

SARCC.
PERFECT RIDE - BURRA

17 / 10/ 2021

The P.E.R.F.E.C.T. ride for October 2021 was from Burra, approximately 160k N of Adelaide. For this ride the group consisted of 4 riders, Peter (ride leader), KevB, KevD and Steve. The weather on the day was a brisk 9° (but felt like 5°) and partly sunny, with a light NW breeze. Peter completed his pre ride brief, ensuring we all had food / water / spares etc. as there would be no assistance available on the ride.

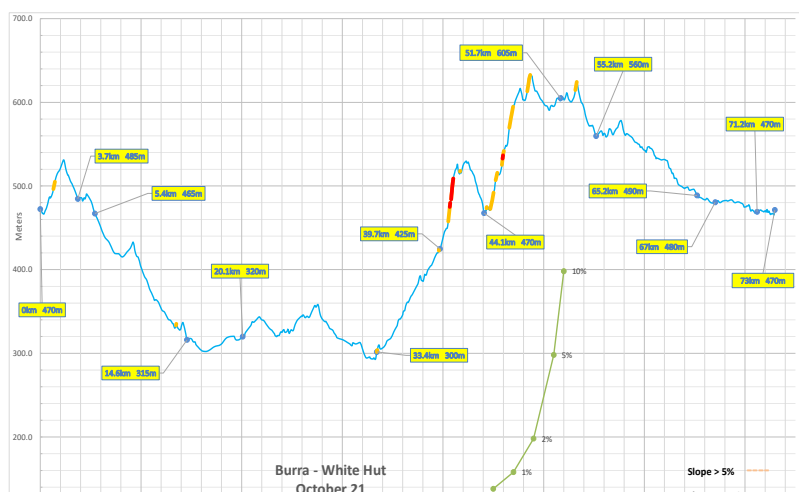
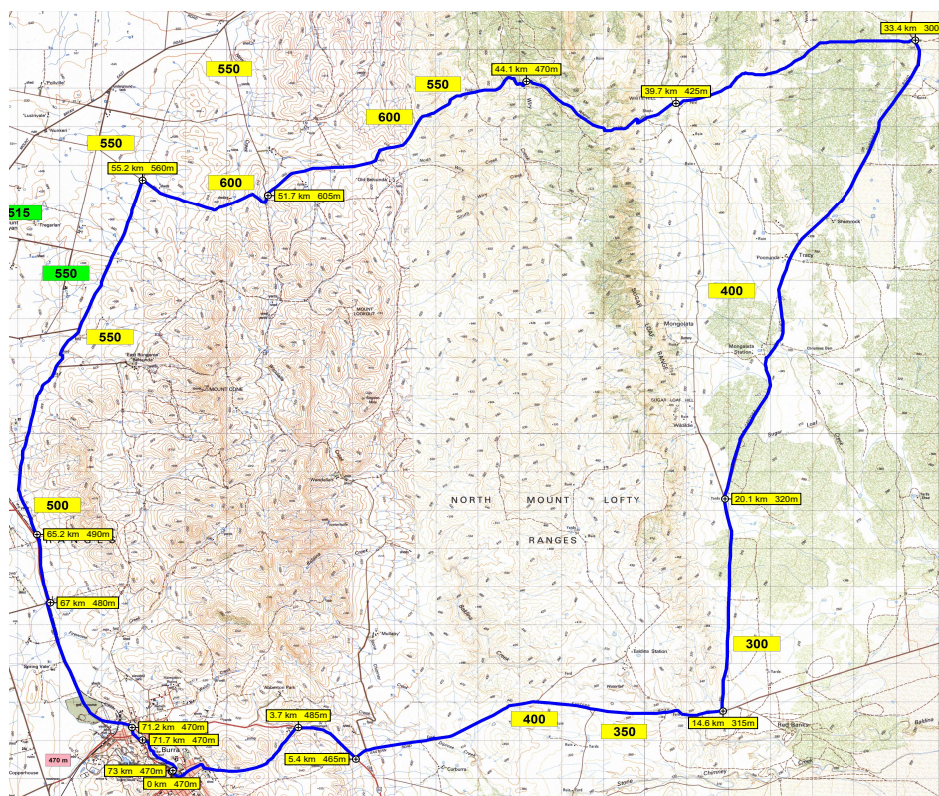
The ride was an anticlockwise loop of approximately 73k, north of Burra. Mostly dirt roads with some bitumen at start and finish.

The ride was in what could be considered "remote areas".

The expected vertical gain was a total of 650m.

This included 2 main climbs.
The first climb starting at approx.
35k, with an average grade of 3%
with a length of 6.4k.

The second climb (quoted as a “delightful” climb up the Sugar Loaf Range to White Hill) started at 44.5k, with an average grade of 4% and a length of 2.8k.



We headed off at 9:00am in an eastly direction out of Bura along Eastern Road towards Red Banks Conservation Park. A sealed road with little traffic and relatively flat made for a quick first 14k. The landscaped had changed quickly, from lush crops to salt bush in a very short distance.

Turning onto Caroona Road we headed north past Mongolata Station and then on towards Caroona Station. On PERFECT rides you should expect the unexpected. Not too far along Caroona Rd. we cane across a traffic counter!?? There was considerable discussion as to why there was a need for a traffic count on such a insignificant gravel road, but with no real solution found we continued on (however we soon discovered that there was indeed a considerable volume of traffic on this road).

Soon after we came across what appeared to be wild horses. All but one moved on with little fuss. The remaining horse decided to have some fun and ran ahead for a couple of hundred metres, stoped and checked if we were still behind, and then repeated the process. This continued for quite a distance until "Fury" decided enough was enough and went on its way.

Having now travelled 35k we turned westward onto White Hill Rd.



Right: Morning Tea.

This looked like a good place for morning tea, so we took advantage of a little shade, before heading on again.

As expected we soon reached the first climb. It started out at a gentle gradient but kicked up considerably shortly before the top.



Above: Peter enjoying the view.

A short downhill section followed before the second climb started. This climb was shorter than the first climb, but again it had a sting in its tail. However shortly before the top of this second climb it was discovered that one of our bikes had a “tyre malfunction”.

The tyre had a “structural failure” approx 50mm long in the centre of the tread which was hindering the rotation of the rear wheel. With no spare tyre this was not good.

It was decided to reduce the tyre pressure to see if this would help. To our surprise this reduced the problem bulge and we were able to continue the remaining 25k on a rather soggy rear tyre.



Right: KevB at the top.

Having crested the climbs lunch was in order. With no other options available we settled for a road side café of sorts.

Right: Lunch.



Once back on the road again the remaining 20k back to Burra was largely downhill and we quickly returned to the green crops.



The final 6k back to Burra was on bitumen. This made for a very reasonable pace, especially when Peter was kind enough to lead out while we were right behind him. Thanks Peter!!

After a total ride time of 5hrs and 2mins a "ride debrief" was held at the Burra Hotel. Another great ride, excellent company.....PERFECT.



SteveC. 30/10/2021