

Hi all,

As the new editor this is my first newsletter. You will have to be patient as I ease myself into the job and decide my style. I will struggle to meet the standard that Eric has set ! If you have any ideas, things to contribute, or comments, please let me know.

Note that the SARCC website should be used for the latest, detailed information; <https://sarcc.org.au/>

Cheers Brian (Smokey) Ashton 0438 088 220 ashtonba@gmail.com

Regular rides

Sunday Pleasure Rides:

Organiser; Helen Tetley 0466 870 177

1st September

Scenic Hilly Ride

Kath 0429 191 848 Mike 0429 097 910

Depart 10am, top end of Druid Ave, Stirling (near the hospital). Toilets are at Steamroller Park, Avenue Rd (near the first roundabout as you leave the Freeway). Steep hills to Mylor for lunch. BYO morning tea. Bring, or buy, lunch. Ride about 38km with about 5km of dirt.

We are short of ride leaders for 27th of October and 10th of November. If you can assist, please contact Helen

15th September

South/North loop from Brighton Railway Station Carolyn W 0427 797 476

Meet at Brighton Railway Station, western side car park at 10:00am. There is a 9:57am train arriving from Adelaide.

Ride along the Coast to Vines trail to Hallett Cove, through Sheidow Pk, across Majors Rd, then down the Veloway, and along Sturt Creek to Apex Park West Beach for lunch (bring or buy). Return to Brighton via the coastal path (or inland if the weather is inclement) with a stop at Glenelg for coffee. There are hills to climb in the first 11 km. If roadworks on Majors Rd block the bike paths, adjustments will be made to the ride. Approx 40 km.

29th September 2024 **Aldgate, Balhannah, Hahndorf and Mylor** Geoffrey C 0419 838 551

Meet at 10am at the Aldgate Railway Station on Euston Road, Aldgate. Bring, or buy, lunch. Mountain or hybrid bikes recommended. 36kms with 537m elevation gain, 24% unpaved.

13th October 2024
Surrounds

Amy Gillett Bikeway & Surrounds
Dennis S. 0408 826 282

Meet in the Woodside swimming pool carpark for a scenic ride on the Amy Gillett Bikeway and back roads to Mt Torrens for lunch. Returning to Woodside for coffee.

Wednesday Retire Active Rides: Organiser;
Tony McIntyre 0407 759 260

Meet for a 10.00am departure each Wednesday at the Par 3 café at the Torrens Weir. There are up to 30 riders so we may split into 2 normal groups and one faster group. Routes, and leaders, are decided on the day. We ride about 45km with an essential coffee break on the way.

About every second week are also Programmed rides;

Facebook

We have a Facebook page. This is great for reminders and to get information out quickly. You need to **follow** to get the notices. Go to; <https://www.facebook.com/SARCCinc>

We also have a Facebook group. Click **join** on the link;

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/843064481097785>

The Group will allow everyone to post comments, images and video so that they can interact with fellow riders. Please encourage friends to follow our page and join our group.

4th of September **Barossa Loop Ride** Leader: Neil 0451 011 413

Meet in the car park off the main street of Lyndoch. Leave 10 am. Ride to Tanunda (may do a detour around the town) then Nuriootpa central for coffee. After Nuriootpa there is a cross-country dirt road stretch. Complete the loop to Lyndoch. For those not wanting to do the cross-country dirt roads return to Lyndoch from Nuriootpa the way we came. Sealed roads to Nuriootpa. Lyndoch to Tanunda rolling hills with some steep sections. Relatively flat after that. Bike Type: Wide tyres

18th of September **Corkscrew Challenge** Leader: Phil 0408 841 141

Meet at the weir. Head east up Torrens valley on north side of river. Follow river up Gorge Road until Corkscrew Road. Climb up Corkscrew Road and then turn right onto Montacute Road. Head west along Montacute Road until St Georges Bakehouse for coffee. Head west along Montacute Road reach Meadows Avenue and then head north. Meander through back streets. Connect to the bike path on the south side of the Torrens. Head west back to the Weir. Bike Type: All

Thursday Rural Rides: Organiser; Di Beltrame 0424 957 532

These rides are 20+ riders, in hilly terrain that creates a challenge. Rides will have a 2nd leader so we can split into fast and slower groups. Further details will be on the website when available.

September 5th Away Ride Kingsley 0418 802 473

10 a.m. Meet at Intersection of Warriparinga Wetlands and Sturt Road Bedford Park (Approx 100m west of Bus Stop 29A on Sturt Road). Allow time to find car-parking. First Toilets are 3km into the ride at Oaklands Railway Station. Some unsealed roads. <https://ridewithgps.com/events/330376-thursday-rural-ride-away-ride>

September 12th Woodside Dan 0427 526 846

Meet 10 a.m. Woodside Pool car park. Some unsealed roads.

September 19th Woodside John Golding 0404 081 724

Meet 10 a.m. Woodside Pool car park. Some unsealed roads.

September 26th Woodside Kevin B 0473 523 162

Meet 10 a.m. Woodside Pool car park. Some unsealed roads.

PERFECT Rides: Organiser; Peter H. 0448 364 138

See the Flinders tour below.

