Inc



August Road Ride - Sunday 28th July

Eight bikes and riders met at Waitomo Ruakura anticipating better weather than the previous Sunday AND a dip in the Oropi Hot Pools (aka Smallgusta).

We had three new riders; Lisa on her Harley Sporty, and Sam and Kyle on a Suzuki 250 and Kawa 400. The others were myself, Mark H, Steve de G, Tisza S and Mikey A on his H-D Sporty.



We met in fog, but it had almost all lifted by the time we were half way to Scotsmans Valley Road. We carried on to Matamata and refreshments and then scurried out of town and onto SH24 which then melded into SH29 and over the Kaimais to meet where the Caltex station once was at Tauriko. Then up to Pyes Pa Road and into Oropi Gorge Road.

Oropi Gorge Road. What a twister; there was one turn that was not only a sharp left, but it seemed to climb at 45 degrees and you could put your left arm out and touch the road we were going to be on in a few seconds.



Well, we went along a ridge road, Herefrord Rd, that looked out to the coast and ahead to the Mount and then rolled into the hot pools. Six in the pool and two on the mini golf course; no holes in one.



A bit more refreshment and away again, going out on Oropi Road to SH36 and the Manapouri and Mangorewa Gorges. The Manapouri Gorge road was great; smooth twisties well formed after the flood repairs. We then headed up Oturoa Rd to join into SH5 Mamakus and then over to Okoroire for, yep, end of day refreshments.



Turned out to be a long day, getting home around 5:00, the light dimming on a good days ride.

Thanks for riding along.

Cheers

Ray

August Road Ride

Coromandel Overnighter

Initial plan is for Saturday 10th August and staying at the Top Ten Holiday Park. THIS IS NOT FAR AWAY, SO READ ON AND GET IN TOUCH. We stayed there last year and found the cabins to be excellent and an easy walk to the top pub and town.

Let me know if the 10th clashes with other events/rides for any of you by Friday 2nd August. If there's a lot of disruption I'll consider the following weekend.

If the weather's a washout, we would do the weekend of the 17th.

Also, let me know by Friday the 2nd if you want a cabin bed. I'll then see if we can accommodate any personal touches like a cabin to yourself ...

If you don't book ahead, then you take the chance there is no cabin (not too likely this time of year). You can pitch a tent though.

Cheers

Ray

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Wot I did on my Holidays

Steve Parker

Well as many of you know, I went on the bucket list world tour to celebrate the gov't paying my instead of the other way around, having just turned 65.

I wont bore you with the other 8 weeks, but I did manage luckily, to coincide my itinerary with MotoGP at Mugello! Didn't think it would happen initially, but when the final calendar came out, it lined up perfectly, I just had to extend my stay in Florence by a few days!

Well, what an experience! What a track, what atmosphere, what noise, what everything else, it was just amazing. And to top it off, I had a prequel visit to the Ducati factory museum the day before.

Janet and I had an apartment booked in Florence, a short tram ride from the main rail station. We relied on public transport for all transport. On the Thursday we headed to Bologna for the Ducati Factory, by Flixbus, a distance of about 140 k's, total cost about \$15 each! Then took a suburban bus out to Borgo Panigale where the factory is located. Museum is, as you would expect, amazing! Trained back to Florence.



Friday practice day at Mugello. Tram to central station, train to nearest town to track, then local bus got us there. Now you think Hampton Downs has some elevation changes? Multiply that by 3 or 4 and that's Mugello. We came off the bus at the highest point, and it was a very long but mostly downhill walk to the pits. I had arranged to meet up with fellow Life Member Mike Webb, who has some job or other at the GP's. Anyway, good to catch up, and look around Race Control etc. Very hot day, high 20's, cloudless skies, stayed that way all weekend.

Long uphill walk to get back to bus to local train station, to central train station, tram back to accommodation.

Very physical day out for us oldies, lots of not flat at all walking.

Same deal Saturday, with more crowds. Final leg was to be by free shuttle bus, but I took the option of a share in a maxi taxi that took me straight there for a small fee.

The crowds are getting bigger, noisier, and full on. You can camp, and you take your motorcycle (or scooter) you get a ticket for that and can bring it in to certain sections of the grounds. Many people bring in highly modified, for maximum noise, and make a general nuisance of themselves. Massive group campsites, massive BBQ's, max noise.

Catering stands everywhere, and every one of them sells alcohol.

Went in search of the merchandise tents (as you do on a one-off trip). Picked out 90 Euro's of goodies for myself and Shaun, but my lucky day, when I checked the receipt back at the apartment, the guy had only keyed in 9! Score!

At the end of the day, walked for about 40 minutes before finally finding a free bus back to the local train station, and that walk was severely up and down too. Lucky I have lots of practice at the Hakarimata's.

Sunday Race day, more of the same, only more crowded, more ramped up, what a day! Yeah, you don't see as much as you get on TV, but there is no substitute for soaking up the atmosphere at the track, it is so worthwhile, if you are a fan, keep it on your bucket list and do it one day.

I did have grandstand seats with a big screen in front of us. The ticker at the bottom was same as we see here in English, but the commentary was Italian so wasn't figuring out too much from what he said. Had Shaun messaging me live while he watched back at home so he kept me up with incidents I couldn't see, very handy.

Trip back total chaos, took even longer. Traffic was gridlocked around track, glad I wasn't there on 4 wheels.

Sunday night back at apartment finally, absolutely knackered, but so pleased I did it.



