

# BOROONDARA

*Bicycle Users Group*

## Newsletter December 2004

**From now on Boroondara BUG meetings will be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month, except January. Next meeting: 6.30pm, Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December, Christmas barbecue at Jason den Hollander's place, 34 Tuxen Street, North Balwyn. All welcome. Garlic and herb breads, a couple of salads, BBQ, utensils, plates etc supplied. BYO meat/vegieburgers and drinks.**

The Boroondara BUG is a voluntary group working to promote the adoption of a safe and practical environment for community and recreational cyclists in the City of Boroondara. We have close links with the City of Boroondara, Bicycle Victoria, Bicycle Federation of Australia and other local Bicycle Users' Groups.

Boroondara BUG has a web site at <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~bdarabug/boroondarabug.htm> that contains interesting material related to cycling, links to other cycle groups, recent Boroondara BUG Newsletters and breaking news.

We also have two Yahoo Groups:

Send a blank e-mail to [BoroondaraBug-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:BoroondaraBug-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) to receive this monthly newsletter and occasional important messages.

Send a blank e-mail to [BoroondaraBugDiscussion-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:BoroondaraBugDiscussion-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) to monitor or join in an ongoing discussion of bike related issues both local and general.

All articles in this newsletter are the views and opinions of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of any other members of Boroondara BUG. All rides publicised in this newsletter are embarked upon at your own risk.

## Features

### Grampians & Volcanoes Tour

Heard of that really big Victorian bike ride? So have we (some have done it). We like the concept but not the size, the crowds, the queues. So we decided to plan our own.

Who are we? COTA (Council on the Ageing) has a cycling group which rides on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. We are recreational cyclists, over 50yo, and we mostly ride the wonderful network of bike tracks around Melbourne. For further information and our program of rides see: [www.cotavic.org.au](http://www.cotavic.org.au) or phone COTA on (03) 9654 4443

Where do we ride? A big decision. There needs to be suitable roads or tracks with accommodation within a reasonable day's ride (approx 60k). We want to ride for about five days. If we do not ride a circuit, we need to be able to take transport to the start and from the finish.

Rather than re-inventing the wheel, we consulted books – most relevant being “Bike Tours Around Victoria” by Julia Blunden. We chose to follow the ride titled “Grampians and Volcanoes Tour”, from Ararat to Warrnambool via Halls Gap, Dunkeld, Byaduk and Port Fairy. We took a support vehicle which carried the luggage (and ourselves if we wanted a break from riding) and, as it was a camper van, had refrigeration and cooking facilities for morning tea and lunch breaks.

Most of us travelled by V/line train from Spencer Street station to Ararat for the start of the ride. Our first night was at Halls Gap in an adequate, self-contained cabin in a camping park. The awesome mountains created a stunning backdrop to the area.

The second day's ride to Dunkeld was tough! - long, steep hills and plenty of them. One feels a great sense of achievement as each is conquered. The accommodation at the Royal Mail Hotel was superb, with magnificent views from each room. The award winning restaurant and cellar are well worth a visit.

After day 2, all the cycling was relatively easy. Day 3 accommodation was at a B&B at Byaduk where the host family made us feel most welcome. We visited local caves and tumuli (volcanic blisters) in the afternoon, admired the dry rock walls and examined the magnificent garden at our B&B.

Day 4, to Port Fairy, was fairly easy riding, but it rained. Our cabins in the camping ground were rather spacious and lovely. We walked around town to see the historic buildings and around Griffith Island to the lighthouse and to see the short-tailed Shearwaters return to their rookeries (most stayed out that night). There is a large number of restaurants and eateries in Port Fairy and we chose well.

On Day 5, we rode to Warrnambool, via Tower Hill, in a strong wind (a mixture of head, tail and cross wind, would you believe?) We arrived at Warrnambool station in time to catch the 12.25pm to Melbourne.

It was a wonderful ride, good company, good food, good directions in the book and good organisation. Looking forward to the next.

Ref: Blunden, Julia, *Bike Tours Around Victoria: Exploring Regional Victoria by Bike and Train*, Open Spaces Publishing, Moonee Ponds, Vic, 2004

*Helen McMahon*

## General News

### BV AGM 2004

Turned up late and missed most of Harry's speech (damn!). Looked earnestly for BBUGers, they must have been wearing their invisible suits or busy ringing local council candidates. Even Phil was no where to be seen. The audience appeared to be 90% BV staffers, chatting and laughing amongst themselves.

