

Boroondara Bicycle Users Group

July 2004 Newsletter

Next meeting: 7.30pm Thursday 8th July at Swinburne, Hawthorn Campus, TD building (between Park and Wakefield Streets) room TD246

NOTE: BBUG meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of each month, except January.

The Boroondara Bicycle Users' Group (BBUG) 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.

BBUG has a web site www.vicnet.net.au/~bdarabug that contains interesting material related to cycling, links to other cycle groups and recent BBUG Newsletters.

We also have two Yahoo Groups:

Send a blank e-mail to BoroondaraBug-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to receive this monthly newsletter and occasional important messages.

Send a blank e-mail to 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 BBUG. All rides publicised in this newsletter are embarked upon at your own risk.

Inbox

Trandem? Found

Hi everyone,

Just writing to let you know that Laurie has found a suitable tandem for hire so you don't need to bother replying to him. The place to hire them is the Pegasus Crew in Brighton, see <http://www.the-pegasus-crew.com.au/crew.htm>.

Happy cycling!

Kathy Brunning Executive Assistant, Cycling Promotion Fund

The Augustine Centre 2 Minona St HAWTHORN 3122

PO Box 3052 Auburn VIC 3123

Ph: (03) 9818 5400 Fax: (03) 9818 4535

Advice Needed

Hi,

I am new to Melbourne and cycle to work from Ashburton High Street to the Alfred Hospital daily along High Street. Is there an easier, safe way that you can recommend, which allows me to avoid the busy High Street?

Thanks,

Dr Shaukat Esufali, email: esufali@optusnet.com.au

General News Items

Yarra Bicycle Advisory Committee

On Wednesday 23rd June I attended a City of Yarra Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting. The first impressive thing about this meeting was the agenda, which I received well in advance via email. It was very professionally prepared, and included as an attachment a 5 page 'Network Progress Report' listing details of 70 projects currently in train! (If anyone wants to look at agendas and minutes of Yarra BAC meetings they can be found at www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/council/vision/bac04.asp) The second impressive thing was the venue, a large, gracious meeting room in the massive Richmond Town Hall.

BAC meetings are held bimonthly. The June meeting was attended by 14 people who included Councillor Gurm Sekhon, Chair, Richard Smithers, Transport Planner, City of Yarra, Mark Dornau, Coordinator of Open Space, City of Yarra, Mary McParland, BV, representatives of Yarra BUG and other residents and observers. Sandwiches, cakes and hot and cold drinks were provided for all present.

The first item on the agenda was a report from Mark Dornau. Mark is responsible for the bike paths that run through parkland, including big sections of the Main Yarra Trail and the Capital City Trail – 23km of paths in all. The City of Yarra commissioned an audit of these paths last year, which was conducted by Arup. Mark was very familiar with the audit report. He was enthusiastic about the paths and full of ideas for improving them. He had the photos from the audit stored on a laptop and was able to quickly find appropriate photos and project them onto a screen as he spoke. He had a good grasp of the main works required on the paths and their cost and a number of ideas about possible sources of funding other than council's limited budget. The biggest ticket item is the link on the 'right' bank of the Yarra between Gipps Street and Walmer Street. Apparently major progress has been made with acquiring the land required for this and final negotiations with CUB are currently in train. The estimated cost of the link is up to \$6 million, so funding will need to be obtained from an outside source if the project is to go ahead.

Transport Planner Richard Smithers is responsible for on-road cycling facilities. As a former BV staff member Richard is very committed to facilitating safe riding on roads. The fact that 70 projects for on-road or roadside cycling facilities are currently in train speaks for itself. He referred to the recent bike tour of the Abbotsford area (see Rosemary West's report below) and thanked those who took part. More such tours are planned, possibly monthly.

Richard too had a series of photos to show us illustrating a number of new proposed projects on which he sought input from the meeting. These included the issue of the shared footway on Hawthorn Bridge, which has been requested by Boroondara BUG. Everyone present was asked to comment. Responses were generally favourable to this proposal and to the same treatment on Victoria Bridge. Richard plans to have another count done of traffic on the footpaths before proceeding, but it looks hopeful that we may finally see a shared footway in the not too distant future.

