

PERFECT ride Clare to Andrews Sunday 16th May 2021.

Only three brave souls ventured out to Clare for the PERFECT ride and a PERFECT ride it was! PERFECT weather, PERFECT scenery, PERFECT pace and PERFECT company. The only thing not PERFECT was that Jilden was unfortunately unable to be with us so the understudy took to the stage.

There was a slight chill in the air as we trundled north out of Clare but this was soon gone as we left the expanding residential estates of the town under an overcast sky. We zipped past the Gaelic cemetery with it's resident kangaroo, which I am sure was the same one watching us as the last time we visited. Shall have to make a closer inspection next time to ensure that it is real and not a local prank.

Once out of the undulations and onto the open plain we set a cracking pace and surmised that we may have the assistance of a prevailing breeze. Climbed the aptly named Hilltop Road for wonderful views each side of the ridge and spotted the silos of our lunch stop in the distance.

Arrived in Andrews for an early lunch spent as guests of the tennis club. This time the toilets were locked with zip ties so I am guessing our earlier visits have been noticed by the locals.



Very brown but beautiful views from the ridge.



Lunch at the clubhouse.

Heading south after a leisurely lunch we detoured from Jilden's route to avoid a fenced off road however it seems that the road has now been reclaimed from the farmer and is now not only open but freshly graded! The possible scenarios surrounding this turn of events was the subject of much conjecture and filled quite a few kilometres of conversation.

Despite the outbound tail breeze now being an

inbound head gale and the open country in the river valley offering little protection from the wind we made good time on the return journey only to find the local constabulary had staked out our vehicles in the carpark. We laid low in the Taminga Hotel for a debrief until it was safe to leave.



Plenty of time for a chat.

It is always a good ride when the count of kangaroos is greater than the number of cars.

Thanks for the ride Jilden! Hope to see you back on deck soon.

Next ride is from Waterloo on Sunday 13th of June 2021.