

Friday 23/11/18.

Thirteen riders met at Bomaderry last Friday for JBJ mark II. Last time we faced torrential rain and flash flooding, the weather had to be better this time, didn't it?

Well I think most people would remember the wind on that day. Unfortunately it was worse on the south coast, with a westerly blowing at 60 kmh and gusting up into the mid 90s! We set off undaunted (what else could we do!) and made it to the Shoalhaven river bridge when we were literally blown off our bikes. Even walking was virtually impossible, I do not think words can describe it, you had to be there. I can honestly say I have never cycled in worse conditions. We covered only around 14kms in 2 hours as we punched into the gale, several times getting blown off the road (fortunately not onto it). At regroupings I tried to maintain moral, assuring everyone that conditions would improve as we turned east towards the coast, and it proved to be true. As we rounded the airport (checking out the kangaroos) we got the benefit of a huge tailwind and combined with a downhill run we covered the ground quickly with little effort and remembered why we like to cycle! After a short excursion through a dry creek we soon arrived at the Princes Hwy and had an easy run into Huskisson on a quiet backroad. Many thanks to everyone for their perseverance and good humour on a really challenging day. (approx 42 kms.)

Saturday 24/11/18.

The wind was still around on day 2 but after the trials of yesterday we felt we could take on anything nature could throw up. I had planned a route that would take us east, along an excellent bike path and into the national park (leaving NSW in the process!) and out to the historic Cape St George lighthouse. There was a suggestion that the road may be still closed after the winds of the day before but this proved not to be true and we arrived there after a lovely ride through the bush. The coastal views were stunning and the building must have been impressive when it was built in the mid 18th century. From there we took a bush track to Murrays Beach (which turned out to be rougher than expected but that's another story) and again the view and colour of the water was something else, Jervis Bay is a beautiful part of the world. After a coffee stop (and the only puncture of the weekend) we headed back to Huskisson, all a little tired but an enjoyable day of around 50+kms.

Sunday 25/11/18.

We left ourselves a relatively easy day today as a few riders had to be back in time for the 12.30pm train. After crossing the creek in the "ferry" courtesy of Captain Dave (who was waiting for us on the wrong side!) we stopped off at Arnolds vintage coffee van at Myola. After fielding a few questions from locals like "how far have you ridden today" we set off to Bomaderry on a combination of quiet back lanes and slightly busier roads, before arriving at around 11.45am, in good time for the train. (approx 37kms)

Thanks to Paul, Michelle and Simon for sweeping and the rest of the group Marshall, Josie, Martin, Narelle, Jane, Heiko, Sue, Anne and Viv for their company and positive attitude. Paul has photos for the website (I think).

Glenn.