I left the meeting feeling that a lot is happening in the City of Yarra to facilitate cycling. In part this is due to the presence of cycling enthusiasts on Council staff. However the BAC is certainly playing an important part in keeping up the momentum and ensuring that local knowledge is utilised to the fullest extent when planning new facilities. As all cyclists know the only real test of a bike route is to ride it. With each new project Richard asked whether anyone rode that particular route and usually there was someone who did and who was able to confirm or question proposed treatments.

By contrast in Boroondara there is no process by which interested people can easily keep themselves informed about the current state of planning and development of cycling facilities. Fewer projects are under way and when developments do occur it is often without any formal opportunity for input from local cyclists or the Boroondara BUG. The fact that we do not have a cycling expert on Boroondara council traffic staff makes the input of local cyclists even more important. I left the meeting convinced that a BAC would be a big step forward for cycling in Boroondara.

Report by Julia Blunden

Yarra Bicycle Advisory Committee Tour

On Saturday 5th June a large group of cyclists joined Richard Smithers and several City of Yarra Councillors on a tour of the City of Yarra, looking at various cycling hazards that have been drawn to the attention of the Council and Yarra BUG. We started at Victoria Gardens and I left the group at Trennery Crescent. We looked at a number of difficult intersections, and road hazards.

I (unofficially!) represented Boroondara BUG in relation to our proposals for the cutting on Barkers Road. I was impressed by the size of the group (well over 20 riders) their diversity (all ages from a young lad to myself and about an equal number of males and females). Most appeared to be like me – folk using a bike to commute rather than for occasional recreation. It was heartening to ride with an enthusiastic and knowledgeable group of bike riders as opposed to my more usual company of car drivers who always impress me by their gross ignorance about cycling issues! Special thanks to David Osborne for organising this useful exercise. Perhaps Boroondara BUG could do the same some time though we would need to ensure we had a good and representative number of cyclists to impress any councillors and Council staff who come with us.

Report by Rosemary West

Events

Volunteers Needed for National Diabetes Week Launch

Regular physical activity, including cycling, is one of the most effective ways to combat diabetes. Diabetes Australia is looking to spread this message at the launch of National Diabetes Week at Federation Square on Sun 11 July at 11am.

They are looking for volunteers to help by joining group bike rides that will descend on the launch wearing coloured T-shirts provided by Diabetes Australia. Volunteers get to keep the funky coloured t-shirts and participate in the activities at the launch. Diabetes Australia needs 300 riders for the morning from 10am to 12am.

There will be two gathering points for the rides into Federation Square - one at the corner of Albert Rd & St Kilda Rd, South Melbourne (Domain Junction park -Melway 2K,J2), and the other at the rear of Diabetes Australia headquarters at 570 Elizabeth St, Carlton in Berkeley Street (just north of Victoria St, Melway 2B,C10). Riders will gather at 10am to collect their t-shirts and ride in groups to Federation Square for the 11am launch and activities. If you are interested in helping in the fight against diabetes contact Diabetes Australia directly on 1300 136 588 by Monday 5 July 2004.

For more on Diabetes Australia and the event see: the Diabetes Australia website

<http://www.dav.org.au/events/default.asp>

or the Bicycle Victoria website

http://www.bv.com.au/Template.cfm?Section=Get_involved_in_campaigns&Template/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=2286

Thanks to Bart Sbeghen at BV for this item

Boroondara News

\$341,000 Boost for Boroondara Cyclists

Media Release From The Minister For Transport

DATE: Tuesday, June 22, 2004

Bicycle paths in Boroondara will undergo significant improvement works as part of a Bracks Government commitment to extend Victoria's bicycle network and encourage cycling. The Minister for Transport,

Peter Batchelor said \$341,000 would be spent improving and extending on and off-road bicycle paths in Boroondara.

"The projects will complete critical gaps in the local bicycle network and improve access to local shopping centres and activity centres," Mr Batchelor said. "Designated bicycle paths and lanes offer a safer and more enjoyable ride for cyclists."

The \$341,000 will be distributed across the following projects:

- \$260,000 to install a 500 metre on and off-road bicycle path on the Chandler Highway between Princes Street and the Yarra River at Kew;
- \$49,000 to install a 2 kilometre on-road bicycle lane along Tooronga Road between Riversdale Road and the Monash Freeway; and
- \$32,000 to install a 1.7 kilometre on-road bicycle lane along Glenferrie Road between the Monash Freeway and Burwood Road.

