

The passing of
James (Jim) Buckingham
Samrats Ride Leader

Hello all, it is with much sadness that I inform Samrats members, MRA members and the motorcycling community that on Sunday 27 August James Buckingham had a medical incident and subsequent motorcycling accident while returning home from a Samrats ride. It is still under review as to the contributing causes of the accident. According to an eye witness James appeared to have a medical incident and was slumped over the petrol tank prior to running into the guard rail at low speed. No other motorcycles or cars were involved in the accident. Members of the public stopped and gave him CPR and he was taken to Mount Barker Hospital where he died shortly after.

Jim was a popular ride leader for various ride groups since the early 1980's, most notably for the Juventus Club, Honda Riders Club and for the last 7 years plus he was a Samrats ride leader. Jim's rides were the largest of any ride leader and he regularly drew 20 to 40 riders for a Sunday ride. On Sunday 27 August he led a 25 strong group of riders via a circuitous route to Strathalbyn for morning tea and then to Tailem Bend for lunch in the pub overlooking the river. He was surrounded by friends and in good spirits during the lunch. The incident / accident occurred while on the way home after the ride on Bald Hills Road near Nairne.

Jim will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He was an affable gentleman who although having quite definite and fixed opinions about politics, music and exclusively Honda motor cycles he never had a bad word for anybody. James (Jim) Buckingham was a solid, reliable and unique individual and he was much liked and loved by all those who had the privilege of getting to know him. His funeral was held on Friday 8 September where the auditorium was quickly filled and there was standing room only with the need to open up a second room to accommodate all those who attended. In true Jim form the weather fined up and was sunny for the funeral. Four speakers, two of which were from the MC community, gave moving eulogies and Jim would have been proud of the numbers that attended and the send-off which we gave him. Ride on Jim.

Ken King
MRASA Samrats Coordinator
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