

## Regular rides

### Sunday Pleasure Rides:

Organiser; Helen Tetley 0466 870 177

10<sup>th</sup> November **City to Marion Loop** Peter 0418 844 963

Start at Victoria Square at 10am and ride to Mitcham, Panorama, and Marion with lunch at Camden Oval. Return up the Western Bikeway for coffee at Troppo's on Whitmore Square. 36 kms.

24<sup>th</sup> November **Semaphore** Angela R. 0418 852 659

Meet at Victoria Square at 10am. Ride to Semaphore for lunch. Back via Military Road and Marlborough Street to the Torrens Linear trail. On to Troppo's for coffee. Flat ride of around 40km.

We are seeking leaders for Sunday Pleasure Rides for next year. In particular;

5<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> January; 2<sup>nd</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> February; 2<sup>nd</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> March; 13<sup>th</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> April

If you can help with any of these dates, or any time during the year, please contact Helen.

### Wednesday Retire Active Rides:

Organiser; Tony McIntyre 0407 759 260

Every Wednesday **Torrens Weir (Par3 café)** Decide on the day. 10am start

12<sup>th</sup> November **Goolwa Currency Creek** Bob 0437 911 725

Meet at Goolwa (carpark near "Hector's on the Wharf" – end of Cutting Road) 9:30am for 10am start. A loop ride to the Barrages and around Goolwa Channel. Bring lunch for a stop at Currency Creek.

Distance: 50km Elevation 196m. All bikes

13<sup>th</sup> of November **Encounter Bikeway** Ros 0448 741 556

Meet at Goolwa (carpark near "Hector's on the Wharf" – end of Cutting Road) 9:30am for 10am start. To Victor Harbor return, along the Encounter Bikeway. Coffee stop at Port Elliot. Bring lunch for a stop in central Victor Harbor at Warland Reserve (or buy across the street). Can ride one-way, but make your own arrangements. All bike types

#### Those staying overnight

Some are staying overnight on the 12<sup>th</sup> to save travel. There will be a group dining on the Tuesday night. Contact Bob if you want to join them. Email [margobob@bigpond.com](mailto:margobob@bigpond.com)

27<sup>th</sup> of November **Crafers to Mylor** Patsy 0439 332 533

Meet at Stirling behind the oval. Ride to Mylor via Aldgate, then head north to Bridgewater. Head back to Aldgate and then to a loop to the south west to the Woorabinda Bush Reserve. Return to Stirling and then back to Crafers. Mainly on bitumen roads with no bike lanes. Please use back lights on all country roads and watch out for kangaroos. Wide tyres please

### Thursday Rural Rides:

Organiser; Di Beltrame 0424 957 532

November 7<sup>th</sup> **The Stables, Greenwith** Dan 0427 526 846

Meet at Cafe Aroma, Stables Shopping Centre, for a coffee to start the ride at 10 am. Lunch is enroute. This ride is not suitable for road bikes. There are some rough sections. See the route;

<https://ridewithgps.com/events/335512-thursday-rural-away-ride>

November 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> **Woodside** Leaders TBA

Meet at 10 am at the Woodside Pool car park. Some unsealed roads.

## PERFECT Rides:

0448 364 138

Organiser; Peter H.

Sunday 3rd November

RSVP Sven 0410271717

Depart from Normanville Foreshore Carpark 9.45am  
Sharp. Relaxed pace 67 km 38km Gravel 29km Paved  
Elevation 972M Lunch at Myponga.

Ride thru Links golf course and then via southern  
highlands and forested area of Myponga Reservoir  
Reserve to Myponga for a lunch stop.

Depart Myponga to the north and cross over Myponga  
Dam and then mainly downhill descent to Normanville.

Check SARCC Website for ride update if weather  
dictates. See RWGPS

[https://ridewithgps.com/routes/48787535?privacy\\_code=IDG8wtO9ml7tiUntnvOnxGzdLcT3gySP](https://ridewithgps.com/routes/48787535?privacy_code=IDG8wtO9ml7tiUntnvOnxGzdLcT3gySP)

## FACEBOOK

**Please** follow our Facebook page to get  
the notices - especially urgent messages.  
We need lots to follow or it won't be  
useful to us. Control and click;

<https://www.facebook.com/SARCCinc>

We also have a Facebook group which  
anyone can post to. Eg. discussions or  
photos. A great way to promote our  
group. Control and click. Then click **join**  
on the link;

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

## Coming Tours

### SARCC Tour sub-committee

Have you participated in a tour? Do you have an  
opinion on where, when or what style of touring?

