gears + beers

"Home of Australia's most beloved gravel cycling event"
— Lonely Planet

RIDER INFO

GEARS + BEERS
3 + 4 OCTOBER 2026

SATURDAY MORNING 3rd October – RIDE

Riders participating in the **40 km Saturday Mystery ride. (WIRADJURI WELCOME)**

1) **SATURDAY RIDE NUMBERS** - these can be collected at registration check off that will be conducted at the **Wagga Beach** Saturday Morning from **9.30am**. Wagga Beach main stage is the start line for the Saturday ride only.
2) Ride start time is **10.30am**.
3) The finish location is **Victory Memorial Gardens** cnr Baylis Street and Morrow Streets.
4) This course is changing regularly due to weather conditions.
5) An updated Ride with GPS map will be released in the week before the festival. A hard copy Map will also be provided.
6) As the description on the web site indicates this is not for beginner riders. It includes a mix of surfaces, gravel, bike paths, a steep hiker bike section, some steep descents, a bit of everything. You must be self-sufficient. It's suitable for MTB and Gravel bikes.
7) This ride is not a race so please help others on the course. There are no prizes for first.
8) Finish at the VMG where rider bag pick up and Festival will be in progress.

SATURDAY ARVO 3rd October – REGO FOR SUNDAY

1) **SUNDAY RIDE NUMBERS + RIDER BAGS** these can be collected Saturday afternoon between **12.30pm – 5.00pm** from the Rider Registration tent that will be in the Victory Memorial Gardens Baylis Street opposite the Wagga Wagga City Council Chambers /Library. To avoid having to rush please arrive early. Safety Pins will be available.
Alternatively, you can also collect them on the morning of the ride (Sunday) from **6.15 am** for The Gears and Beers Dirty130 riders and from **7.00am** for all other rides.

2) **LATE REGOS** Registrations will be taken Saturday afternoon also if you have a friend that wishes to ride with you but has not registered. Registrations also available at http://www.gearsandbeers.org.au/ and on Sunday morning.

3) **REGO TENT + SAT BEERS** Saturday afternoon the Registration tent will be under the shade of the trees near the fountain***. There will also be brewers, food and entertainment available*** as transfer rides are arriving from multiple locations.
Come and join the festival and pick your bag and rider number up and say hi to those who have participated in the Transfer rides. Entry to the Saturday Rider Bag Pick up and Festival is free. Under 18's will be given wristbands at the entry gate.

4) **ARRIVAL TIME** We strongly recommend that participants arrive no less than **45 minutes** prior to their ride start time. Event organizers are unable to control times, so we ask you to use common sense and avoid delays by planning ahead.

5) **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS** Sunday the 4th October is the **first day of daylight savings** so remember to turn any manual clocks FORWARD 1 hour and set your alarms.

6) **PARKING** There are a number of open-air car parks within close proximity to the Event. The closest of these are firstly at the corner of Morrow Street and O'Reilly Street then secondly, between Peter Street and Tongaboo Lane (just west of the main street) a little south of Morrow Street.

7) BIKE SECURITY Please don't leave your bikes on the roof of your cars or outside accommodation venues overnight.

SUNDAY 4th October - RIDES + FESTIVAL

8) **RIDE TIMES**

- **Dirty 130km** - marshals at 6.45am briefing at 6.50am leaves sharp with a police escort at **7.00am.**
- **110km road ride** - marshals at 7.45am briefing 7.50am leaves **8.00am** sharp with a police escort.
- **Salty 70km gravel ride** - ride marshals at 8.15am briefing at 8.20am leaves at **8.30am** sharp with Police escort.
- **30km road ride** - marshals at 9.15am briefing 9.20am leaves **9.30am** sharp with Police escort.
- **10km ride** - marshals at 9.45am briefing 9.50am leaves **10.00am** sharp with police escort.

9) **MARSHALLING AREA** (for **Sunday** rides) **is in Morrow Street, East of Baylis Street - Wagga Wagga. Please look for the large flashing Registration / Marshal Area sign**.

10) **RESPECTING WAR MEMORIALS** Our event is conducted in the Victory Memorial Gardens and as the name suggests the park has many Memorials. Can you please refrain from leaning bikes against them – bike racks are provided. This event takes a great deal of pride in these gardens and what they represent.

11) **WHAT TO BRING** Water, sunscreen, spare tubes or plugs and gas canisters, pump if required, helmet, appropriate cycling clothing and shoes and food and water. The Gears and Beers Dirty 130, 110 km, Salty 70 km and 30 km riders please carry food (gels - bars).

WRIST BANDS must be worn to enter the Sunday Festival – these are in your rider bags and allow you free entry to the festival at the conclusion of your ride. Under 18 riders will need to have these wrist bands removed at the entry gates – **don't take them off beforehand as you will be required to pay the entry fee to the festival.**

12) **AID STATIONS**

Marshals at most manned corners will have water bottles available for riders.

- **Dirty 130**

Three aid stations are located along the course. See the RWGPS course map on our website for locations.

- **110km Road Ride**

The drink and food station is located at Coolamon.