Mr Batchelor thanked council and community members for highlighting the benefits of these projects. "We have listened to community concerns, and taken action to improve cycling facilities for residents and visitors to Boroondara."

The works are part of a \$5 million Bracks Government initiative to create 91 kilometres of new bicycle paths and lanes.

"Creating a safe and easy-to-use environment for cyclists is one of the many elements contained in Melbourne 2030, the Government's strategic plan to protect our liveability now and into the future," Mr Batchelor said. "New bicycle lanes and paths improve safety for cyclists by providing them with a visible, designated space on and beside roads. On-road bicycle lanes also remind drivers of the need to look out for cyclists and share the road co-operatively. "The Bracks Government is getting on with the job of delivering for Melbourne's cyclists."

Graeme Stone Comments - \$341, 000 + \$196,000 Cyclists Recognised and rewarded!

The cycling scene in Boroondara is looking good with genuine recognition of cycling as viable transport. The surprise press release last week announcing an additional \$341,000 for cycle projects is great news. The 3 newly announced projects are a separate VicRoads initiative and are not part of the previously agreed funding of PBN (Principal Bicycle Network) projects on Highfield Rd, Greythorne Rd, Union Rd, Mont Albert Rd and Burke Rd (between Doncaster Rd and Old Burke Rd). Council are familiar with two of the new projects having previously scoped/investigated the Tooronga Rd and Glenferrie Rd lanes and submitted them to VicRoads for PBN funding. The Chandler Hwy project was seen by council 12 months or so ago but final design will be by VicRoads as Chandler Highway is under VicRoads direct control.

The Chandler Highway upgrade for cyclists will involve new bike lanes on-road across the Eastern Freeway bridges from Princess St to the Yarra River. There will be improvements also to the shared paths, ramp crossings, lighting and signage. Works do not include the bridge over the Yarra at this stage. Most of the existing line-marking will need to be changed and some new bike lanes may include colour surfacing.

Your Support Will Be Needed. Wondering what has happened to the \$196,000 of PBN bike lane projects cyclists expected to be constructed in 2003/04? Because of some residents feeling threatened by environmentally sustainable transport council got 'cold feet' on cycle lanes. However the project is on the move again and the report will be presented to council in 4 to 6 weeks. Submissions will be invited from the public therefore we cyclists will be there won't we!!

New Ramp on Studley Park Road

An entry/exit ramp has been constructed by Boroondara Council on the northern off-road bike path on Studley Park Road, Kew directly opposite Walmer Street, Kew (Melways Reference: Map 2D F-G 10).

There was previously only a private residence driveway just west of Walmer Street, which often proved dangerous, because it meant cyclists had to ride diagonally across 4 lanes of often heavy traffic along Studley Park Road, rather than straight across (this was made worse when going uphill).

Walmer Street and Studley Park Road is an important cycling junction as it connects up the suburbs of Fairfield, Kew and Richmond, and is a major access point for the Main Yarra Trail, Yarra Bend Park, Yarra Boulevard, and Victoria Gardens. It also leads to Richmond on road bike lanes at Burnley/Highett & Elizabeth Streets to name but a few. The construction of kerbside ramps benefits not only cyclists, but also enables increased accessibility for the disabled, people with prams, and the elderly.

The Boroondara Bicycle Users Group would like to thank the City of Boroondara and in particular Evan Boloutis for their continued efforts in making our municipality an increasingly safer municipality for all transport modes.

Report by David Leong

Minutes of Boroondara BUG Meeting Thursday 10th June 2004

Meeting held at Swinburne, Hawthorn Campus, Room TD246

Present: Graeme Stone, Don Glasson, David Leong, Jason den Hollander, Janet Bennett, Peter Bennett, Peter Read, Julia Blunden

Apologies: Phil Crohn, Brett Robson, Graham Ellis

1. **Riding to School:** JD reported that he has spoken to the principal at Bellevue Primary School about better provision of bike parking facilities and that government funding for this will be investigated. Heidi Marfurt at Bicycle Victoria (BV) has also been approached about possible involvement of the school in Ride to Work Day.

