

Monday Report

Eleven riders participated in the event. Poor weather has left us all frustrated and it was wonderful to have a completely fine day for the ride. Everyone stayed together until we reached Empire Vale with seven faster riders heading down the lane loop which adds 4km to the distance. It seemed longer on Moylans Lane because we had a fair headwind along its entire length. Four riders traveled direct to Wardell.

The timing came unstuck when Dave 2 had a puncture on the way to Wardell, after Moylans lane. However a big effort by the faster group and a generous delaying tactic on the ferry had us all back together for the cross river journey. Everyone was present for our monthly breakfast at the Proper Cafe. Cheers Dave

Tuesday Report

- David and Richard (Shorty)

- Peter and David

<u>David's report</u>: Four riders assembled at the start. Tom, Gavin, John M and Dave. We had a fairly rapid trip down the Freeway interrupted by a stop to clear a section of path where large stones had spilled off someones load. These stones had caused punctures on previous occasions and were a menace.

At Broadwater Tom and Gavin did a U turn up Blackwall Drive and the Freeway. Being the second Tuesday of the month the ferry does not operate in the morning so the Freeway is the only way back to Ballina.

This left John M and Dave to continue to Woodburn and John in his amazing fashion produced his section of leading at 33-34km/hr. We returned up Kilgin Road, Bagotville Road,Wardell Road,Blackwall Drive and the Freeway. John peeled off up the cutting to Alstonville at the Lismore turn-off.

Dave finished the ride solo and arrived home with sore legs. This may have had something to do with a Covid shot yesterday or it might just be old age - fingers crossed...

<u>Shorty's report</u>: 114 K Tuesday: down the freeway to Tabbimoble, coffee at New Italy, then home through Wardell via River Drive. Nice tail wind home.

Wednesday Reports (3 rides, 4 reports)

- Gavin and Tom; David, and Shorty

<u>Gavin's report</u>: Tuckean Island today with Tom and John Phillips. Tom was on his new gravel bike and John on his gravel bike. We were lucky with weather as only rained briefly on Old Bagotville Road. Time was good 1hr 50 mins for 40.6 km.

We could not stop for long for a photo as the mosquitoes swarmed us. Coffee after at Wardell Cafe. We were covered in mud at the finish.



<u>Tom's report</u>: "I have never seen so many potholes" along the gravel sections of the ride route. "They were all filled with water". We all got wet and muddy. We had a great time!

Editor: 'Boys will be boys'.

<u>David's report</u>: Starting at 2PM Dave rode a 35km itinerary down to the ferry wharf and up around Sharpe's Beach. This produced exactly 200km travelled for the three days of this week. A certain amount of dodging rain clouds added spice to the trip. Saturday morning looks possible at the moment for anyone desperate enough to get a ride in. Cheers Dave

<u>Shorty's report</u>: 57 K Wednesday down the Freeway to Broadwater back along Freeway. Good tail wind home.

Friday Reports

- David

Very surprisingly the clouds went away so Dave was able to depart at 1PM and ride the Wardell circuit consisting of the Freeway, Blackwall Drive River Drive and Moylans Lane. Very little wind and no rain was the magic formula. Distance covered from Home 57km getting the struggling weekly total up to 257km. It looks like the weather will also permit a Saturday ride so fingers crossed.

Saturday Report

David, Tom and myself left the Henry Rous Tavern for our Mystery Ride. Well, due to my own health concerns, the ride was not so mysterious after all. It became the usual ride to Wardell via the expressway and back to Ballina, to the ferry, via Moylans lane.



- Peter

David, as usual, was the stronger rider. For me, I had mixed moments. At times I struggled to get up to speed and other times I proved differently. Both Tom and David shared more time up front than I could do. Overall the pace was good. It took us 33km to reach the ferry in exactly 1 hour... Not a bad average. We took it easy from there, and by the time we reached the Proper Cafe our average speed dropped down to 28.5 kph.

Personally, I feel elated to have ridden so well after a long lay-off and gaining several kilograms. And also that the ride did not cause enough physical damage to keep me off the bike for tomorrow's ride.

Sunday Report

- Peter

Nine riders were at the start, and five of them (David, Gavin, Marc, John (now called JJ (for John -Jack)) and myself. took the longer route at a faster pace. It was good to see Bruce riding with the faster guys to Wardell. He later rode back with the other four, who rode at an easier pace. Marc has not been riding much lately and wanted to break the usual Sunday route. So, Marc mostly became the Ride Governor, and Bagotville Road was his choice. And what a good choice it was too. The scenery was out of this world.



Last night, Ballina shire was assaulted by a raging storm. Rain, hail and wind pruned all the trees. Along Bagotville Road, where trees are plentiful, the road was covered in lush green leaves. From a distance, the road looked bright green in colour. Quite spectacular. I regret not stopping to take a photo of it.

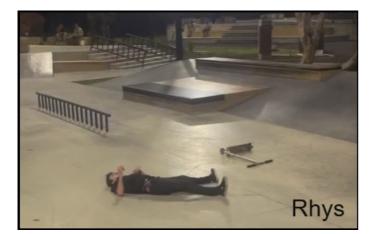
The pace down Bagotville road was a bit too much for both Marc and myself, so we were trailing a few hundred metres behind. We caught up to the other three, who were waiting for us at the end of the road. From there we headed for Broadwater, where we had a short break. On the return trip, via Blackwall and River Drives, the ride conditions were more favourable. The south-westerly wind made the trip back less strenuous for both Marc and myself.

Dave was the stronger rider, and John/Jack (JJ) did very well riding his steelie bike. Gavin did well to. We met the others, whom only rode to Wardell and back, at the Proper Cafe. It was nice to sit on the front landing with warm sunlight, chatting and sipping hot coffees.

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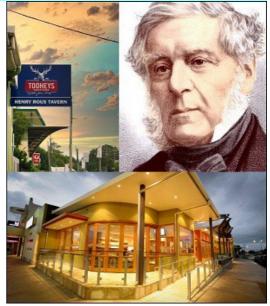
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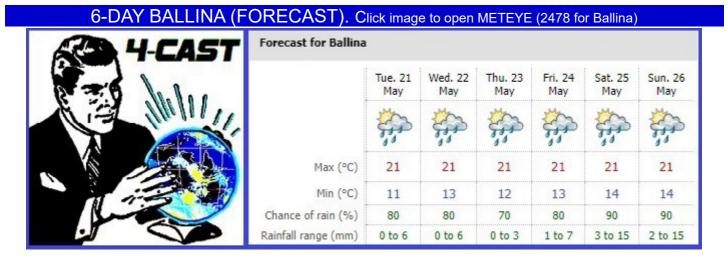
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We may have to do the 100 Miler on Sunday the 29th of September. A week before the Lismore Cycling Festival. There will be more details about this over the next coming months.



https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/lismorecyclingfestival



Throughout the history of the bicycle designs, there never was a shortage of strangeness.



To opposing bicycles. One to limit bumps and the other to create a bumpy ride. The bumpy bike reminds me of the fun bike created by the late Ballina Veteran Cycling Club president, Jack Ransom. He too created a wheel where the spokes were of different lengths.



Answer: https://drive.google.com/file/d/12p3uN-DTuw52aKuH-Ok0ClgzrYWN5Olf/view?usp=sharing





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