

Midnight century newbies ride report

John McMullan

I am not a novice to night rides having commuted in the dark and around the local suburbs at 1:30 in the morning, nor am I a novice in group rides. What was new for me was a ride longer than any I have completed before.

What I really liked about the Midnight Century is having time to smell the scenery, look at the local sights that would normally whiz by and share the miles with other riders.

I was accompanied by Peter where we matched pace for the most until the sky lightened and he smelt the coffee on the go (from 10km out) where he took off into the sunrise and at which point I moseyed my way to the second checkpoint and the very appreciated nibbles and coffee. We departed from Fernvale as newly established trio with Ann and with the sun over the horizon.

Peter seemed to become solar powered in the sun and once again disappeared into the distance. Ann and I continued our way providing good company and support for each other including navigation duties towards the end. It is amazing that in a world such as it is, Ann and I discovered that my brother works with her ("you even talk like him")

I would like to thank Mark and Vaughn for the ride support at the checkpoints and at the end for breakfast.

As a noob I have learned a lot about my capability on this ride and know I have some work to do before embarking on longer rides.

I hope this ride will become one of my regular rides in the coming years. Tough for a Noob but not too tough.

Thanks all, John