

## August PERFECT Ride from Saddleworth, Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2024

It was a beautiful warm day with clear skies when the three of us (Peter H., Sven H. and Kevin D.) left the Saddleworth Institute heading north towards Manoora. Up and over the range to Waterloo on very quiet bitumen for a short snack break in the home of outback transport legend Tom Kruse.

We found and travelled the Light River road southwards, paralleling the Light River with the Waterloo wind farm towers spinning slowly on the hills to our left. A very nice gravel road which crossed the river multiple times.

After a short diversion back to Main Road 45 to see an old homestead in Steelton we headed east through the gap at the southern extremity of the wind farm towards Tothill Creek.

Following Tothill Creek led us to the township of Tarnma which, despite the small number of residences, boasted a cemetery and two Lutheran churches.



*Light River crossing with wind farm in background*



*Wind farm waves us goodbye*

We indulged in a bit of sight seeing in Marrabel to checkout a house that Peter remembered from his time as a resident of Marrabel and also sought out the statue of Curio in the main street.

A final dash back over a range of smaller hills to Saddleworth saw us soon sitting down to a well a well deserved end of ride debrief in the Gilbert Valley Hotel.

This ride included more sealed road surface than your typical PERFECT ride due to the recent wet weather making some of the dirt roads in the area impassable.

[SARCC RWGPS route](#)

Kevin D.

Lunch was had on the Kapunda Road in an area that had been recently bulldozed to widen a short section for some unknown reason. Then it was back on the tarmac and the obligatory big “after lunch hill” before crossing the range to Marrabel with a stop in the middle to repair a puncture and another stop shortly thereafter to locate the mount for a saddlebag that had abandoned ship. It is very difficult to find a small black piece of plastic on a large black tarmac road.



*Curio*