



# BBCNEWSLETTER 2023.08.07

## BALLINA BICYCLE CLUB RIDE ATTENDEES

For the week – 40 - For week ending Sun 06AUG2023.

Monday – 11 (See report)

Tuesday – 4 (See ride report)

Wednesday – 7 (See ride report)

Thursday- 2 (See ride report)

Friday – 5 (See ride report)

Saturday – 3 (See ride report)

Sunday – 8 (See ride report)

Join our mailing list: [bbclubnews@gmail.com](mailto:bbclubnews@gmail.com)

4 Week Free Trial Memberships

[BBC Certificate of Currency](#)

are available to anyone who has not held an AusCycling membership in the last 3 years.

CLICK TO OPEN



**BBC MEMBERSHIP & INSURANCE**

KEY: GREEN(slow) BLUE(med-fast)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

CLICK ON EVENT TO OPEN

#### WOODBURN

AUG Tue 8<sup>th</sup> 7AM. Coles, Fox St.

#### HOUGHLAHANS MTB

AUG Wed 9<sup>th</sup> 7AM. Coles, Fox St.

#### WARDELL 2

#### BROADWATER

AUG Fri 11<sup>th</sup> 7AM. Coles, Fox St.

#### RIDERS CHOICE

AUG Sat 12<sup>th</sup> 7AM. Henry Rous Tavern

#### TIME TRIAL TRAINING

AUG Sun 13<sup>th</sup> 2PM Empire Vale School.

#### BROADWATER

AUG Sun 13<sup>th</sup> 7AM. Coles, Fox St.

#### MOYLANS-WARDELL

AUG Mon 14<sup>th</sup> 7AM Coles, Fox St.

## Monday Ride Report Moylans Lane is open again - Peter

Nine of the eleven riders explored the renewed road surface of Moylans Lane on the way to Wardell. My first impression was that it looked clean and level. The question is, will the road surface stand up to the wear and tear of the heavy cane trucks? Time will tell.

## Tuesday Ride Report - Peter

Tom, Marc and I rode to Wardell with Dave, and then back to Ballina via River Drive. Dave rode solo from Wardell to Woodburn and return to Ballina.

## Wednesday Ride Report - Peter

Dave, Tom, Stewart, Bob, Jack, Michael and I rode the Houghlahans circuit. Michael rode his brand new Malvern Star steelie road bike. Dave was very impatient today, he did not wait for slower riders such as myself. It was good to see Bob and Jack tackle the hilly circuit with us on their electric bikes.





Richard Hughes and I rode the Northern Rivers Rail Trail.



We started from Mooball Station. The first leg of the journey was to reach Murwillumbah Railway Station. Right from the start I noticed a slight uphill climb that seemed to go for many kilometres, which ended just after we passed through the tunnel.

Now, the tunnel was still a shock of an experience even after I was warned to not wear sunglasses, which I did not. Because I brought a headlamp, it did not occur to me to stop at the tunnel entrance to get my eyes adjusted to the dark. I just rode into the dark as well as into other peoples headlamps. I quickly became disorientated. I had to stop or crash.

After awhile I was ready to ride, but I first thought to start off in granny gear so I could at least keep more steady at slower speeds. However, my chain came off the small chain ring. To put it back on and clip my shoe into the cleat in total darkness was feat and a half for me. Richard, just ahead of me, was also having troubles of his own; but we finally got going again and traversed the tunnel without any further issues.

I followed Richard all the way to Murwillumbah. The pace just short of uncomfortable in my present poor condition. We were travelling 29-30 kph. The pace was slower on the return trip. Half way back, we stopped at Stokers Siding Station, on Richard's suggestion, to have a break and support the local cafe. It was run by a single person who also had to attend to post office patrons.

After we reached Mooball again we decided to carry on to the south end of the trail (see photos). So overall, we rode 48 km. Much of the rail trail was dirt. Though we never got wet, a lot of the trail was wet from light showers. After I got home, it became clear to me that my bike needed a really good wash all over.