Planning is well under way for the Bike-a-thon. The date has been moved back to September/October. The route has been decided – along the Koonung Creek Path between Bulleen Road and Elgar Park. Sponsorship is being sought from local businesses and the Box Hill Police will be approached to provide a speaker on bike safety issues.

2. **Organised Rides for 12 to 16 year olds:** Peter Read reported that he has undertaken a project to work with the community to organise rides for 12 to 16 year olds in Boroondara. The aim of these rides is to train kids to ride safely, and basic maintenance may also be included in the program. Peter aims to offer monthly rides with trained leaders. He had already spoken with Ted Wilson who trains ride leaders, BV about publicity, Bike Life about bike maintenance, Leonie Gibson at BCC and VicRoads. BUG members present had various suggestions for additional people to contact and ideas for routes. The main challenge at present is to find a way of providing public liability insurance to cover ride leaders.
3. **Bike-About:** Peter Read's project revived memories of Bike-About, an annual family bike ride that was organised by BCC for some years with assistance from the BUG. JB suggested that the BUG should press for the revival of Bike-About in conjunction with a festival of some sort, possibly the Kew Festival. No decision was taken on this.
4. **Signage on the Main Yarra Trail:** Janet Bennett reported that she had written a letter to BCC regarding the inadequacy of signage on the Main Yarra Trail, especially at its junction with the Koonung Creek Path. She has since spoken with Sriyani Weeratunga, a Traffic Officer at BCC and received assurances that new signs are being installed. GS raised the question as to whether this action is related in any way to the bike path audits carried out last year which made numerous recommendations regarding signage, and asked what other action we can expect on recommendations in the audit reports.
5. **Gardiner's Creek Link:** GS reported that he had contacted Mary McParland at BV who pointed out that there is a segment summing up the current situation on the BV web site. The next step is a feasibility study in which both Stonnington and Boroondara councils would need to be involved.

6. **Leonda:** DG reported that he had been in touch with BCC staff again about the Leonda project. The design for the entire project, including both the pedestrian path round the river and the shortcut to the carpark for cyclists, should be completed by the end of this financial year. Don also offered to follow up on the Hawthorn Bridge shared footways with Anne Gibb at BCC and Richard Smithers at City of Yarra.
7. **Web site:** BR, JD and Julia Blunden met on 27/5 to discuss proposed changes to the BUG web site. BR is ready to begin work on the new BUG web site in July. JD has offered to help with a number of aspects. In the meantime members are asked to have a look at JB's proposals for the structure and content of the site and provide some feedback on these. It will be easier for Brett if we make changes now rather than waiting until the site is up. JB pointed out that everyone who wishes to follow this issue and other activities of the BUG closely needs to join the Yahoo Discussion group. Just send a blank email to: BoroondaraBugDiscussion-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
8. **Shared Footways on Bridges:** Julia Blunden reported that she had written to Evan Boloutis regarding the delay with shared footways on Hawthorn Bridge. Proposals for off-road routes for cyclists across Victoria Bridge and through the cutting were also included in this letter and a copy was sent to Bart Sbeghen at BV. So far an acknowledgment only had been received from BCC. Bart Sbeghen had replied generally supporting the plan for Victoria Bridge but expressing reservations about the south side detour round the cutting.
9. **Great Victorian Bike Ride Sponsorship:** GS reported that the BUG has sufficient funds to offer sponsorship once again to a needy secondary student wishing to participate in the GVBR. It was agreed that \$200 could be made available. PR agreed to sound out Leonie Gibson at BCC for a lead on identifying such a student. The aim is to help a student who would not otherwise be able to participate.
10. **PBN:** GS reported that he had spoken to Evan Boloutis who shared his concern that Council is getting cold feet about proceeding with new PBN routes. If BCC fails to use the funds, which are provided by VicRoads, they will be withdrawn. DL showed an email received from Bart Sbeghen at BV who is also concerned about this issue. BCC is being briefed on the PBN by VicRoads in a closed meeting next week. Council will then be voting on the issue in 4-6 weeks and it is important for BUG members to make presentations at this meeting. In the meantime it is important that all of us contact our local councillors to express support for the new PBN routes.

Notes by Julia Blunden

Contacts for Rides

Boroondara BUG does not organise rides. However there are many BUGs, clubs and other organisations that do. 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; web site: www.keypoint.com.au/~bbwinc

Hawthorn Cycle Tours: contact Hawthorn Aquatic and Leisure Centre, phone: 9815 0988; e-mail: 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 or COTA, phone: 9654 4443.

