



THURSDAY NIGHT RIDES 2017

November 30th , 2017

Report by Ron Milbanke

Nine riders gathered to discuss and decide which tracks to use for this evenings ride. One was a passing eight year old kidnapped to ensure we had a quorum. He was obviously confused as he didn't know the names of the tracks and wasn't quick enough to follow those who did. He was released without harm after two laps of uncertain direction. The scars cannot have been too deep as he is keen to join us next week at the recycle centre.

Some had more input into the discussion than others and some just were not listening, so situation normal. I am assured that come Sunday there will be tape, arrows and marshals to ensure that everyone sticks to the intended course.

This evening though took a couple of laps before everyone got onto the same page. If anyone has time on their hands, how about developing a satnav for mountain bikes. Peter could ride the course recording the twists and turns, then download the info into the riders devices. Genius.

So Jack found another way not to win, despite putting in some very quick laps towards the end. His first lap was ill directed and he was a long way last after lap one. On the other extreme kidnaped Jimmy found all the shortcuts and came out a few seconds ahead of the genuine Jimmy. The dilemma was a conflict between wanting to put in a good effort and saving something for Sunday. Jimmy threw all caution to the wind and will rely on the two day break to aid recovery. I believe he will be riding solo for the six hours.

Warren found a nice gap in second slot and had a lonely 50 minutes behind Jimmy and ahead of the close gaggle of Peter, Alana, Andrew, Michael and Euan. This quintet stayed in close formation for four laps while Jack was slowly recovering his lost time and gaining lap by lap. Peter and Alana pulled the pin after four laps, with Euan, Andrew and Michael hanging on for five laps. Jack was still relentlessly closing in.

Jimmy carried on to complete seven laps, while Warren, Jack and Andrew managed six.

As promised the weather was perfect but once again numbers were disappointing. We cannot keep kidnapping the unwary or the constabulary may become interested. Sunday looks as though it will be a good event and hydration may become an issue with temperature set to soar.

As mentioned previously, we will be at the Taylor River Reserve alongside the recycle centre, next Thursday. Then of course on Sunday 10th there is the "King of the Hill" starting at the top of Redwood Street. Hope you can join us for one or more of these events.

O.T.R.