



SARCC October 2017 Geelong



Some members arrived at [Riverglen Holiday Park](#) early enough to enjoy a short loop of the Barwon River that flows in front of the comfortable Riverglen camp.

🚲 **Sunday** was our first ride/adventure. 22 with bikes headed early to Geelong South Railway Station, we queued and bought MYKI cards and squeezed all on the same train to [Southern Cross Station](#) Melbourne. After a ride along the Capital City Trail over Footscray/Maribyrnong Bridge along Somerville Rd we reached the Federation Trail. [The Federation Trail](#) is a 23-kilometre-long shared use path for cyclists and pedestrians, which follows the heritage-listed Main Outfall Sewer through the western suburbs of Melbourne to Werribee. It was a cool wind in our faces and we were stopped for lunch at Hoppers Crossing Shopping Centre for lunch. 11km later we reached Wyndham Vale Station and returned to Geelong South Station and a short ride to camp.



🚲 **Monday:** The ride was a loop of Geelong. Riding up the Barwon River from camp with a dodgy road crossing in peak traffic to start, followed by a pleasant flowing ride along the river trail. Up the Hyland St steep incline to be met at the top in Kevin Kirby Reserve with a delicious Morning Tea prepared by Helen. Off to Church St to meet the [Ted Wilson Trail](#) – (opps Road [doesn't] Works) – next street and we glide at pace the length of the mainly downhill trail. Then it gets messy Broderick, Princess, School, Shell Roads on to the [Bay Trail](#). We followed the Bay Trail to Rippleside Park and lunch. The group broke up and finished the ride along the Geelong foreshore to the Botanic Gardens passing and photographing the many foreshore sights and [bollards](#). All connected back to camp via Swanston Street and Barwon River Trail.





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❸ **Tuesday:** The ride was a simple out and back on the [Bellarine Rail Trail](#) and given a short 5km to the start from camp a full ride of 82km. The distance caused a little change to the logistics with fifteen riders choosing to start and finish 2km past Leopold shortening the ride to a more easily managed 45km.

Ross Glover of [Geelong Touring Cyclist Club](#) ◀ link and scroll down we feature on their web site joined us riding and guiding us through Geelong peak traffic to the start of the Trail and on to Queenscliff



Ross then advised us of the best Café Queenscliff with Marina adjacent. Eric thanks Ross for the many tips he gave us in the preparation of our Geelong ride program. The excellent ride was enjoyed by all.

❸ **Wednesday:** A split of Riders some took the short 16Km ride to Waurn Ponds Shopping Centre along the Barwon and Waurn Creek trail. Helen led the group for an enjoyable traffic free ride.

The other half of the Group headed for Torquay along the Barwon Trail to Woolscour Ln then climbed under fences over railway lines dodged along rough road and found Horseshoe Bend Rd. Horseshoe Bend goes all the way to Torquay through a lot of new housing estates.

Hidden in the sand dunes is this most beautiful mosaic sundial. 

The ride along the waterfront is full of Wow views.



Bells Beach



Except for 2 kilometres of deep sand the ride to Bells Beach is stunning. The Beach is an Icon of Australian Surfing but for all its legend and beauty it is surprisingly small. The road ride, Bells to Torquay, added a new dimension to 'undulating' and the dangers of loose dogs. The ride home to Riverglen with a tailwind completed a great 62km ride. Well worth the effort and cursing on that "optional" deep sand walk with our bikes.

SARCC October 2017 Port Campbell



Thursday: We moved to Port Campbell albeit eight members had other arrangements and didn't join the group on the Great Ocean Road. We arrived to a mixed bag of Cabins being available pre 2pm so we set off for our ride on an inland country road very undulating but great country side finally reaching Booringa Road which runs into the back door of the 12 Apostles Visitor Facility. Surprise we found hundreds of fashion conscious bus tourists with selfie photographing the Apostles and more often just themselves with an ocean backdrop.

We finished the ride on the Great Ocean Road back to Port Campbell Via Lock Ard – a good 35km jaunt. Riding single file on the Great Ocean Road hugging the road edge in small groups is just OK but I do advise Ride before 11am when the droves of tourists descend.

We arrived back in time for our 5.30pm regular meeting in the camp Kitchen facility. Port Campbell is a good Accommodation Park but the Cabins are spread widely apart – booking in future we need to choose which end of the park to stay in.



Friday: The planned ride was [Crater to Coast Rail Trail](#). Logistics with cars able to carry only two bikes each was a challenge, we sorted it with Kerry's 7 seat 4X4 to retrieve. Eric shortened the trail to 25km by starting at Naroghid not Camperdown as the ride from Camperdown is just a country road shoulder ride. That may have seemed a wise move but finding the start at Naroghid proved to be a challenge; Robyn & Paul found it. Off we went through grass tall enough to reach our handlebars. Eric did a summersault unplanned dismount in a hidden trail hole, looked spectacular, caused colourful bruises and lumps.



The coffee stop in Cobden was great thanks to Mary and Denis - it is found in the town by diverting off the Trail. The Trail is spectacular at Curdies; it is a beautiful, environmentally sensitive area of native trees and vegetation. This section includes five bypass bridges. Cyclists are advised to dismount at any bridges with steep and slippery approaches. Definitely worth the ride. Then the climax is in the picturesque tourist town of Timboon – a Whisky and Vodka Distillery, tasty Ice-cream shop, Bakery, Provedore and the well recommended Fat Cow Café. There is a good 18km ride back to Port Campbell but only Richard ventured down that road.

Saturday: We split into two groups with Four riders taking the ride Eric planned from the top of Lavers Hill, down 12km of Lavers Hill-Cobden unsealed Road through spectacular forest to the bush clad Gellibrand River Road for 15km then off to the Old Ocean Road to Princetown. A good ride – the last part of Old Ocean Road was driven due to logistics, but we will save that entire ride for another day. The rest of us rode on the Great Ocean Road to view The Arch, London Bridge and The Grotto. We were again served Morning tea by Helen who then joined us on the home stretch – a great 26km Ride



A Successful SARCC Tour with up to 350km of recreational riding good weather and great camaraderie