Coming Tours

Flinders Melrose Burra Organisers: Kevin Dronfield, Sven Holm

Starting in the Flinders Ranges on Saturday 7th September before moving to Melrose on 12th and then to Burra on 17th. Finishes in Burra on 21st. **12 days of riding!** 4 rides in each area.

9 or 10 members are going so far

Beechworth, Geelong, Pt Fairy Organiser: Sven Holm and TBA

Accommodation to be arranged individually by trip participants. We recommend cabins be booked promptly. Persons who wish to share cabins contact Sven (Mob 0410271717, holm0160@gmail.com). Not suitable for road bikes. Riders are responsible to maintain their own equipment.

All rides are optional. Where possible they will depart the Base accommodation. Helpful if you have your RWGPS working and have rides downloaded to your device.

Need bike transport for the trip?

The club has a trailer set up for 12 bikes. Please email sarccexec@gmail.com or contact Sven

Detail	Day	Date	Ride Description	Suggested Accommodation
Arrive Beechworth	Sat	16-Nov-24	Travel Day	Beechworth Lake Sambell Caravan Park Ph 03 57281421 (6 Nights) (Holds on cabins at no cost made. Quote SARCC when booking)
Ride day	Sun	17-Nov-24	Yacka Epic 50km	
Ride day	Mon	18-Nov-24	Eldorado Beechworth Loop 58	
Ride day	Tue	19-Nov-24	Magic Forest Ride 57	
Ride day	Wed	20-Nov-24	Wodonga Hume 74	
Ride day	Thu	21-Nov-24	Woolshed Waterfall Loop 56	
Drive to Geelong	Fri	22-Nov-24	Travel Day	Tasman Holiday Parks 75 Barrabool Road, Belmont Geelong Ph 03 5243 5505 (5 Nights)
Ride day	Sat	23-Nov-24	Barwon Heads Torquay	
Ride day	Sun	24-Nov-24	Geelong Burbs	
Ride day	Mon	25-Nov-24	Barwon Queenscliff	
Ride day	Tue	26-Nov-24	Pt Nepean (Note A)	
Drive to Pt Fairy	Wed	27-Nov-24	Travel Day	Southcombe Caravan Park James Street, Port Fairy Ph 03 55682677 (3 Nights)
Ride day	Thu	28-Nov-24	Portland Bridgewater	
Ride day	Fri	29-Nov-24	Port Fairy Rail Trail	
Drive to Home	Sat	30-Nov-24	Travel Day	

Note A. Queenscliff, Sorrento Ferry \$32 Return. Bikes are Free

Upolu, Samoa Tour

July 2025

Organisers; Paul and Robyn Davill

Details on the website. Currently 8 participants and room for 4 more.

Preliminary Notices

March 2025 Tasmania top to bottom via Great Lakes.

Possible use of club trailer for bike transport. Potential to fly to Launceston and fly home from Hobart. Register your interest to sarccexec@gmail.com or contact Sven.

Join the Ultimate UK Cycling Challenge: Lands End to John O’Groats!

21 days of supported cycling in May or June 2025. Peter Boulton is seeking expressions of interest by 25th of September. Email peterjboulton@gmail.com

Ride reports

Thursday Rural Away Ride: 1st Aug 2024

Leaders: Steve Jenkins and Paul Davill

44km, 16.7km asphalt, 26.3km unpaved and about 600m climbing. Author: Sven Holm

10.00am Sky is clear. Temp around 12C, very little wind. Sun is shining but the temperature disagrees and it's a chilly start. A large group of 26 cheerful riders assemble to commence the ride at the Meadows Town Hall. At the pre-ride briefing we decide to split into a faster and a slower group. Steve leads the faster group and Paul the slower group. I join the slower



The Faster Group having a stop to admire the distant views Photo: Steve Jenkins



No, it's not a bikie group. It's about 17 Centuries of life experience stopping for a cuppa! Both groups merged at morning tea. Photo: Steve Jenkins

group. We cruise down through Meadows on the black stuff and then turn left onto Morris Road and soon hit the gravel. Just past the 4km mark turn we turn left onto Robinson Road and encounter the steepest and longest hill on the ride - just on 2km and we climb 100m. le.averaging around 5% gradient. E-bikes on the group lead the way!

Once climbed, we ride along a relatively flat section before some nice downhill runs as we drop nearly 150m over 8km. Lovely riding with a nice surface and beautiful scenery.

We pass through Prospect Hill "township" and skirt the Kuito Forest before heading into the forest proper at the 13 km mark. We ride along some lovely forest trails and head to Tree Climb Kuito Forest for morning tea. After morning tea one of our riders, who shall remain



We encountered several obstacles including large fallen trees. Photo: Paul Davill

nameless, decides to ride another way and the group halts as our tailender retrieves the said rider (it's easy to miss the tracks in this part of the forest).



Lovely forest trails and plenty of water in the lower lying areas. Photo: Paul Davill

We then traverse some single file trails bordered by dense forest and wind our way through a myriad of trails. Many of the tracks in lower lying areas are still quite damp and contain large puddles. The recent sunshine has baked many of the trails and helps riding ease. We encounter several stiles and as a team easily negotiate them.



