

# Ride4Rhinos 2012 Cycle Experience Final Report Back!

Well the dust's settled and the wind stopped blowing (finally!). Huge kudos to all Ride4Rhinos cyclists that completed the grueling 136k slog (the Bruntville leg added some extra nasty mileage) in possibly the reddest day of 2012. Your blood, sweat and tears have helped our horned friends at Weenen Game Reserve immensely.

Here are a few of the **cyclist opinions**:

'**tough, but loved it** and surprisingly not feeling too bad the next day'

'...the **Sahara-like** conditions (we) survived barely!'

'...now that I have recovered from my **lonng "sit"** in the saddle on Saturday (10hrs 25mins!)...'

'despite the wind it was **great fun**'

'It was tough day in the office out there on Saturday, but a **really great ride** at the end of the day!'

'...that was **beautiful** riding and then the bit on the Middelrus road, from the tar road to Weenen, also was beautiful and would have been even more so if the wind wasn't so against us!'

'swine of a last climb!'

'the part through the Karkloof valley was **stunning**'



**Fundraising** after costs for rhino conservation at Weenen Game Reserve will be around R20 000. This will go towards improving the water situation at the reserve. A dire need as all cyclists will know how dry it is up there. This year has been a great effort as we have quadrupled what was raised in 2011 which was our first year of doing the ride.

**Big thanks** everyone who contributed, especially to those who went above and beyond with good donations including loaning support vehicles and supplying fuel, GPS, food and goodies (thanks to Hannah Pool who baked all the muffins), and finding big-hearted sponsors. Thank you to all those who drove support vehicles (very clever of you to volunteer. 2013...we will see you on a bike?). Your support, patience and smiles were admirable so thank you once again!

**The main sponsors** were all incredible with their generosity. In no particular order and at the risk of missing someone out thanks to BB Accounting, Future Life, Anylogos, Rhino Guard Tyre Sealant, Fairfield Dairy, Aquelle, TWK ,Adventure Fitness, Thule Towing Systems, Busby Oils, Steelbank, Coating Technologies, Process Steel and Tube.

**T-shirts** if you did not collect yours at the end please drop an e-mail to [ride4rhinos@gmail.com](mailto:ride4rhinos@gmail.com) to arrange a drop-off over the next few weeks.

**Lost property** A headlamp was found in an Average Able white double cab (contact Andrew Blackburn [dalmorefarm@gmail.com](mailto:dalmorefarm@gmail.com)). We have a pump and two 'ice-boys' so to collect contact [ride4rhinos@gmail.com](mailto:ride4rhinos@gmail.com).

**Photos** if you have any shots to share please send pdfs to [ride4rhinos@gmail.com](mailto:ride4rhinos@gmail.com).

**Last words** To you, the rider, well done...pat on the back. Most of the cyclists arrived at Weenen Game Reserve (somehow). No call to the contrary was received so it is presumed that everyone got home. It was a truly long day in the saddle but we trust you look back with pride that you did it. I (Paul) would put this up there with the 10 toughest riding days I have experienced! And next year...wait and see!

Paul & Kerryn - Ride4Rhinos 2012