SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SARCC RECREATIONAL CYCLING CLUB

October 2026 Newsletter

Safety comes first at SARCC

Note; a small change to the temperature

RIDE CANCELLATIONS

All SARCC rides WILL be cancelled if:

- The Bureau forecast is **36°C or higher** at the ride's lowest point (at 6 pm the night before)

or

- The Fire Danger Rating is **Severe, Extreme or Catastrophic**

or

- An **Extreme Weather Warning** has been issued the night before.

The ride coordinator will cancel **without further notice** (he/she may reschedule to a safer time). Check the Facebook page. If you still choose to ride, it is not an official SARCC ride.

SARCC is 50 years old this year !

Wednesday the 18th of November 2026

Save the Date for this lunchtime event. We're planning a celebration get together to chat and catch up on how things have changed since we started. More details to come as they get finalised.

Any ideas, send them to Steve Jenkins 0418 852 234 or stevejenkins23@outlook.com

Club meeting - next week

On the 6th of October at the Cumby.
6:30 for dinner, 7:30 for talks.

Steve Jenkins will talk about the club's Great Ocean Road tour in the Otway mountains near Wye River. Including rail trails and gravel roads around Port Cambell, Warrnambool and Portland - with a bit of bush bashing, sandy tracks and beach riding also part of the fun.



The following club meeting will be on the 15th of December. Put it into your diary now !



Peter Boult will talk on his recent tour of Europe.

A ride and memorial for Kath Cooper

It is with great sadness that SARCC share the news of the passing of long-standing member Kath Cooper. Kath was a valued member of the club who could be relied on for a good chat and leading interesting rides for the Sunday Pleasure Ride group. Always resplendent in her vibrant attire.

Our heartfelt condolences go out to Mike and Kath's family and friends.

A memorial to celebrate Kath's life will be held on Saturday 3rd of October, at 2pm, in the Mylor Cotton Memorial Hall - on the corner of Cross Street and Strathalbyn Road, Mylor.

It has been requested that those attending wear brightly coloured clothing.

All are invited to join a short ride (9km) leaving from the top of Druids Road at Stirling down Aldgate Valley Road to the memorial at Mylor.

Contact Kevin D. if you are riding 0411 203 893

Coming Tours

16th to 19th October 2026 – Gravel Grin Capers: Laura 2026

Accommodation, food and drink, transport and mechanical support are the responsibility of participants.

These rides are ideally suited for mountain bikes, and gravel bikes, as the routes are mostly on gravel and dirt roads, with the occasional access track to keep things interesting. Some linking parts of the routes are on bitumen of course, but road bikes are not recommended for Gravel Grin Capers rides. Legal sparks bikes (e-bikes with sparks under your arse) are welcome.

Default for rides: start at Meryle's Café (main street of Laura) and finish at Little Blessings Brewing (Victoria St opposite the Laura Community Caravan Park).

Ride times:

– Friday 16th 12 noon (allowing time for travel from Adelaide in the morning).

– Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th 10am. Adjustments to start times and routes can be made on the fly depending on weather and what people desire.

– Monday 19th ride start time, place and distance conducive to onward travel, be that elsewhere or a return to Adelaide.

Ride styles:

Stu Clement and Laura local, Wayne Gifford, have put together a portfolio of riding options.

– Gentle rides 20-35km, not too many hills and smoothish roads.

– Regular rides 30-70km with more bumps and gnarls.

– Challenging rides >70km incorporating whatever level of masochism is desired.

Some accommodation options:

– North Laura Hotel Apartment. Phone number 8663 2421.

– Laura Community Caravan Park.

– Other options can be found at https://laurasa.com.au/accommodation/

Stu's contact details are 0439 311 294 or stu.clement@yahoo.com

20th to 24th October 2026 – Geoff's Laura to Gawler Epilogue

After the Gravel Grin Capers: Laura, I intend to ride from Laura to Gawler on mostly gravel in five days unsupported. My current plan is Spalding, Burra, Auburn, Kapunda, Gawler/train per RWGPS here https://ridewithgps.com/collections/11072846

Transport:

Miriam & I could provide transport for one extra person with a gravel bike to Laura (my rack can take two non-ebikes).

Accommodation:

I've avoided overnighting in Clare and Barossa as these can be booked out and expensive (but great for coffee stops). I will be staying in the Spalding Hotel the first night and camping for the last three nights. Others may prefer to book a bed with a roof in Burra, Auburn and Kapunda as well as Spalding.

Contact Geoff at cottrellgeoff@gmail.com or 0423 205 412 for more details.

Indonesia - Flores and Sumba Winter 2027

2-3 weeks of riding / snorkelling / wildlife viewing. This tour is fully booked (there is a waiting list)

Contact Pete Boult at Peterjboult@gmail.com

New Zealand 2027 – South Island

The ultimate supported DIY South Island New Zealand Cycling Tour. 24 trails 1690km of cycling available.

