

## PERFECT ride April 10<sup>th</sup> 2022 – Truro Tablelands

'Perfect' rides are renowned for coming up with the unexpected, some problem solving and some variable conditions...this months ride from Truro was no different. The 'plan' is always subject to change without warning...part of the attraction !

The Sunday weather promised a warmish day, above 28C, with a hint of a North wind. Six of us regulars headed off at 9am in a cool nor westerly and headed north on a good quality gravel road. After a time we began to climb to an area called the Tablelands and once we were up there, were rewarded with some beautiful riding in picturesque rolling scenery. The rain a few weeks ago had freshened the country up a bit so there was a pleasant green tinge. The views to the east were out onto the Murray plains, which looked more like ocean than saltbush. After a long steady easterly descent, we had a morning tea break in a wooded Narcotta Creek. Re-fuelled we, well, climbed on another road back up to the tablelands. So far, so good until we turned onto a surveyed (but not formed) road through open, exposed, hilly farm country, opening & closing many farm gates and lifting bikes over at least one (those e-bikes are sodding heavy aren't they !) and then saw a 'biosecurity' sign which was a bit confusing...couldn't imagine what what being bio-protected.



Lunch under a tree, then discussions about "should we trust the Garmin or not" ? Deciding not to, we zig-zagged around the Mid North for a while (consulting the Garmin frequently...'we're here aren't we, no, we're over here' etc and lots of humorous banter...I think the Garmin got the blame for any navigational problems...not the leader of course !) until we got back to the 'plan'. The heat was bordering on 'uncomfortable'ish' as we

climbed back over the range on a rough'ish road and set sail for Truro.

Rode past the old Wendish settlement of St Kitts, (well, the cemetery at least) but didn't have time to stop and look around. By this time, while I can't speak for anyone else, my legs were running out of gas and feeling it a bit, with the detours adding a few extra kms to the total, so I was sorry to finish but



happy to rest the legs in the same thought. I think we all agreed that it was a long day out...you sure get your moneys worth on a 'Perfect' ride ! Lovely, under-rated country and good company.

The usual de-brief was abandoned when we discovered the Truro pub closed due to Covid and with no other pub close by, we called it a day.

Distance: 76km

Ascent: 950m