

THE ANNUAL "BLUE DUCK" RIDE

Ride Leader: Gerd Brachmann
Date: 21/3/2009 – 22/3/2009
Starting Point: Lilydale, Shell Service Station (8.15 for a 8.30am start)
Route Day 1: via Noojee, Newborough, Heyfield, Stratford, Bairnsdale, Swifts Creek, Omeo, to Anglers Rest (overnight);
Route Day 2: via Omeo, Mt. Hotham, Bright, Myrtleford, Oxley, Whitfield, Mansfield, to Healesville.
Ride Distances: Day 1: 430 km; day 2: 460 km.
Ride Level: Medium / hard.

The tour as well as the "Blue Duck Trophy" event on the first night will follow similar lines to last year's ride (mainly because THAT NEW ROAD won't be finished before we go...): There will be food and petrol stops on the way similar to those of the 2008 trip. However, they might take place at different times, and I expect to have one or two different "interest stops" on the way. So, this will be another ride where I can guarantee:

1. Excellent motorbike riding (tight corners, majestic sweepers, fast and long straights) through the best of Gippsland, over the Great Alpine Road, and via Mansfield home into our wonderful Yarra Ranges;
2. some surprising stops in selected locations;
3. frivolity and comraderie with doses of fine food and drinks, schnaps and other delectables (if Henry joins us again, we might ask him to take his trailer to transport our various favorite drinks, fishing rods, swimming gear, etc.);
4. a superb battle for the perpetual Blue Duck Trophy (if the 2008 winners can be persuaded to hand it back...). This time, I'm thinking of one of the following trophy-winning events at the Blue Duck Inn on Saturday evening: We could either have a long-jump competition, or a Sports Trivia Quiz, or wrestling matches (greco-roman, of course, as it excludes anything below the waist). Please feel free to suggest something else in the next 10 months or so!

Cost for accommodation: (+/-) \$ 50. Food and petrol extra, of course.

A good weekend all-round, and fine riding for all levels again. For booking purposes please advise of your attendance by about December 15, to Gerd Brachmann (mob. 0415 996653 or Email to gbrachmann@minopher.net.au), AND pay me an accommodation deposit of \$ 50 p.p. (for which you'll get a receipt, of course).

