



THURSDAY NIGHT RIDES 2018

Feb 22 , 2018

Report by Ron Milbanke

Last Sunday's rain seemed to be felt more further to the west with floods at Wairau Valley and the subsequent run off impacting on the "new bit" of Conders bend. The river got pretty high according to the Renwick locals.

The old bits were also hit by nature with rampant growth and fallen trees obstructing the way. So it required some effort to get a ride in this evening with firstly Fraser, and then Peter, attacking the obstructions with vigour. Fraser rushed home to allow Ange time to take part in the ride so brownie points all round for Fraser. Peter was also working off his frustrations of missing out at Coppermine. His senior moment at the weekend meant that his stead was incomplete on arrival at the venue. How frustrating ! No wonder that he was attacking the obstructions with his teeth. Good luck at Karapoti Peter, you will have all those reserves of energy to take out on the incline.

Some impressive results from Coppermine, Phil Hurren 5th in the Epic 40-49 age group, Alana 1st in the Coppermine 40-49, Liv 1st Coppermine under 19 and 1st overall female, Alec Mitchell and Jimmy Johnston 1st and 2nd Coppermine 30-39, Sharn 6th in that category. We can still claim Craig Richards as one of us, 3rd in Coppermine 40-49 just behind Simon Davis and Abe Moore 8th in that category. Warren Algie was 6th in the over 50's in a time of 2Hrs 44. Well done to all, and good to see Alana backing up this evening at Conders.

The ride this evening was restricted to the western block. It saw the resumption of last weeks Picton battle with Jack and Merrick again inseparable but joined by Bailey who headed the "A Train" for the duration of the ride. Behind these three, the "B Train" was initially headed by Euan with Hamish, Jim and Alana wheel to wheel. Hamish took the initiative on lap 2 once he was sure of the course and the other three stuck together for a couple more laps. Jim then tired leaving Euan and Alana to finish together. The A Train managed 6 laps with everyone else managing 5.

It was a very pleasant evening, warm temperature and a cooling breeze. Thanks again to Fraser and Peter for preparing the track. We will return to the MTB park next week 6:30 for 6:45. The exciting news is that the following week 1st March, we hope to be at Jentree. Discussions between Fraser and Justin Leov look like bearing fruit and it is proposed that an evening event will happen at this iconic property, renowned for hosting national events in the past. Justin has been busy preparing tracks and has incurred the cost of diggers etc. So to help out we are proposing \$5 entry for that evening in the hope that this will encourage Justin to allow us further use. So hoping for good numbers on 1st March, it will be well worth the effort and there is talk of sausages if we can keep Bengie under control.