Stuart Orr, President, naturally talked about how BV is growing and doing bigger and better things and the \$100K + loss was only a minor annoyance. Joyce, a long time volunteer of over 20 years was placed on the honour board. Ian Christie asked what BV's future plans were. President's response was along the lines of bigger and better things. Mentioned that Easter bike is still talked about with 'misty eyes' and that BV was trying to increase its links with the bicycle racing bodies.

Someone asked if by giving away 6,500 free bikes next year's financial results would be even worse. Not surprisingly, the president responded by saying it had all been budgeted not to impact detrimentally on BV's financial position. Someone asked if the current 40,000 members was sustainable if the free bike offer members fail to renew their membership next year. The president's response was that this was a good question and that BV has a good record with membership renewals.

Charlie Farren asked a question about the low profitability of the events, especially when viewed in the context of the high participation rates in the last year. President responded by saying that New Zealand was very costly to put on and the Great Melbourne is not particularly profitable, but politically very effective. Adding the 100kms option to Around The Bay has increased numbers.

The big surprise question of the night came from a staffer - Bart. He asked what BV's plans were in regards to the BFA. The president responded by saying that discussions continue to try and find 'the sweet spot' and that BV recently funded a BFA convention. Harry then spoke about a recent meeting at the bike show between interested parties, to try and form a new national cycling body. The president added that he expected to be able to report something more substantial on this issue in say 12 months.

The successful councillors were announced. Mark Yorsten (new BBUG member) was unsuccessful. James Kelly (BBUG member) took early retirement. Albie Heinz was re-elected (9 years and counting on BV council). James Alexander restated his nursing union background and commitment to increasing membership. Stuart Orr was re-elected and talked about being an academic and small business operator. Newly elected David Larsen (does product reviews for 'Ride On') talked about his ride to work out to RACV at Noble Park.

The evening closed with BV launching its new logo. No more green square box, colours now 2 tones of blue on a white background, same statement in an arial italics type font, the 3 cyclists are now an abstract group of circles (wheels) and 3 dots (cyclist's heads). All in attendance received a free T-shirt with the new logo. I then had to rush off to catch the movie "Outfoxed" (documentary on the right wing Republican bias of Fox News in America).

*Notes by David Leong*

### BV Campaigns Staff

Centralised point of call is phone: 8636 8888 number or email: [campaigns@bv.com.au](mailto:campaigns@bv.com.au)

Mary McParland is full time - tourism trail development and does Yarra, Port Phillip and Regional councils

Heidi Marfurt is full time commuter cycling development which has responsibility for Ride to Work Day.

Graeme Cameron working 3 days a week - Graeme is stakeholder engagement -answering correspondence, making sure website is up to date, providing support for our campaigns

Bart Sbeghen is 2 days a week - facilities development, mostly working with local councils and groups. The local election campaign is his current project but part of it is setting up a system where BV interacts with local councils and groups better.

In future we will be focusing more on specific projects with project teams drawn from BV and outside. The campaigns team will have a support person to help run these, hopefully more effective campaigns. This way we hope to leverage the support out there and work a bit more strategically. The new system is developing but will be more effective and inclusive I think you will find.

*Information supplied to David Leong by Bart Sbeghen, Facilities Development Officer - Bicycle Victoria, phone: 8636 8821*

## **East Gippsland Rail Trail to be Completed**

Deputy Prime Minister and leader of the National Party John Anderson has allocated \$60,000 to complete the East Gippsland Rail Trail. The money will be used to develop the final section of the trail from Nowa Nowa to Orbost and to undertake maintenance on existing sections.

The East Gippsland Rail Trail Management Committee, the Friends of the East Gippsland Rail Trail and local communities have worked tirelessly to raise funds to complete the trail and undertaken working bees to maintain the existing track. The East Gippsland Shire Council has also now become involved by nominating a councillor to the committee.

