



newsletter

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august 2007



Twisting Throttle Australia by Mike Hyde

Reviewed by Dave Foster

TWISTING THROTTLE AUSTRALIA is not your conventional travelogue, nor is it a technical discourse for the motorcycling anoraks amongst us.

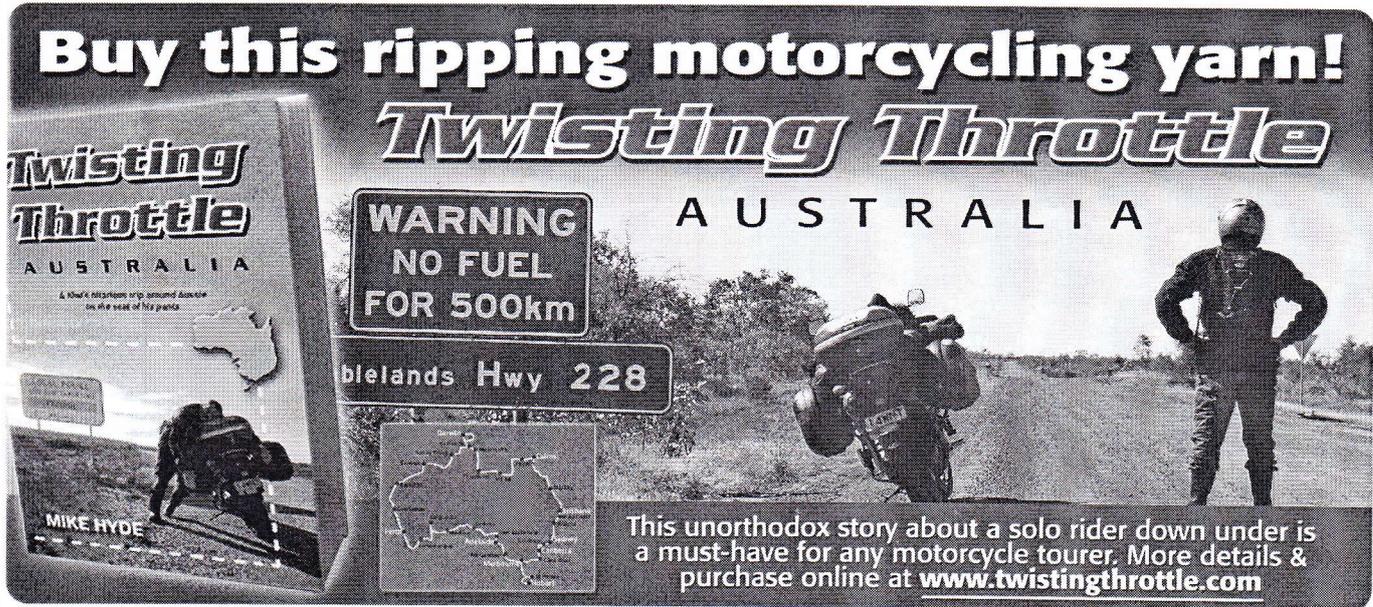
Mike took a virtually bog standard Suzuki, shipped it to Australia and then set off from beneath the Sydney Harbour Bridge to circumnavigate the continent. Not a scenic jaunt from one tourist spot to the next, just a motorcycle ride from one side of Sydney to the other by the longest route!

After each days ride, and before collapsing exhausted into his sleeping bag, Mike wrote a diary of the days events on his lap top, and it is these notes that form the chapters of the book. Each day has its own chapter, dealing with the riders impression of the landscape, livestock and people that were encountered en route. With Mike covering around 700 kilometres each day these impressions are of necessity short on detail and often about things that would normally neither create an impression or warrant a

comment. There are lots of amusing anecdotes, more detail about roadkill than you probably want to know, and a profound impression of the vastness of the country. You also get some idea of just how much fried and 'junk' food you can consume without any apparent harmful effects!

In the absence of detailed descriptions of Australia and its peoples Mike provides instead a commentary on his, - at times slightly irrational, - thought processes as he copes with boredom, fatigue, heat and cold. Most motorcyclists will empathize with what went on inside Mikes helmet; we have all been there at some time. Mikes laid back style and the chapter a day format make this book a nice easy read. The anorak in me longed for more details of the bikes preparation and maintenance but this would have no appeal to this books wider audience.

I found it a very amusing, entertaining and refreshingly different read and recommended it.



Buy this ripping motorcycling yarn!

Twisting Throttle

A U S T R A L I A

WARNING NO FUEL FOR 500km

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This unorthodox story about a solo rider down under is a must-have for any motorcycle tourer. More details & purchase online at www.twistingthrottle.com

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