If so, you can help the club by nominating for the  
SARCC Tour subcommittee. They prepare the  
annual tour program, propose tour destinations  
and time of year, gather feedback from members,  
recruit/advise/assist tour organisers.

Meetings, scheduled as needed, can be held at a  
central cafe.

If you don't want to be on the subcommittee you  
can still assist us by suggesting ideas for tours -  
especially those over winter when it is cold and  
wet in Adelaide !

Please email to Kevin D. [kev.d@live.com.au](mailto:kev.d@live.com.au)

### Beechworth, Geelong, Pt Fairy

16<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> of November. Organiser: Sven Holm

### Upolu, Samoa Tour July 2025

Organisers; Paul and Robyn Davill

Details on the website.

### Preliminary Notices

March 2025 Tasmania top to bottom via Great  
Lakes.

Register your interest to [sarccexec@gmail.com](mailto:sarccexec@gmail.com) or  
contact Sven.

## Ride reports

### PERFECT Ride

from Burra 6th October 2024 By Kevin B

Despite what started as a windy, wettish morning, a fair distance from Adelaide, daylight saving  
morning and a mix up about which public toilets to meet at, the October PERFECT ride got  
underway 20 mins late with 3 riders Peter H, Kevin D and Kevin B. Knowing that the wind was likely  
to keep up all day, we headed into the wind for the first half through open country NW of Burra.  
Green at this time of the year, it was leisurely and comfortable despite the wind.

A stop at the beautifully restored Primitive Methodist Church at Leighton, (now a home) and a ride alongside the forest belt nearby led us north to the lunch stop at the recreation ground in Booborowie. Peter H lived there as a child so we were treated to a guided tour of everything that 'used to be' in town. We saw one or two people and no traffic.



Iron mine church



Booborowie main street - at peak hour

After lunch the cloud cleared, it warmed up and we headed off under a blue sky with the wind behind us. We rode SE at a steady pace through cropping country with no traffic, till eventually meeting and crossing the Barrier Hwy where we stopped to have a look at the famous 'Midnight Oil' house, which even has a carpark for the pilgrims! A steepish gravel climb took us to the top of the small range, then a gentle wind assisted downhill back into Burra and a de-brief at the Burra Hotel. All in, about 65kms and 600M climbing made for a perfect PERFECT ride. Since SARCC seems to have many 'gravel' riders, I'm not sure why more riders don't join in these rides...if only for the witty, wise and pleasant company!

## Flinders/Melrose/Burra Tour Report

7<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of September

By Kevin Dronfield and Sven Holm

What follows is the tour leader's summary report of the tour. Feedback indicates the trip was enjoyed by participants and was a very nice recreational riding trip at a very reasonable price. Rides were authored by the trip leaders whilst accommodation and meals were at the discretion of participants. A group meal was had at Blinman Hotel, North Star Hotel Melrose and an impromptu group BBQ was held at Burra.

### Riders

9 members attended the Flinders section of the tour. 4 riders rode ebikes.

8 members attended the Melrose section of the tour. 3 riders rode ebikes.

5 members attended the Burra section of the tour. 1 rider rode an ebike.

### Accommodation

#### *Angorichina Tourist Village*

Was a bit of a culture shock ... no phone, no internet and no drinkable water. Village water was untreated bore water. Fuel was very expensive here. There was a Telstra phone box at the entrance that allowed free calls. Bottled/Boxed water could be purchased at the small grocery shop at reception. Riders utilised the units, caravan site and tent sites. The nearest town was 15km away in Blinman.

#### *Melrose Caravan Park*

Situated right on the main street of Melrose with easy access to hotels, a cafe, a bike shop, a small grocery shop and service station. Phone and Internet reception was very good. Town water was drinkable bore water (slightly salty). Riders utilised a unit, caravan site, tent site as well as nearby Mt. Remarkable Hotel unit and Melrose Holiday unit.



### *Burra Caravan Park*

All of the caravan sites were full at the caravan park but there is an overflow site at the Showgrounds. Units are in Paxton Square adjacent to the caravan park. Phone and Internet reception was OK. Town water was drinkable. Riders utilised a unit, overflow caravan site and tent site.

### **Weather**

The weather in the Flinders and Melrose was perfect for our stay. Temperatures in the low to mid 20s with no strong winds to battle into. Great conditions for enjoyable cycling.