## **Hobsons Bay Coastal Trail**

Recently received from the City of Hobsons Bay is a brochure describing the 23 km of off road shared paths. A series of markers along the way tell the story of the natural and cultural history of the area. As many would know the path is generally a comfortable ride on a 2.5 m wide concrete path. The rough section near Point Gellibrand is to be reconstructed in the new Parks Victoria Port Gellibrand Coastal Heritage Park. The map is a useful encouragement for tourists and visitors but for route detail in relation to local roads etc you need Julia's 'Bike Rides Around Melbourne' Ride No. 9. No doubt the Council will appreciate feedback such as the need for more information as to the punt location and access from Port Melbourne. Copies of the brochure may be obtained from the Parks, Recreation and Culture Dept on 9932 1124.

*Graeme Stone*

## **Cycling to Work in Melbourne**

VicRoads has sent copies of "Cycling to Work in Melbourne – 1976 to 2001" to provide us with information such as number of trips made each year, the origin and destination of trips and cycling mode share. For example the number of cycle trips originating in Boroondara in 1976 was 228 and in subsequent census years to 2001 was an encouraging 410, 402, 435, 515, 744. The report will be available at [www.vicroads.gov.au](http://www.vicroads.gov.au)

*Graeme Stone*

## **Events**

### **Wangaratta BUG Long Weekend of Fun Cycling 12-14 March 2005**

Limited to 100 visitors. The fee of \$50 per adult and \$25 per child includes three rides and the Saturday evening meal. Ride 1, Saturday 1pm, is to Glenrowan (45km), ride 2, Sunday 9am, is to Beechworth (80 or 35km) and ride 3, Monday 9am, is to Milawa (35km).

RSVP by 21/2/05

*Further information from Alan Watson, phone: 5721 5073 or 0402 920 739 or Jim Doyle, phone: 5721 5193 or 0417 535 137*

## **Great Divide Ride**

Great Cycling Events is staging the inaugural charity cycling event named the Great Divide Ride™, in association with the Starlight Foundation, on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2005. It is planned to take place each year in mid Autumn and is a one day circuit ride starting from Melbourne.

In 2005 the route is predominantly scenic and undulating in nature, incorporating both beautiful and spectacular countryside, including the Black Forest, Trentham Falls, Wombat State Forest and the Lerderderg Gorge.

Cyclists have the choice of three different ride lengths, circa **40kms, 95kms and 190kms**, allowing all levels to participate.

The event contributes directly to the Starlight Foundation.

**Contact: Daniel Zgalin, Tour Director, Great Cycling Events**

**Phone: B: (03) 8508 9845; F: (03) 8640 0498, M: 0409 423 892**

## **In Box**

### **Sharing the Road – a Success Story**

I'm ecstatic! Riding the Mont Albert Rd bike lane this morning about 8 am I was thrilled to be able to enjoy a safe comfortable unimpeded ride. Motorists deserve a pat on the back for respecting the lane and only occupying it for left turns and passing right turning vehicles. One left turning motorist in a line of slow moving traffic courteously waved me through. I know riders will have to watch for parents dropping school children off but there certainly is a sense of order on that road now. For over 20 years I rode to work at Kew often using Mont Albert Rd and was often frustrated by cars travelling unnecessarily travelling close to the kerb now we each have our road space. Well done VicRoads and Council.

*Graeme Stone*

## **Boroondara News**

### **Council Elections**

Congratulations, Boroondara City Council has the highest response rate of any council area in the Bicycle Victoria council election survey - 142 responses ahead of Yarra (137) and Darebin (117). In Boroondara: 91 respondents (66%) rated completing the Yarra Darebin Link as vitally or very important 97 respondents (71%) rated completing the PBN as vitally important or very important 72 respondents (60%) rated completing the gap in the Gardiners Ck Trail as vitally or very important There were 56 responses about additional projects and the responses varied enormously with no clear cut additional project standing out. Cycling links to school and upgrading the anniversary trail (including crossings of major roads such as Whitehorse and Toorak Rds) had multiple mentions. These responses were from people who had already rated the above projects.