Multi-night stays in South Island locations a total of ten different locations. 30 nights maximum riding 1800 km for 24 participants supported by two 12 seat minibuses one 8 seat people mover.

The alternative to riding is a daily tourist at any location, interesting towns or great walks or jumping off a bridge with an elastic rope. Maybe flying in helicopters, scenic boat trips and much more. We need a minimum of one driver each day – when in-transit - 3 drivers.

Cost estimate for 31 nights' accommodation $1800 and transport $1200 each total $3000 each. You feed yourselves from a kitty with group meals as often as possible (it elevates camaraderie, fun to encourage culinary skills, lowers your cost substantially).

Airfare and bicycle hire are your responsibility (bringing your own bike is a viable option).

For detailed information click here.

Expressions of interest needed urgently if this tour is to go ahead

Contact Eric Cheney at eric@outlook.com.au

Regular rides

Sunday Pleasure Rides:

Organiser; Helen Tetley 0466 870 177

11th October 2026 **Seaford to Aldinga loop** Sue 0402 880 655

Meet at 10am at Seaford Railway station. Ride to Aldinga township. Maybe a coffee at the bakery before turning off the coast and returning to Aldinga. Then inland via the Aldinga Wetlands, along the latest path by South Road, turning towards Willunga, then McLaren Vale. On to the Coast to Vines Rail Trail and back to Seaford Railway Station.

Should anyone wish to ride another 10km Sue is happy to continue to Moana, along the coast to Port Noarlunga, then along the beautiful new path at the bottom of the cliff face to Christies Beach. Then an easy ride to the Noarlunga Railway station. (This last section can be decided on the day).

Mainly sealed trails. some gravel around the wetlands and nearby.

25th October 2026 **City to Surf** Angela 0418 852 659

Meet at 10am at Victoria Square. Ride to Semaphore and return. Coffee at Troppo's.

Wednesday Rides:

Organiser; Tony McIntyre 0407 759 260

Every Wednesday

Meet at the Torrens Weir (Par 3 café) to ride at 10 am. Ride decided on the day.

7th October 2026 **Mt Crawford – Mt Pleasant** Ros 0448 741 556

Meet at 9.30am for 10am start at the car park on Warren Road, corner of Chalks Road (near the intersection of Warren Road and Forreston Road).

The most direct way from the city is via Houghton on the B10, then take the B31 turnoff, and then turn right onto Checker Hill Road, then left onto Forreston Road. Allow an hour's drive to arrive at the meeting point.

A scenic ride with some bitumen but mostly along forest tracks and country roads through tall pine-tree plantations. Coffee stop at Lovell's Bakery, Mt Pleasant, a quaint rustic little place with spacious outdoor sitting area and a great selection of cakes!

Bring lunch/substantial snack item for optional end-of-ride wind-up, picnic style, at Chalks Campground.

21st October 2026 **Mt Torrens – Warmington – Amy Gillet** Tony 0407 759 260

Meet at Oval Road, Mt Torrens. Head south down Townsend Street/Springhead Road until reach Y junction with Sheoak Hill Road. Ride up Sheoak Hill Road heading east. At the T junction turn right and head south down Warmington Run. Turn off at Sandy Waterhole Road.

An alternative would be to turn off earlier at Dunn Road. Can be a bit boggy. Follow road heading generally in south westerly direction. Head on to Kings Road heading downhill. Name changes to Harrison Road and then Ridge Road. Turn right at Naughtons Road. Watch out for a very sharp right turn on Naughton's Road.

Stop for coffee at Melba's Chocolate Factory or head up to Barrister Block for wine. Head back along the Amy Gillett bikeway back to Mt Torrens.

Distance: 31km Elevation: 378m Time: 2:03hrs. Wide tyres please

See https://ridewithgps.com/events/485864-mt-torrens-warmington-amy-gillet

Thursday Rural Rides:

Organiser; Di Beltrame 0424 957 532

1st October 2026 **Away Ride – Flaxley** John A 0438 523 560

Meet at Flaxley Memorial Hall in time to leave at 10am sharp

8th October 2026 **Woodside** Ron 0408 812 137

Meet 10am Woodside Pool car park. Some unsealed Roads

15th October 2026 **Away Ride** Steve 0418 852 234

Meet at Lovells Bakery, Mt Pleasant, for a 10am departure

22nd October 2026 **Woodside** Di 0424 957 532

Meet 10am Woodside Pool car park. Some unsealed Roads. Coffee and lunch at Birdwood.

See https://ridewithgps.com/events/500477-thursday-rural-ride-from-woodside

29th October 2026 **Woodside** Di 0424 957 532

Meet 10am Woodside Pool car park. Some unsealed Roads. Anti clockwise loop from Woodside. Coffee at Balhannah lunch at Hahndorf. Nice gravel around Snelling and Fairview Roads Road.