Well, was it worth it? You bet! Especially if you have in mind to stop now and again to take photos of the many hidden off trail scenery. I heard that the trail is very busy during the weekends. Luckily, being a cool Thursday morning, we did not see many people over the 48 km trail.





Richard trying out his new gravel bike

**Friday Ride Report** - Peter

Dave, Tom, Jack, Richard (Shorty) and I rode to Wardell via Pimlico road and the old highway to Wardell. Dave was keen to carry on to Broadwater, but the rest of us were just happy to head back to the ferry; so Dave abandoned his plan and rode with us instead.

Shorty rode alone from home. We had no idea he was on the road too, until we met him along River Drive heading towards the ferry. At the end, the five of us had a good old chat at the Proper Cafe.



**Saturday Ride Report** Nooks & Crannies - Peter

Marc wanted to explore new road ways south of Ballina. He has not yet seen all the nooks and crannies of Ballina Shire Council, so today he was having a few firsthand experiences. For me, it was a pleasant change to revisit ride routes and places I have not been on for a long time.

Our first visit was a short detour down Keith Hall Lane. Along the way I was hoping that one day all of the lane will be sealed. As we approached the south lane turn-off, the wet road surface looked as if my hope became true. Upon closer inspection the road was just newly graded, and looking good too.

From South Wardell we crossed the bridge and rode to the bitumen end of Black Channel Road, where the bridge to Cabbage Tree Island is. Out of respect we were not going to visit the island. But



as we approached the bridge we saw it was barricaded off. It was a stark reminder of the devastation left by the 2022 flood.

The return trip from Wardell was along Pimlico road, where Marc realised that his front tyre was nearly flat. We soon discovered that glass was the culprit. It was most likely picked up along Kalinga Street where we saw lots of broken glass, more so than on any other day of the week.

From here we got onto the Coolgardie roundabout and then along the old highway to Whytes Lane entrance to the Expressway. It was at this intersection when we came across the Transition cycling group. Marc and I got onto their last wheel and soon found that they were not really taking advantage of the slight tailwind. After a few friendly exchange of greetings and words, Marc and I took the lead and left them behind. When we got into Ballina town, we had breakfast at Babalino's Bakery Cafe.



Apparently, Tom also went for a ride to Wardell, but he awoke too late to join us in time from the start. Tom rode solo ten minutes later. When he returned, he was half expecting to see us having coffee somewhere in town. But this was not the case. Tom had no idea we would take longer than usual, what with our longer ride distance and time spent repairing a tyre. We got into town long after Tom got home.

## Sunday Ride Report Wet & Cold - Peter

As I approached Coles car park at 6:56 am I saw Tom waiting alone. It was cold and wet, but not raining. We both looked at each other with 'let's have coffee' eyes, when suddenly other riders turned up from all directions; they were Garry, Shane, Dave, 2Bob, Peter O. and Richard H.

As the eight of us left the car park for our southbound ride, it started to sprinkle. The rain ever so slowly got worse. Tom and I were off the back. I said if we all turned off at Pimlico Road, we would have the option of going back from Whytes lane entrance to the Expressway. Sure enough, the group turned into Pimlico Road. They came to a halt and quickly opted to use the u-turn option provided a few hundred metres up the expressway. As we were heading back to Ballina, the sky was slowly opening up and the rain resided. Even so, we were bitterly cold all the way. Hot coffee was a welcoming experience at the Proper Cafe. The main discussion was about Richard's plan to do a bicycle tour in Africa next year, problems with electric bikes and cars, and exploding car batteries.





**Annual Maintenance from Monday 14 August**

The Burns Point Ferry will be taken to a dry dock slipyard for maintenance works from Monday 14 August to Sunday 3 September 2023.

The last ferry service will be 12.20am in the morning on Monday 14 August and the ferry is scheduled to recommence at 5.30am on Monday 4 September 2023.