In conjunction with Bicycle Victoria Boroondara BUG members attempted to survey all candidates for election to the Boroondara City Council to gauge their commitment to improving facilities for cycling in Boroondara. The two questions asked related to the rollout of the PBN and the linking of the Darebin Creek and Main Yarra Trails via Willsmere Park near Kew Billabong. Most candidates were contacted by email and/or phone and their responses were rapidly posted to the BUG's new web site by webmaster Jason den Hollander, and later to the BV web site. Although not every candidate responded in the short time frame available it was a useful exercise in raising awareness of cycling issues and of the BUG. It remains to be seen how many strongly pro-cycling candidates are elected and how effective those that are will be in working for further improvements to cycling facilities. Follow-up with successful candidates will clearly be necessary.

## **Boroondara BUG News**

### **Minutes of Boroondara BUG Meeting 7.30pm Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2004, Swinburne Room TD246**

**Present:** Graeme Stone, David Leong, Phil Crohn, Jason den Hollander, Marion Green, Julia Blunden

**Apologies:** Don Glasson

#### **Correspondence**

1. Material was received from the Kew Festival organisers. We decided against any involvement by the BUG.
2. Material was also received regarding Wangaratta BUG's long weekend of cycling next March. It was agreed that details of this should go in the December newsletter.

#### **Matters Arising from the minutes**

1. **4 Steps for Life – CPR training** GS reported that he had attended this on 28/10. The session was aimed at the over 50's and was designed to raise awareness rather than lead to certification. He received a video and training kit and plans to organise a session for the CDGDBR group.
2. **Yarra River Valley review of policies and planning controls workshop 26/10.** Unfortunately no BBUG member was able to attend this workshop
3. **Survey of BCC Candidates:** The BV survey of Boroondara residents was emailed out on 1/11, results were announced on 3/11, and a general press release issued. Completion of the PBN and of the Yarra Darebin Link were rated as the two most important issues in Boroondara. BV has also sent us a list of BCC candidates with contact details and guidelines for a phone survey of candidates using these issues.

The following people have volunteered to ring candidates:

Trevor Larsen – Solway Ward (4 candidates)  
 Graeme Stone – Lynden Ward (3 candidates)  
 Phil Crohn – Maling Ward (5 candidates)  
 Jason den Hollander – Maranoa Ward (8 candidates)  
 David Leong – Bellevue Ward (7 candidates)  
 Marion Green – Cotham Ward (5 candidates)  
 Julia Blunden – Glenferrie and Gardiner Wards (3 + 1 candidates)  
 a volunteer is still needed for Studley Ward (7 candidates)

4. **Web Site:** The hazard report form is now operational. A map showing bike routes through Boroondara is also up on the site. This is not yet complete and will be added to and modified in the light of feedback.
5. **Bicycling Australia Show 23&24 October.** JD, JB, DL and PC all attended this and helped out on the Yarra BUG stall. Flyers advertising Boroondara BUG were available at the stall and a number were taken.
6. **Christmas Barbecue, Wednesday 8/12.** JD will issue an invitation to this indicating what time to arrive, what will be provided and what we should bring.
7. **Integrated Transport Strategy.** JB reported that she had emailed John Nevins twice about this but had received no reply. PC reported that Kerry McConnell is now on the staff of VicRoads in an area related to sustainable transport and suggested contacting her about the ITS. GS offered to check Kerry's official position title first.
8. **Prospect Hill Roundabout.** No further action on this as yet.

#### **Other Business**

1. **Meeting Schedule.** After a brief discussion it was decided to change the meeting date for next year from the first to the second Wednesday of the month as this suits the CGDBR group better and works better in December too.
2. **Monash Survey on Why Cyclists Cycle.** PC reported that he had been involved in this survey and had been invited to a workshop on Thursday 18/11 for Whitehorse cyclists which he is unable to attend. PC agreed to contact the organisers to see if there were workshops available in other areas at other times.
3. **VicRoads Publication *Cycling in Melbourne*.** PC distributed copies of this publication to those present.
4. **Motorist Ignorance of Road Rules Pertaining to Bike Lanes.** PC raised the issue of constant letters to the press demonstrating ignorance of the road laws applying to bike lanes and of where to check these. GS said that in fact checking the law is not as easy as it should be. The VicRoads site does not group laws relating to cycling for ease of access. While it is easier to locate relevant material on the BV web site the legal detail is not all there. Proposed solutions were to suggest increased coverage on the BV web site, to put the details on our own web site, and to take steps to have the issue covered in various newspapers and magazines. JB agreed to draft a letter to send to *Royal Auto*, and the Drive sections of the *Age* and *Herald-Sun* suggesting they run an article on this topic.
5. **BV AGM.** There was discussion of the BV AGM to be held on Monday 8/11. No action was agreed on.