See https://ridewithgps.com/events/504504-thursday-rural-ride-from-woodside

PERFECT Rides:

Organiser; Peter H. 0448 364 138

Sunday October 4th **Sevenhill** Kevin D. 0411 203 893

Start at Richardson Park, College Road, Sevenhill

(Note; this is the first day of daylight saving so clocks will have moved forward one hour)

Climb over the range to Mintaro. Head out to Farrel Flat passing Martindale Hall and Merildin Railway Station. Return via Melrose Farm ruins and Quarry Hill. Steep climb back over the range to finish!

60km of mostly gravel or dirt. No services on the ride.

Click here for RWGPS Event and route details.

Please let Kevin know if you intend to participate in this ride.

Sunday Hills Rides (early start)

Organiser: Peter B. 0491 705 816

These rides will start again on Sunday 11th of October at 8:30am from the Norton Summit Road Recreational Reserve. There will be a ride every Sunday until May except when a PERFECT ride is scheduled. All rides have been graded and will gradually start earlier and get more difficult as the season progress.

SHRES cancellation policy

SHRES rides are subject to change depending on route temperature and fire danger rating. The BOM forecast temperature at the lowest point will be checked at 6pm the night before and if the forecast is over 35°C at 12:30pm, the ride start time will be at Sunrise.

If the start time changes, or if the ride is cancelled, an email will be sent out to all registered SHRES riders the night before. Rides WILL be cancelled if the fire danger rating is extreme or above.

Note: These rides are not suitable for heavy e-bikes.



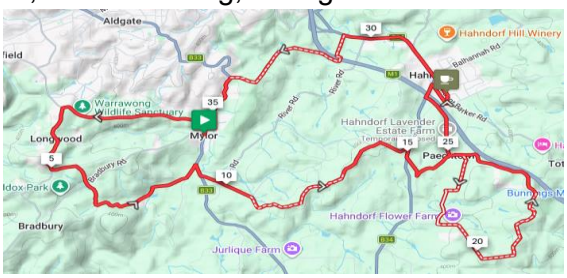
Sunday 11th October - SHRES C

Start at 8:30am from Norton Summit Road Recreational Reserve. 34.3km, 663m climbing, 32% gravel/off road. Ride Difficulty Score 58.83. Low side of Moderate.

A relatively easy start for the SHRES season. Out through Ashton, towards Cleland CP and Stirling for coffee, via 5km of forest track and the back streets of Stirling. Back via Evelyn Halliday Reserve, Gully Rd, Uraidla and Ashton.

Sunday 18th October – SHRES N

Start at 8:30am from Mylor Oval. 35.6km, 568m climbing, 34% gravel / off road. Ride Difficulty Score 52.57. Easiest ride of the series.

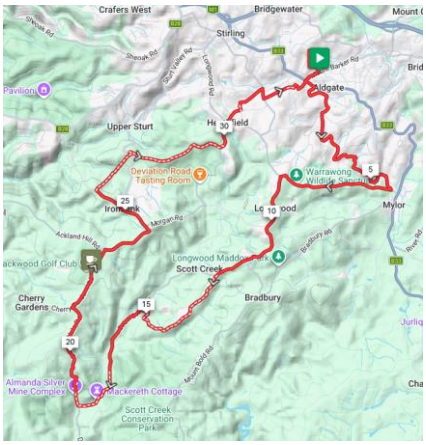


Another easy ride to get into the groove. A little bit further from the CBD. Out through Longwood towards Hahndorf for Coffee via Boyle Swamp, Kangaroo Reef and Paechtown Roads.

Permission has been granted for a small number of riders to traverse Biglands horse agistment property. Back via Gross and Hooper Roads - including a ford crossing of Cox Creek.

Sunday 25th October SHRES U

Start 8:30am from parking area on west side of Mt Barker Rd, Aldgate. Opposite Bus stop 43. 33.7km, 620m climbing 26% gravel/off road. Ride Difficulty Score 59.34. Moderate.



A slightly more difficult ride with 3 classified climbs. Out via Aldgate Valley and Stockwood Roads to Longwood. Then via Nicholls Road (labelled as “no though road” - but isn’t), Scott Creek Cemetery and Conservation Park, Dorset Vale and Cherry Gardens Road for Coffee at Blackwood Golf Club (opens at 11am). Back via Coat Road, Mark Oliphant CP, Heathfield and Aldgate Suburbs.

Gravel Grin Capers

Organiser; Stu 0439 311 294

Stu

Saturday 10th October 2026

Meet at 9am at Hansen St Carpark, Myponga. From Myponga to the Fleurieu Milk Company, Blockers Rd, Mt Beare Station, Munetta Rd, Louds Hill, Blockers Rd and back to Myponga.

Approx 49km; 67% unpaved; 450m ascending. Lunch at the conclusion of the ride.

Happy riding.

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