

Morgo's - 'What the hell did I hit! SCAR ride March 2010

Bluey Morgan sent the word out and 18 Keen Dirt bike riders responded. Imbil Eco Retreat was our base and recent rain had the boys excited. The crew was made up of a mix of North coast locals, 6 of us from Brisbane / Ipswich way, Tony down from Nanango and Slacky brought the big black stealth fighter in from Moree NSW. This is a once a year catch up for many so a ride like this is met with excitement.

Early Saturday morning and everyone was geared up ready to go, Brad Kamp won best presented machine with his Northcoast Motorsport Yamaha having more bling than Usher! Big Bill, Boyley and our back up driver Steve introduced themselves and gave us the normal briefing and safety talk.

Straight from camp we headed through Imbil into some excellent single trail tracking our way around near Borumba Dam. The corner man system saw some movement in the pack early and the pace was on. Just as the trail opened into fast flowing section, Dave and I (Team Yamaha) were following lead rider 'Boyley' when he went down hard. A rouge stick caught the Kato's front wheel ripping it out leaving Boyley rolling down the track like a rag doll! Not the best looking doll but you get what I mean! Stopping quickly to check on him we found him to be winded but coherent. We got him back up on the track and went through the whole crash blow by blow. By the time everyone had stopped and Bill had arrived, Boyley was going over the crash for the 5th time not remembering the previous 4 times!!!! 'What the F@#*k did I hit? ' If he said it once he said it 10 times!!!! It was at the stage we realised he had hit his head hard and the scars on his helmet backed up this theory. So Cairns Doubled the Big fellow as Big Bill lead them out and it was to be a weekend in the backup vehicle for "The Boyle". (See photos for detail)

This brought Bill up front with Morgo stepping up as sweep rider. It wasn't long and we hit our first good hill with a few of the Boy's faltering only to tackle it on a second go, Jamie and Brad were talking the Yamaha's up while others enjoyed the fantastic views high on the hill. On we went, great flowing tracks, huge up and down hills, No dust, mud in all the gullies and a cracking pace, this ride had it all.

By lunch we had found our backup vehicle waiting at the Gympie Muster site. This was time to have a feed, top up the camel backs and talk up the mornings ride. Lot's of smiles among the crew as we all knew just how good it is to be hitting the trials with good mates. Boyley showed of his wounds and it seemed his memory had returned, thank god we all said, glad we don't have to go through it all again!!!!

The afternoon saw more good trails. My favourite section seen us traverse the side of a recent pine tree harvest. Bill informs me this same trail was completely overgrown prior to harvest opening it up to a completely different perspective. A very thick rain forest section seen the crew tackle a very deep bog hole, Tony Nun Gun didn't like the thought of getting the WR muddy and was the first to find a way around. I was shooting a few photos when I convinced our only Husky pilot into the mud, I am pretty sure he will never take my word again? The photo tells the rest of this story! Blue's not a bad sweep but never ask him to get his feet wet!

After some 150km we pulled into the ECO lodge, bikes and bodies muddy and tired. Nothing a good shower and several beers couldn't fix. As the beers went down the hills got bigger, we all went faster, KTM's Yamaha's, Husky's and even Husabergs! They all rained supreme! Many of riders had falls, Cairns had a good one in front of me, and I think Woodsy threw the WR away a few times but all had survived. The SCAR boys put on a feed of spaghetti bog followed by more drinks. I was talking to Boyley when he looked at his watch. Shit! Bill must have worn the boys out today, to his amazement it was 9pm and everyone had hit the sack.

Sunday we woke to the smell of bacon and eggs for breaky and a promise of another great day in the bush. Rain clouds surrounded early threatening to open. Big Stan was our only withdrawal for Sunday so we suited up and headed straight towards town.

Sunday was my favourite, the trails were even tighter and the odd shower of rain kept us on our toes. We had a new sweep rider as Boyley resided to Bourbon & Cokes. I wished at times I had a Helmet cam on as we raced in packs of 4 and 5, no dust, swapping lines, hitting some huge whoa boy's and generally having a great time. Stevie Donovan jumped on the SCAR EXC400 and proceeded to ride like a 20 year old on 10 cans of Red Bull. At one stage Jamie was nearly taken out by a group of 5 of us with Stevie and I rubbing Bark busters as we all tried to fit into one tight left hander!!!!

Smoko, A chat to a rather lovely horse women, light rain, a decision to have a late lunch and Pete took over the sweep riding. The trails were getting a little slippery in places making it hard to judge. Bill guided us into what I would describe as an Enduro special test section, we were blasting 1st, 2nd gear bashing trees and roosting our way till our arms were pumping. I tucked in behind Gareth, Blue and Luke. Gareth had the 530 humming pressuring Blue into a mistake, he went down as the pack raced by. Straight from the special test it was into a long up hill with some rather large jumps. I parked three quarters of the way up to shoot a few photo's when I heard the roar of four strokes lead by Ian on the KTM come from down the hill. One by one they hit the jumps bottoming out each time as they disappeared from view. The trails opened up again, more big hills, McPhillips, Doug and Luke were dicing on the KTM's, Paul's rear tyre was old and he had a piece of Lantana piecing his lip but nothing was stopping them!

90Kms later we pulled into Imbil. What a bloody great ride, I have ridden in the Bush for 30 years and this goes up there with one of the best. Bike loaded and a quick shower and the SCAR team had a sausage sizzle ready for lunch. Farewells and off home, we definitely will be coming back again.

Till then, thanks to Blue 'Morgo' Morgan for organising the ride, Ron from Eco Lodges and to Big Bill, Boyley and Steve from SCAR Tours for a great weekend.

Hope you enjoy the picks,

Ride hard, Stay Safe!

Harvey Isaacs