*Notes by Julia Blunden*

## Contacts for Rides

There are many BUGs, clubs and other organisations, several of them local, which organise rides. Below are some of their contact details. At the end of this newsletter is a separate section with details of many of their forthcoming rides.

**Camberwell Downhill Gourmet Bike Riders:** contact Elva Parker, phone: 9836 6392

**Boroondara Bushwalkers:** contact Julia Blunden, phone: 9853 5095, e-mail: [jblunden@bigpond.com](mailto:jblunden@bigpond.com); web site: [www.keypoint.com.au/~bbwinc](http://www.keypoint.com.au/~bbwinc)

**Hawthorn Cycle Tours:** contact Hawthorn Aquatic and Leisure Centre, phone: 9815 0988; e-mail: [lexbishop@bikerider.com](mailto:lexbishop@bikerider.com); website: <http://www.geocities.com/perften/Hct.html>

**Council on the Ageing (COTA) Cycling Group:** contact Janet Bennett, e-mail: [janpeter@bigpond.net.au](mailto:janpeter@bigpond.net.au) or COTA, phone: 9654 4443.

**Knox Bicycle Touring Club Incorporated,** email: Email: [Mikeaatleisure@aol.com](mailto:Mikeaatleisure@aol.com) Web site: [home.vicnet.net.au/~knoxbike](http://home.vicnet.net.au/~knoxbike)

**Manningham BUG:** e-mail: [seball@netlink.com.au](mailto:seball@netlink.com.au), [H.Edwards@bom.gov.au](mailto:H.Edwards@bom.gov.au); web site: [www.vicnet.net.au/~mannbug](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~mannbug)

**Maroondah Bushwalking Club:** to obtain details of how to book on a walk and a copy of the current walks and activities program Contact **information officers:** Sandra, phone: 9728 3833; Aileen, phone: 9876 1104; web site: [home.vicnet.net.au/~mbush/](http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mbush/)

**Whitehorse Cyclists:** e-mail: [ejhopper@vicnet.net.au](mailto:ejhopper@vicnet.net.au); web site: [home.vicnet.net.au/~wcycle](http://home.vicnet.net.au/~wcycle)

**Darebin BUG:** Rides and Events Coordinator, Doug Morffew, phone: 9499 7325 (AH), email: [dougmorf@alphalink.com.au](mailto:dougmorf@alphalink.com.au)  
Download the [Darebin BUG rides flyer](#), with details of rides. (Word doc); web site: [www.darebinbug.org.au](http://www.darebinbug.org.au)

**YHA:** contacts: Claire, phone: 9726 5142 or Jane, phone: 9525 6462; e-mail: [yhacycling@yahoo.com.au](mailto:yhacycling@yahoo.com.au); website: <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~yhacycle>

**Melbourne Bicycle Touring Club:** contact Touring Secretary, Dave Cash, phone: 9817 3269, or e-mail [info@mbtc.org.au](mailto:info@mbtc.org.au)  
(Please note that this e-mail address doesn't get checked every day - so don't expect an immediate response!) Web site: [mbtc.org.au](http://mbtc.org.au)

## Boroondara BUG Contacts:

### Convenor:

Graeme Stone, 16 Jervis Street, Camberwell VIC 3124.  
Phone: 9889 5426  
e-mail: [graeme\\_stone@optusnet.com.au](mailto:graeme_stone@optusnet.com.au)

### Newsletter editor:

Julia Blunden, phone: 9853 5095  
e-mail: [jblunden@bigpond.com](mailto:jblunden@bigpond.com)

### Webmaster:

Jason den Hollander  
email: [communic8@iprimus.com.au](mailto:communic8@iprimus.com.au)

### Other Contacts:

Phil Crohn: [philcrohn@ozemail.com.au](mailto:philcrohn@ozemail.com.au)  
David Leong: [leongd@anz.com](mailto:leongd@anz.com)