The ferry crossing will be closed to customers for the duration of this work. Road users are advised to use the alternate route of the Pacific Highway and River Drive, Wardell.

**OTHER BITS & PIECES** Click on the 2 images below to open



**6-DAY BALLINA (FORECAST)**. Click image to open METEYE (2478 for Ballina).



Forecast for Ballina						
	Tue. 8 Aug	Wed. 9 Aug	Thu. 10 Aug	Fri. 11 Aug	Sat. 12 Aug	Sun. 13 Aug
Max (°C)	20	20	22	24	22	23
Min (°C)	9	8	7	9	7	7
Chance of rain (%)	80	70	10	5	10	20
Rainfall range (mm)	1 to 5	0 to 3	0	0	0	0

**Where to Race**

Here are a few links for our racing club members to represent our club in:

- Byron Bay** <https://www.byronbaycycleclub.org.au/home-1> and/or <https://www.facebook.com/byronbaycycleclub/>
- Yamba** <https://yambacc.tidyhq.com/> and/or <https://www.facebook.com/YambaCC/>
- Murwillumbah** <https://murwillumbah.tidyhq.com/> and/or <https://www.facebook.com/MurbahCycleClub/>
- Grafton** <https://grafton.tidyhq.com/> and/or <https://www.facebook.com/graftoncycleclub/>

**Grafton Race Calendar (Jul-Sep)** : <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1nCJEhYz2ZhGNZTezq-T9JNeEmYbPFiOZ/view?usp=sharing>

**Lismore Road Race (24<sup>th</sup> Sep)**: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZRMxGqd5akN0X1i\\_\\_h-QPZ84N0CwRXZr/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZRMxGqd5akN0X1i__h-QPZ84N0CwRXZr/view?usp=sharing)

**For more details**: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/19upPRDqimmRO1hxVxLdkuvS\\_C\\_bAa63D/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/19upPRDqimmRO1hxVxLdkuvS_C_bAa63D/view?usp=sharing)

**Where to Trail Ride**

Here are a few links for our MTB club members to represent our club in:

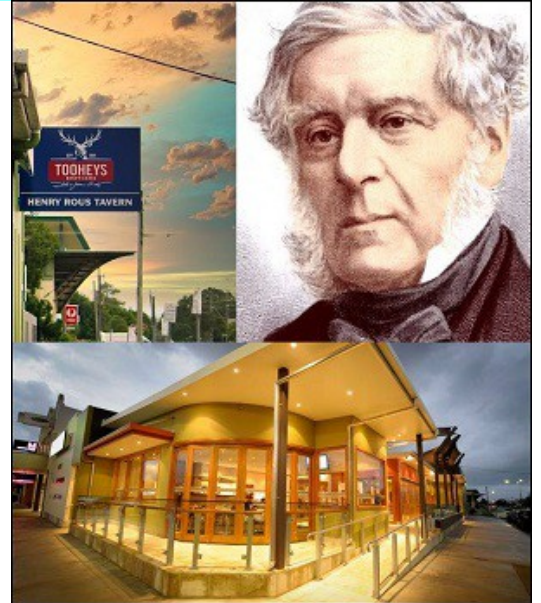
**Kyogle MTB Club**: <https://www.facebook.com/kyoglemountainbikeclub>



## SPONSORSHIP NEWS



THE BICYCLE EMPORIUM  
158 River Street Ballina  
<http://thebicycleemporium.com.au/index.html>



THE HENRY ROUS TAVERN  
177 River Street Ballina  
<https://www.henryrous.com.au>

**SPOT THE DIFFERENCE** The right-hand image has 10 alterations. Can you spot them?



Answer: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IEfhA-Jrbz\\_T-Dsrvi3llhg2HsQHmvJm/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IEfhA-Jrbz_T-Dsrvi3llhg2HsQHmvJm/view?usp=sharing)

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