- **Salty 70km**

One aid station is located at approximately 35km, shared with the Dirty 130 course.

- **30km Road Ride**

One aid station is located at 18.3km, shared with the Dirty 130 and Salty 70 courses. It is located off Gap Road, near the intersection of Prices Road and Hatwells Road.

30km riders will travel over approximately 3km of dirt road, which is currently in very good condition. Traffic-management requirements mean the aid station needs to be located off Gap Road.

FOOD

Food will be provided at the Coolamon stop for **Dirty 130 and 110km** Road Ride participants. Please take a moment to say hello and thank our wonderful volunteers. They've been busy baking for you and working hard to keep everyone fed, hydrated and safe.

WATER & TOILETS

Marrar: Water and toilet facilities are available.
Festival site: Big Springs Water dispensers will be available near the festival entrance before and after the rides.

13) **RIDE RULES** The rides are community participation events, ***do not race***. The following rules are designed to ensure the safety of all riders and those around them.

- Obey all road rules
- Always correctly wear your approved helmet
- Wear clothing that increases your visibility to other road users
- Don't ride more than two abreast
- Don't pass on the left of a cyclist
- Always call 'passing' when you are overtaking a fellow cyclist
- Always signal and call when you are stopping and move to the left- hand side of the road
- Eat and drink regularly - your body needs constant fuel
- Take your space on the road keeping clear of the edge

14) **TOILETS** Available in – Festival Layout plan. Coolamon and Marrar for The 110km and D130. Toilets will be available at the Salty 70km and Dirty 130km on farm Aid station and the 30km ride aid station.

15) **BIKE SECURITY** A secure Bike rack area is available inside the festival area for you to leave your bike whilst you're in the festival. Please under no circumstance leave your bike outside the festival area. We cannot assist in keeping it safe. Please do not leave bikes outside your accommodation rooms or on cars overnight. To access the festival secure bike rack area you need to come in the Morrow -Peter streets gate on the western side of the festival site. Bikes will not be allowed in the main Festival space for safety reasons.

16) **ESCORT VEHICLES** Each ride has escort vehicles both front and rear of the ride group to assist warning oncoming and following motorists that there are riders ahead. Sag wagons are available to assist anyone who has a mechanical failure and needs assistance to return to the start / finish.

17) **A First aid attendant is in the trailing cars and Paramedics Mr Phil Hoey Mobile: 0418 673 186 is roving The Dirty 130, Salty 70 and 110 km courses. Paramedic Mr Rory McKenzie 0419 624 666 is roving the courses also The incident control room Captain David Byfield 0418 298 708 For Ambulance – fire services – police dial 000**. Put these in your mobiles and please carry your driver's licence with you. (if you have one)

PHOTOS Motor cycles will be on the roads photographing the event and in support of riders carrying tubes, canisters, food and water. We cannot guarantee they will be near you when you need them so be self-sufficient.

18) **MECHANICAL SUPPORT** Please check your tires before you ride. Don't leave it until the last minute. We strongly recommend all participants service their bikes prior to the event and, as mentioned elsewhere, carry with them any spares they may require on the day.
Nearest bike shops are:
Kidsons Cycles 105 Fitzmaurice Street, Wagga Wagga P: (02) 6921 4474
Wagga Cycle Centre 119 Fitzmaurice Street, Wagga Wagga P: (02) 6921 4536

19) **Marshalls** Will be located on most critical intersections to assist warning you of oncoming Vehicles and to point you in the correct direction. Please listen to them and respect them as they are all volunteers helping to run this event.

20) **DIRECTION SIGNAGE** Signs will be located on all courses for your assistance but please familiarise yourself with the courses via the www.gearsandbeers.org.au website. Marshalls will be located on the 10km, and 30km courses also. The Dirty 130 course is marked with large Navy blue arrows with 130 printed on them. Salty 70km same again except with 70 on the arrows. Don't get confused. However again familiarise yourself with the routes. All other courses are marked with direction signs. Not the Mystery ride.

21) **WARNINGS** Forecast a top temperature of 23 degrees. Road conditions will be covered in the briefing. Safety is paramount and we know The Gears and Beers Dirty 130 course is challenging but in good condition. Some of the roads are potholed so please call these if you are in a group. Watch the Gears and Beers Facebook site and the web site for updates on the conditions. The event is on and we are expecting a huge day.

22) **FIRST AID + EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE** First aid assistance for all participants at the start, finish and in the festival. In addition, there will be a roving paramedic details outlined above. There will be a defibrillator located at the festival and out on course with the paramedic. Please note, everything is in full bloom so be prepared if you have allergic responses to Bee stings etc.

23) **COURSE CHANGES** Any changes to the course due to weather conditions will be notified. We have changed the Dirty 130 route in the last 2 weeks and updated the RWGPS file on the web site. Any changes and we will update you ASAP. P.S. This is not a race, it's a community cycle event and your safety is of paramount importance.

The most important thing to remember is to have fun and enjoy the Riverina countryside which is currently looking spectacular. Then come and enjoy a craft Beer and Cider at our festival. Cheers everyone and thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely
Peter Mackinnon
Chairperson
Gears and Beers Festival 2023

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