

SARCC PERFECT Ride Hamley Bridge Report 24 March 2024 Ride Leader: Peter Harrison

March PERFECT ride provided a perfect blue sky all day, cool morning 10C and warm afternoon 25C. Covering a distance of 70.3 km in a clockwise loop, the ride was relatively flat with just 477m of climbing. Packed gravel and dirt accounted for 86% of the route. Throughout the ride, we encountered just 2 passing vehicles beyond the delightful township of Hamley Bridge itself. The definition of SUCCESS.



Six riders embarked on the ride – Peter H, Pete B, Kevin B, Kevin D, Greg L and Roger P. Our ride set off in a northwest direction, taking us over the Gilbert River and up a steady rise of 150m for 22km – just to the east of Owen. From the top of the rise we had a good view of the Hummocks on the Yorke Peninsula.



We then descended towards Balaklava, but 2km short the town we turned east towards our halfway lunch stop at Rocks Reserve on the Wakefield River. After lunch we did some scouting around and despite the recent exceptionally dry weather, the river was found to still had some water in it. Nobody had brought their bathers, but looking at the stagnant pond it wasn't too inviting anyway.



From there we headed across a couple of small hills to the Alma Plains and some pleasing views of the distance ranges. We were making good time and the group started to split with some riders getting a wee bit ahead of the leader, who then stopped and pulled the group back together when a turning was missed.



Meanwhile Peter Boulton got into a bit of bike porn at the somewhat desolate Alma South Cemetery before rejoining the group and heading down a welcome 10km hill back into Hamley Bridge, where a cold beer was much appreciated as part of the traditional ride debrief. Thanks to Peter H for organising another great PERFECT ride.



The ride was captured by Peter Boult with **24 photos**, which can be found on RWGPS
<https://ridewithgps.com/trips/157638336>