### Boroondara Bicycle Users Group

### Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Member of Bicycle Victoria? Y / N

Phone: (H): \_\_\_\_\_ (W): \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership requires a one-off payment of \$10 per household. There is an additional charge of \$10 per annum for delivery of a hardcopy newsletter. Please send cheque (made out to *Graeme Stone*) along with this form to: Graeme Stone, 16 Jervis St , CAMBERWELL, VIC 3124

# Past and Forthcoming Rides

## Camberwell Downhill Gourmet Bike Riders

### November Ride

18 riders found various ways to get to Williamstown be it by train, car bike or combination. New rider John and I rode via Beacon Cove and the punt which was quite popular with other riders too. We welcomed other new riders, Mary and Annette – great to have them along. Having perused the Williamstown market for lunch or gifts we meandered up beside the Maribyrnong past Flemington to Aberfeldie Park and coffee and scones at Poynters. An enjoyable day with only the one hill up to Moonee Ponds station and only one puncture – Don's new PAB bike – weren't we glad it was the front wheel! PAB is power assisted hence Don sailed up the last hill using the extra watts to advantage to complement his pedalling!

*Graeme Stone*

### Next Ride Sunday, Probably 16<sup>th</sup> January 2005

**WHERE:** Meet **probably** at Ashburton Railway Station for the 'traditional' ride into the Botanical Gardens for lunch on the lawns OR will we do something different and head south and east up the Scotchmans Creek trail? Will **probably** start at Ashburton Railway station car park (west side) at 9.30 am for 9.45 start. Options are to head south or north then east or west from Ashburton Railway station!!

**ENQUIRIES:** You will **probably** have to ring Elva on 9836 6392 after the CDGBR dinner on 26th Nov. for details.

(No ride planned for December at this stage however if there is one we can easily email those on the CDGBR mailout list).

## Hawthorn Cycle Tours

Hawthorn Cycle Tours (run by the Hawthorn Aquatic and Leisure Centre) has 10 bikes (and helmets) available. Or you can bring your own bike (and helmet) if you prefer. Rides are on Tuesday mornings from 9.30am - 11.00am. Child minding is available at the Creche. It is a social ride, with either a coffee stop out on the trail or on return to the centre (or both!). Distance travelled is usually between 15-20km, mostly flat riding with an occasional hill. Riders ages vary from 20-70 years old. Contact: Hawthorn Aquatic and Leisure Centre, phone: 9815 0988, Website: <http://www.geocities.com/perften/Hct.html> or e-mail: [lexbishop@bikerider.com](mailto:lexbishop@bikerider.com)

## Sassafras Ride

Every Sunday all year

Starts at "Bike Life", 114 Auburn Road, Hawthorn, near corner of Burwood Rd and the overhead railway bridge, Melways Ref. Map 45 F10. Arrive prior to 7:30 am to ensure departure at 7:30am sharp. Arrives in Sassafras around 9:00 am and leaves Sassafras by 9:30 am Arrives back in Hawthorn around 10:45 am.

Distance under 70 kms from Hawthorn to Sassafras return (includes the 7 kms 1 in 20 hill climb). Route: Auburn Road, Rathmines Road, Canterbury Road, Boronia Road, Mountain Highway (Wantirna Sassafras Road), Mount Dandenong Tourist Rd. You can join and leave the peloton anywhere along this route.

Refreshment stop: Café "Ripe", 376 Mount Dandenong Tourist Road, Sassafras, phone: 9755 2100; Melways Ref. Map 66 F9.

## Council on the Ageing (COTA) Cycling Group - Rides Program

Council on the Ageing members have started a cycling group for people who want to ride more and learn more about their bikes and riding, as well as for people just getting started.

The group rides each 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.

Meet at 10am at the location specified to begin the ride. If the weather forecast for the day is for a temperature over 30 degrees, the ride will start at 8am and conclude by midday. Bring your own lunch for a picnic together.

Most rides are on bike trails and are designed with beginner to intermediate in mind. Riders are welcome to join the ride along the way if it is closer to home.

Contact Janet Bennett, e-mail: [janpeter@bigpond.net.au](mailto:janpeter@bigpond.net.au) or COTA, phone: 9654 4443.

