**HRC Committee Meeting Agenda Item : Tour of the Snowy**

This agenda Item would normally been to discuss the matters identified to be addressed by the Committee for all our Tours.

I have listed them in a format for future events so that there is continuity in the Committee’s approach to the events.

However with the deferral of the Great Southern Reliability Trial (GSRT) initially scheduled for March 2024, there has arisen a window of opportunity for the HRC to consider filling the gap left by this event.

**Deferral of the GSRT.**

*My first consideration when hearing about this deferral was to think about what I would have proposed differently in regards to the Tour of the Snowy (ToS). The answer to myself was only the date I had nominated as I would have been happier with March and possibly less fire risk. The duration was not influenced by the GSRT.*

*(I do have to say that the Autumn Glory Tour did influence the selected course and with it possibly the duration as I have only respect for our relations with Steuart Snooks and wish to keep it that way.)*

*My second thought was that there was a possible window of opportunity to attract participants who would now feel let down by the deferral. So that the coast was clear I sent out the notice of our 2024 dates to a very wide range of people promptly so that it was clear that those decisions had been made before the deferral.*

*So now we have time to consider what we wish to do. I have spoken to and discussed the situation with Ian Richards who obviously has a great knowledge of the eastern Victoria as that is the only possible direction for extension of the ToS.*

*We (Ian Richards and Dave) believe we could very satisfactorily extend the ToS by two days with the start / overnight stops / finish at Yass / Cooma / Cooma / Lakes Entrance / Tumut / Tumut. Day 4 is long but doable.*

***The benefits*** *that emerge if we were to do it are actually somewhat better Snowy area coverage than in the original 3 day plan.*

*Also there would be two double nights’ accommodation (at Cooma and Tumut), an issue well preferred to packing your bag every night.*

*Also several opportunities for people to join us for two days only where for time or finances constraints make 5 days impossible.*

***On the debit side*** *we will need a little more support than for the smaller event but I don’t believe it will be a problem.*

*I do ask you to consider so that we can talk about other negatives.*

*Mike and I had selected an entry fee of $160 for the Bathurst Tour. I was going to suggest a slight increase for the future to $180 and would now equate this to $90 per day to allow a guide for people taking up the shorter time options for the course.*

*So if that were to be we would suggest an Entry Fee of $450 free of any organised meals.*

*Those are all the practical issues.*

*Additional comments:*

*Following my press release of 30th August, I have received 4-5 replies from people who were obviously on the entry for GSRT asking if we could avoid certain dates if we were going to “fill the gap” left by the deferral of the GSRT.*

*Now that interested me as if there was no contemplation of conflict, really complete acceptance that it was a good thing and then lobbying to get a more suitable personal date.*

*Ian Richards is very keen to assist me with his knowledge of SE Victoria in taking up the space vacated by the commercial Vogue Automotive GSRT.*

*The question is therefore do we wish to expand the distance and format of the ToS as described ? YES / NO*

*If Yes, is the Committee willing to approve the duration and Entry Fee of 5 days and $450 ?*

*The other details can be finalised in the following paragraphs.*

**Basic outline of proposed Tour**. *Dave Johnson has proposed a Tour generally in the Snowy Mountains area using roads that showcase the Snowy Mountains Hydro Electric Authority project built in the 1950-60s and normally snowbound for much of winter on a regular basis. Proposed duration 3 days.*

You have already given the green light to the event and the attached flyer has been distributed as a result. **Normally we would be considering the question of Yes/No.**

What dates are appropriate for the event *? Possibly considered in the earlier discussion.*

Are we happy with the **duration proposed** ? *See earlier discussion*

Where do we wish the event to **start and finish**, as these are vital to attracting starters from other than Sydney. *I think that there could be good interest from Victorians and would propose a* ***Start at Yass*** *which will allow sufficient separation for day 1 and the last day and I propose a* ***finish at Tumut or the like****. Canberra would be a consideration but all accommodation in Canberra is much higher priced and I consider that we should not put undue hurdles in front of the average club participant on limited resources.*

Is the **name** for the event appropriate to attract participants to the event. *Putting my promotion hat on, I think the draft name tells the story of roughly where we are going or what are we doing and I believe that has to be the initial objective for any name selected. There is always the opportunity to expand or elaborate with a by-line relating to a rally situation or similar straight after the name similarly to that which we used for the Bathurst Tour of “Mike is taking us to the Mountain”. I prefer “Tour of the Snowy” over “Snowy Tour” the latter seems a little abrupt.*

*By Dave Johnson*

*6 September 2023*