One of several stiles. Photo: Paul Davill

Lunch is taken in the forest. We follow the Heysen trail for a nice section before rejoining gravel back roads and passing over the busy B34 and climbing Rowley Road into the upper Meadows area before a nice downhill run back into Meadows and the finish.

A lovely ride planned by Steve Jenkins in his first go at ride leading. One of those rides where you don't want to stop.

Ed. This was my first Thursday Rural Ride and I found it delightful – especially the forest track.

Sunday Pleasure Ride 18th August 2024 – Gawler Author; Kevin D.

Six of us met at the Gawler Central station, the terminus of the northern line. Ominous patches of dark cloud dotted the sky. However, we decided to attempt the full ride rather than the shorter, safer and less interesting wet weather alternative.

A 100 metre ride across the main road and we were in Clonlea Park and gazing at the towering red cliffs of the North Para river as it cut it's way into Gawler. Taking a shortcut across the abandoned Angaston



Non-abandoned railway track.



Unusual structure. Any ideas what it is for?

railway line and skirting the eastern edge of Gawler soon saw us hurtling down [Dead Mans Pass](#) following the South Para river using the Tapa Pariara bike path.

The river took us through the middle of Gawler to the confluence of the North and South Para rivers becoming the Gawler River that heads westward across the plains to eventually empty into the gulf. Having crossed the Gawler river we were now riding north alongside the unused Gawler to Wasleys/Balaklava/Port Wakefield/Moonta railway line and using it's underpass of the Sturt Highway to head into green cropped fields of wheat and broad beans.

Some time was spent discussing an unusual structure in one of the paddocks. Not sure that we settled on a plausible use for it but suggestions ranged from a farm kid's cubby house to equipment used for the wartime aerodrome at Mallala.

Arrived at Roseworthy campus (formerly agricultural college) to larger crowds than anticipated as it was the Roseworthy Railway Club's Run day. Spent some time exchanging information on electric bikes for information on model trains ... (apparently they are proud to use real Queensland black coal for the steam locomotives). Quite an interesting display of model steam trains running on a large circuit of track and carrying passengers.

It was a bit early and busy for lunch so we continued along some rather sticky roads (a bit more rain and we would have been in trouble) to the town of Roseworthy crossing the abandoned Roseworthy to Freeling section of track for lunch in the Railway Terrace park.

After lunch we took a sketchy little shortcut through town to join a gravel road back into Gawler and then followed the North Para River around Hewett on the bikepath until we arrived back into Clonlea Park to end the ride. Despite the threatening clouds we experienced no rain but maybe a little sunburn.



The red cliffs of Gawler.

August PERFECT Ride from Saddleworth, Sunday 11th August Author; Kevin D

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.



Light River crossing with wind farm in background

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

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

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



Wind farm waves us goodbye

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.

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 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.

Interesting stuff

Melbourne City Council officially bans hire e-scooters from the CBD !

Lord Mayor, Nicholas Reece, launched a motion to cancel the City's two trial contracts with e-scooter companies Lime and Neuron, with the vote falling in favour of the ban 6-4.

The move comes just weeks before new laws, introduced by the Victorian Government, come into effect in October legalising the use of private e-scooters – with the authority said to have been caught off-guard by the City Council's decision.

The scooters had been available for hire as part of a two-year trial in the Melbourne, Yarra and Port Phillip council areas, with the technology presenting an opportunity in practical 'last mile' mobility, while also reducing transport emissions.

But in recent months e-scooters have come under fire, not just in Melbourne but across Australia, for being used dangerously, blocking footpaths, and for presenting a fire risk.

“As a clinician involved in caring for people who come off e-scooters, I have seen an alarming rise in the number of people who come through our emergency department,” plastic and reconstructive surgeon Anand Ramakrishnan told The Age.

“About four per cent of facial fractures over the last two years have been due to e-scooters. While that doesn't sound like a lot, some of these injuries have been really life-changing for these individuals.”

Dr Ramakrishnan's evidence is supported elsewhere in the country too. The number of people ending up in Queensland hospital emergency rooms after e-scooter accidents doubled in just two years.

Recent figures compiled by the Jamieson Trauma Institute revealed there were 1273 e-scooter-related accidents reported last year compared to 1018 in 2022 and 691 in 2021.

Even when users aren't injured, many are still falling on the wrong side of the law. During enforcement blitz in Melbourne's CBD almost 300 riders were fined in just one day. Police have issued 1964 fines since December 2021. Most of the tickets were issued for riders failing to wear an approved bicycle helmet, which attracts an automatic fine of \$240. Others were slapped with penalties for riding on footpaths costing them \$192 a pop.

Police said they had recorded 860 collisions involving e-scooters since December 2021, **including seven fatal crashes**. This includes hire scooters and privately owned scooters, which the state has also legalised.

Dangers posed by the type of batteries used in e-scooters, and e-bikes, will be also be a top priority for Australia's safety watchdog this year as the number of fires caused by them rockets.

Source: 9 News, The Age Newspaper 15th August 2024