## Darebin BUG

Darebin BUG runs rides of distances approximating 10-20km every Monday, 40-60km on Tuesdays and up to 90km on Thursdays and a variety of rides of various lengths on weekends.

Unless otherwise stated, our rides meet at **Jika Jika Community Centre**, corner Plant & Union Streets, Northcote near Westgarth train station.

For information about any of these rides, contact the Rides and Events Coordinator, Doug Morffew , phone; 9499 7325 (AH), email: [dougmorf@alphalink.com.au](mailto:dougmorf@alphalink.com.au)

Download the [Darebin BUG rides flyer](#), with details of rides. (Word doc)

Please note all rides are free to anyone who would like to participate. Some rides need train tickets, these are to be bought by the participant. A first aid kit is carried on each ride and emergency contact numbers are taken prior to the start of the ride. Darebin BUG has public liability insurance - please note this **does not** cover you or your bike. If that is something you're concerned about then best become a member of Bicycle Victoria so you will be covered by their insurance.

### Monday Rides

*For beginners and those looking for short easy rides.* Travel local bike paths around 10-20km. For more information, call 9481 8853.

### Tuesday & Thursday Rides

Both are social rides largely on bike trails that conclude around 4pm. Bring lunch & water.

### Tuesday Rides

*For experienced riders.* These rides leave from **Jika Jika Community Centre**, corner of Plant and Union Streets, Northcote, at 9.45am. They vary in length from about 40 to 60 km.

### Thursday Rides

*For experienced riders.* These rides leave from **Jika Jika Community Centre**, corner of Plant and Union sts, Northcote, at 9.30am sharp. Rides can be up to 90km.

### Saturday Market Rides

*Beginners and families welcome.*

**Sunday Rides - Varying Distances & Locations** *Some for beginners, others for experienced cyclists.*

### 9-11am (ish) Sunday Boulevard Or Bust

*For experienced riders.* Ride along the Yarra Blvd hills at a steady pace of around 20 k/ph. Distance: 30km +. Join us for coffee or brunch at Hugos after if you have time.

3rd Sunday of the month - a diverse program, some rides local and others involving public transport.

### December 12 - Yarra Ride to Bell Bird Park - evening B-B-Q

More details soon.

## Manningham BUG

Rides are subject to change so always phone the ride contact close to the date of the ride to confirm details.

Mid Week Rides. There are rides on most Wednesdays. Meet at 9:30am at Warrandyte (outside Pasta Mania) for a local ride every second week, alternating with a 10am meeting at a distant location for a longer ride. Contact Don 9848-5803

### Weekend Rides Calendar

		GRADE	CONTACT	MEET AT...
<b>December</b>				
Wed 15th	<b>10th Annual Fish &amp; Chip Ride</b> The ever popular end of year event Be part of this institution!	20km Easy	Harv 9890-8006	6pm Floral clock St. Kilda Rd

	Lights are required for the return trip after some of the best fish and chips have been consumed.			Mel 2F H8
Mon 20th	<b>BUG Christmas Dinner</b> <a href="#">The Manningham Club</a> , 1 Thompson's Rd Bulleen Bookings essential		Jacinta 9842-3323	7pm Mel 32 D10

**Up-Coming Rides:**

Zoo Jazz rides in Jan/Feb

[Email me](#) with suggestions please.

***Very Advance Notice:***

8-10 April 2005. Neville & Cheryl's famous **SANDY POINT RIDE**

Complete with Spit Roast or something similar on the Sat night. Beds for about 12 people and plus tent space for more. As usual there will be an approx 55km ride Sat and say 30km approx on Sunday. Further details closer to the event. **MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW**

If you like to think about riding to an event try looking up

<http://www.eventwatch.com.au/>

**Interested?**

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Manningham Bicycle User Group Inc. ABN 25 300 593 577

