

Ride 437 Report – 02 September 2012

Tomb Raiders Ride.....!

Hares: Tinsel Tits and Nick Laming, newly named “Doggy Style”

Having been roused to the heights of emotion by the Team GB Cycling team whilst in the UK (btw I think Yorkshire came 10th in the overall Olympic medal classification) I was up for my first MTB event after the UK hols, especially as I had missed the Malaysia and Bintan specials. The venue was at the Warren Estate Children’s Park, this type of location is always a concern as it sounds like the rallying point for a paedophile convention. Well within riding distance of home, am relieved to find that it is just an innocent affair whereby a load of middle aged peddlers meet up to gallivant around on mountain bikes around the scrub of Singapore. And what a lot there were, clearly a central location being a plus factor, but for those who had experienced the Hares’ previous trail setting endeavours, no doubt anticipation of a good trail was also a consideration. Fat Slim Crashing Bastard (FCB ex) arrives looking like he has been to an Elton John Outing party. Clearly the message is “be seen”. This apparently is so he will be remembered as he goes in for an operation the following week to have all the loose skin removed following his bulimic weight loss regime.



Tomb Raiders ride, what’s all that about? Must be some reference to a video game or something. Anyhow, Tim calls us to order at 10am, some vague instructions to the peloton and we were off. Ride headed down the road and around the Hillcrest area, heading towards Adam Road. There were various mutterings about heading into Bukit Brown Cemetery but, again, I didn’t really figure the connotation here. At Adam Road a quick hike over the footbridge then took us down the hill away from Sime Road and Bukit Brown where the peloton missed the carefully concealed chalk mark indicating that we should have veered sharp left. This took us back towards the PIE slip road and looked like we would be crossing it to get to our last resting place. In those wonderful David Attenborough nature-fests you see scenes of massed migrating wildebeests charging headfirst over each other to ford surging rivers while crocodiles gobble them up for lunch. A similar vision to this struck me as Hashers surged across the busy slip road to be mown down by the highly skilled Singaporean drivers. But no, the cunning Hares had found an entry point that would get us into Bukit Brown without crossing the road. Which is the point at which it began to get tough and I remembered what the references to Bukit Brown were about and why it was called the Tomb Raiders Ride.

The first obstacle on entering BBC was a big log and steep hill which caused a log jam (hence the name*!?) but then we got going on some good trail. From what I remember we seemed to continue on stretches of trail, log crossings and such like for some while, which had me continuously unclogging my gears and brakes. One thing that was noticeable was that it was becoming quite tiring and, considering the number of riders, there didn’t seem to be that many people on the trails. Having come out onto a road section, that suggested easier riding ahead, it was just going through my mind that the last time the Hares set a ride in BBC they took us up these bastard hill climbs, at which point two chalk arrows appeared steering us up the first of a series of bastard hill climbs.

Having come out on roads again we were looped towards BBC main gates where we can then go right, over the footbridge again and then home. No, we go left down some more off trail, which gets us back to Adam Road and the footbridge home. On the bridge, Too Easy was recounting her experience of weird men in the bushes in this locality; interesting research. Onto Adam Park and I then have confused recollections as to the order of trail. It included yomping up a hill, riding down a drain, Eng Neo Ave, a T-check with Stiffy looking shifty (nothing new) as he knew where the trail went; a ride over clumpy grass by the PIE and home, not necessarily in that order. Apparently, it was not that long a ride (about 16km) but I felt knackered, a sentiment I was glad to note, was echoed by others.

Tim called the circle together where the Hares were commended for a great ride. Eight virgins had shown up for this ride, probably baptism of fire for many but all swore on their first born that they would return. There was even one virgin who was unemployed which stunned everyone as we were generally given to understand that unemployed people weren’t allowed in Singapore or else worked in dodgy bars. Hmmm. Guest/returnee was Robert and Russ.

Russ was charged for his attire; though I thought driving a car with red number plates would have been a better call. The lack of blood on this ride would have left a vampire gagging, nevertheless, Coo Chi Choo’s guest got Crash of the Day

(COD) for a minor abrasion. Hare Nick Laming was awarded a Hash name of "Doggy Style". Wendy had some unintelligible charge to do with Too Easy. Then Too Easy was charged for her field study on weird guys in bushes.

The circle was then handed over to Coo Chi Choo as no charges or circle took place at the Bintan Ride weekend. FCB ex was charged for informing everyone that Bintan was an island and that they might encounter a beach, or a river and that might be tidal. It ensued that the peloton had to wade waist deep in sea water with their bikes around some treacherous rock. FCB ex was centre stage again for his appallingly bad taste in wearing a pink Hawaiian shirt that he insists on wearing at every festive occasion. Too Easy was then on downed for not burning it after it made its first appearance.

Finally, today's Hare was charged for getting FCB ex to lay paper at the end of the ride.

On On was pizza's at Hillcrest, which I bet were good.

Verdict: A really well set ride by the Tomb Raiders. Always surprising what good trails there are in BBC and so central. Only thing missing is that we didn't get to disturb any shagging couples which we always do on the dog Hash.

On On

Scribed by,
Wan King