Burra was very windy for our whole stay and there was also some morning drizzle on the last couple of days. We made some last minute changes to the ride schedule to shorten, or avoid, the effects of the wind.

### **Rides**

#### *Flinders*

The Flinders rides were quite tough due to the rough surfaces and long distances. The rough and stony surfaces caused a couple of mechanical issues that we managed to work around which was fortuitous as the nearest bike shop was in Melrose, a 480km round trip. It was also very difficult to make shorter loop rides that left from the accommodation, consequently three of the rides were away rides.



Ride 1: Away ride. Blinman -Artimore Ruins-Blinman loop ride (68km, 800m ascent).

Ride 2: Angorichina Village-Nuccaleena Mine- Angorichina Village out and back ride (73km, 1050m ascent).

Ride 3: Away ride. Wilpena Pound-Bunyeroo Road lookouts-Wilpena Pound out and back ride via the Wilcolo Track (41km, 670m ascent). A shortened version of the original route. Followed by a group dinner in Blinman Hotel on the way back to our accommodation.

Ride 4: Away ride. One of the participants used RWGPS to find a short ride around Blinman (12km, 230m ascent) to replace the scheduled ride that had been covered mostly in previous rides. We combined this with the Blinman Mine Tour to make for an easy but interesting last day.



#### *Melrose*

The Melrose rides were spectacular at this time of year mainly due to the vivid yellow canola crops. Combining the great rail trails with gravel back roads made for interesting riding.

Ride 5: Melrose-Bridle Track-Melrose loop ride (56km, 800m ascent). Spectacular as usual.



Ride 6: Melrose-Booleroo Centre-Melrose via back roads and rail trail (63km, 500m ascent).

Ride 7: Melrose-Wilmington-Melrose via back roads and return via rail trail and Willowie Forest (58km, 320m ascent). Followed by a group dinner in North Star Hotel.

Ride 8: Away ride. Wirrabara-Laura-Wirrabara loop ride replacing the longer scheduled ride. Outbound to Laura via rail trail and return through back roads (44km, 300m ascent).



### **Burra**

The last day's ride was short so that it would finish in time for people to travel back to Adelaide. Due to the forecast 50km winds with 70km gusts this ride was rescheduled as the first ride.

Ride 9: Burra-Iron Mine-Leighton-Burra loop ride (49km, 610 ascent). Very windy.

Ride 10: Away ride. Clare-Mintaro-Clare loop ride was a good shorter ride than that originally planned (36km, 570 ascent). Followed by group BBQ at Paxton Square.

Ride 11: Burra-Porter Lagoon-Farrel Flat-Burra loop ride (63km, 520m ascent). Very windy hence the large scale wind farm construction in progress.



Most rides are available from the club's RWGPS collection page.

Two rides that stood out were...

*Best rides – Bridle Track Loop and Wilcolo Track.*

*Most challenging ride – Nuccaleena.*

### **Routes and Photos**

Click here [Flinders RWGPS routes](#)  
[Melrose RWGPS routes](#)  
[Burra RWGPS routes](#)  
[Participant's photos](#)

### **What worked well**

- Spending a few nights at each location meant that we could settle in and concentrate on the riding without having to move each day.
- Having people attend for one, two or all of the locations made the tour more accessible for those looking to fill small gaps in busy schedules.
- RWGPS worked well although it seems that the voice direction can be at odds with the visual direction occasionally. It pays to check the cue sheet matches the map!
- Participant's flexibility was appreciated when rides were rescheduled, changed or deleted to be replaced by a new ride!

### **Learnings**

- Use long rides sparingly. Some participants preferred rides around 40-50km if possible.
- Take plenty of spares for the Flinders. Tyres, spokes and drive train take a beating.

### **In summary**

Overall, a very successful tour. It would be well worth another visit to the Flinders but maybe based around Hawker/Orroroo with away rides at Rawnsley Park and Wilpena Pound? Melrose is always worth a visit just for the Bridle Track but also to try out a few of the MTB tracks on the flanks of Mt. Remarkable. Clare or Auburn might be a worthwhile addition instead of Burra.

Thanks to all who came along to be part of the Flinders/Melrose/Burra tour and especially those who led rides, suggested changes and helped out with navigation when needed.

Happy riding.

Cheers      Brian (Smokey) Ashton 0438 088 220 [ashtonba@gmail.com](mailto:ashtonba@gmail.com)