## Whitehorse Cyclists Inc

### Calendar of Events Spring – Summer 2004

Date	Event	Distance	Grade	Contact
<b>Do you need to be a member to join in a ride? No! Try out some rides first. Just phone the nominated leader for more details. .</b>				
Thurs 25 Nov	Woodlands Homestead - Zoo	50	Med	Keith 9857 5805
Sun 28 Nov	Whitehorse Rally	40	Easy	Christine 9890 6958
Thurs 2 Dec	Diamond Creek via Ruffey's Lake	45	Easy	Elsa 9849 0131
Thurs 9 Dec	Bellarine Peninsula from Geelong			Jacques 9497 2306
Tuesday 14 December at 8 pm: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Mike 0407 509 048				
Thurs 16 Dec	Christmas Lunch Launching Place Hotel		Easy	Ken 9801 7157
Tues 21 Dec	Third Tues Easy Ride	30 max	Easy	Ken 9801 7157
Thurs 23 Dec	Oakleigh/Rosstown	45	Easy	Bob 9874 5078
Thurs 30 Dec	Fitzroy Gardens	45	Easy	Graeme 9848 5127

Thurs 6 Jan 2005	Williamstown	55	Easy	Bob 9874 5078
Thurs 13 Jan	Stony Point -Frankston	60	Med	David 9890 3634
Tues 18 Jan	Third Tues Easy Ride	30 max	Easy	Ken 9801 7157
Thurs 20 Jan	Churchill National Park	50	Med	Doug 9802 6702
Thurs 27 Jan	Croydon-Bayswater-Ringwood	45	Easy	Doug 9802 6702
Thurs 3 Feb	Mordialloc	50	Med	Ken 9801 7157
Thurs 10 Feb	Royal Botanic Gardens	45	Easy	Keith 9857 5805

## Melbourne Bicycle Touring Club

We are based in Melbourne, Victoria and conduct rides (or events) every weekend. We are a diverse collection of people with a common interest in cycling - cycle touring in particular. Please feel free to join us!

### MBTC Rides and Events Program: October-December 2004

		November	
20/28th	Phillip Island Family Ride	Child friendly	Vanessa Goldsmith
Thur 25th	Mystery Night		Liz
Fri 26th	November Nosh		Gail Crennan
Sat 27th	Seymour - Broadford	70 km Hard	Liz Ennis
		December	
Thur 2/12	Eureka 150th Anniversary		John
Weekend 4/5th	Lilydale to Moe via Noojee	130 km Med/Hard	Peter Boemo

*For information on the above rides, please contact the Touring Secretary, Alan Hutchison, on (03) 9431 0458, or at [rides@mbtc.org.au](mailto:rides@mbtc.org.au). Please note that this e-mail address doesn't get checked every day - so don't expect an immediate response!*

#### About the Ride Gradings

**Easy:** Relatively short distances and easy terrain, with no critical time factor. Suitable for the occasional cyclist.

**Medium:** Longer distances with varied terrain. Reliable gears, food, tools and wet weather clothing are advisable. Ability to maintain a reasonable speed to meet critical time factors is required.

**Hard:** Long distances and/or difficult terrain. Extensive experience in all aspects of cycling is mandatory. Riders must be able to maintain a good speed throughout the ride.

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## YHA

YHA Cycling is made up of people who enjoy cycling in the suburbs and out in country Victoria with a sociable group of like-minded people, aged mainly between mid 20s and mid 40s. YHA Cycling is a recreational club, not a racing club, and we do a mixture of day and weekend rides. The group is based in Melbourne, Victoria, under the umbrella of the YHA Australia, and is one of a number of such local YHA activities groups.

Visitors (whether members of YHA or not) are welcome to attend any of our rides or other activities. Please note that cyclists aged under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

### Spring Calendar

DATE	RIDE	GRADE	CONTACT
Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	D & D ride - just the ticket for the hip single at Christmas!	Easy	Voula
Weekend 2-4 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Break up ride - Somers	Easy-Medium	Brendan & Marie
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Picnic, and cycling treasure hunt	easy	Mark/ Voula

YHA contacts: Claire, phone: 9726 5142 or Jane, phone: 9525 6462; e-mail: [yhacycling@yahoo.com.au](mailto:yhacycling@yahoo.com.au); website: <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~yhacycle>

How to join our mailing list

Send a blank e-mail to [YHA Cycling](mailto:yhacycling@yahoo.com.au) with 'subscribe' in the subject line.

Soon after, you will receive an e-mail asking you to confirm your subscription.

Reply to this e-mail and you're in.

E-mail addresses are kept private and are NOT broadcast to the masses.