RIDE REPORT

"BUTTERBALL RALLY" – Sunday 24 October 2025

It was glum day that greeted the hardy riders who turned up for this Ride. We enjoyed another sumptuous breakfast at the ***Wodonga Services Club*** (the ***Vets' Club***) for an unbelievable $5.00 (scrambled eggs, sausages, bacon, baked beans, toast, coffee or tea). It was worth the risk of rain just to enjoy this King's/Queen's breakfast. *"Well done"* Sandii, Kris and Ethan, for looking after all of us so well.

After breakfast we lined up in the carpark, and counted Riders. We had 44 riders the previous day, but the weather had turned gloomy, and only 13 riders/drivers lined up. **Without doubt, the toughest of them all was Elsie Romey.** She is truly a dyed-in-the-wood motorcyclist. And for those who were put off by the rain-forecast, Elsie shamed you all. Her attendance was something special. All of us should strive to reach Elsie's commitment to motorcycling.

Again, we extend our gratitude to John Kirkby, who supported us by towing the break-down trailer. He also was one of the back-up drivers the previous day. Where would we be without such great support?

Of those 13 riders/drivers, there were 6 on-or-in club-plated vehicles:

- David Barson – Yamaha ZR7,
- Ross Edwards – BMW R1100 R (good man!),
- Peter Van Linden – Harley FLH
- Mike Becker – BMW R75/5 (good man!),
- Clayton Pollett – BMW R80 GS Paris/Dakar (good man!).
- John McInnes – superb Studebaker Cruiser.

Back to the Ride. The skies threatened rain, but we comforted ourselvess with the following thought: ***"I am a motorcyclist, and therefore, by definition, I am TOUGH"***. You can laugh now!

Leaving from the ***Vets Club***, Wodonga, expecting it to rain . . . and it did . . .

We set off with grim determination, and, we had a brilliant time. The road was wet at times, but we had our "lucky charm" with us: Elsie Romey.

We rode through Bandiana, Bonegilla, over the Bethanga Bridge, through Bethanga, and north-east to Talgarno. After a short section along the *Murray River Road*, we turned right onto ***Georges Creek Road*****.** This was the **highlight** of the Ride. If you haven't been on ***Georges Creek Road***, do it. After a lovely ride south-eastward, we made our way to the ***Tallangatta Showgrounds*** to take in the ***Tallangatta Show N Shine*****.**

Tallangatta Show N Shine

An old Blitz truck from the Snowy Scheme

After the winners of the ***Show N Shine*** were announced at Noon, we rode back to the ***Vet's Club***. As we made our way along the foreshore of ***Lake Hume***, it rained hard. More correctly, *"… it pissed down"*. But how could you show your displeasure at the elements when the mighty Elsie Romey charged on in the perilous conditions. Does *anything* stop this woman. *"No"* is the answer!

It was a damp end to a top day, but it didn't dampen our spirits. The camaraderie of "group riding" can make a dull day shine!

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