Knox Bicycle Touring Club Incorporated, email: Email: Mikeaatleisure@aol.com

Web site: home.vicnet.net.au/~knoxbike

Manningham BUG: e-mail: seball@netlink.com.au, H.Edwards@bom.gov.au; **web site:** 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/

Whitehorse Cyclists: e-mail: ejhopper@vicnet.net.au; **web site:** home.vicnet.net.au/~wcycle

Darebin BUG: contacts: Kathleen Kemp, phone: 9482 3276; Ray Davis, phone: 9470 –3029; **e-mail:** darebinbug@yahoo.com.au; **web site:** www.darebinbug.org.au

YHA: contacts: Claire, phone: 9726 5421 or Jane, phone: 9525 6462; e-mail: 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 (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

Boroondara BUG Contacts:

Correspondence: Graeme Stone, 16 Jervis Street, Camberwell VIC 3124. Phone: 9889 5426; e-mail: graeme_stone@optusnet.com.au

Webmasters:
Brett Robson, email: brett.robson@staff.netspace.net.au
Jason den Hollander, email: jadenhollander@deloitte.com.au

Newsletter editor:
Julia Blunden, phone: 9853 5095; e-mail: jblunden@bigpond.com

Other Contacts:
Phil Crohn: philcrohn@ozemail.com.au
David Leong: 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

Boroondara Bicycle Users Group

Past and Forthcoming Rides

Camberwell Downhill Gourmet Bike Riders

Next ride Sunday 18th July. For more details contact Elva Parker, phone: 9836 6392

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

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 May – July 2004

We will ride every 2nd and 4th Wednesday in the month. We will meet at 10 am at the place specified. If the weather forecast given for the day is above 30°C the ride will start at 8am and conclude by 12midday. Every effort will be made to find a coffee stop midmorning! We will generally take our own lunch and picnic together. Some rides are on rail trails in the country and the starting times for these rides will be specified if different. Riders are welcome to join the ride along the way if it is closer to home. Please contact Janet Bennett on 9853 9808 to discuss any details.

The ride details follow- abbreviations are #easy *medium !hard ^hills.

Date	Place to meet	Description	Grade
July 14 th	Park near the Woori Yallock primary school MEL 286 F10	We will ride the Warburton Trail to Lilydale and return, approx 45km. No coffee stops until Lilydale.	!^
July 28 th	Dight Falls carpark off	We will ride the Main Yarra trail, the Koonung	*

	Trenerry Cres, MEL 44 F3	Creek trail and the Gardiners Creek trail via Blackburn lake, approx 50km.	
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Contact Janet Bennett, e-mail: janpeter@bigpond.net.au or COTA on 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, Kathy Brunning, on 9489 4275 or 0410 667 634, or at bikerides@vtown.com.au

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 4 pm. Bring lunch & water.

Tuesday Rides

For experienced riders.

These rides leave from **Jika Jika Community Centre**, corner of Plant and Union sts, 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.

Meet 10am at Jika Jika Community Centre, corner Plant & Union Streets, Northcote, near Westgarth train station.

Saturday 10 July - Collingwood Children's Farm. Travel 10km along the Yarra Trail to Collingwood Children's Farm. Bring \$2 for entry which includes entry to the operating farm. Buy your groceries, join us for lunch and maybe an ice cream soda afterwards at Fairfield Boathouse.

Sunday Rides - Varying Distances & Locations

9-11am 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.

Sunday Social Rides

Some for beginners, others for experienced cyclists.

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

Sunday Rides 2004

July 18 - Outer Circle Railway and Beyond

GRADE: EASY

Meet 10am at Jika Jika Community Centre, corner Plant & Union Streets, Northcote, near Westgarth train station. We will ride along the route of the Outer Circle Railway to Hughesdale, then along the route of the Rosstown Railway to Elsternwick. We'll follow the Elster Creek / Elwood Canal to the sea, then swing north up the coast to the Yarra. We then cross the Yarra on the old freight rail bridge, now the Webb / Fish Trap bridge, and ride through Docklands to the Moonee Ponds Creek. We ride next to the railway line to Royal Park, where we swing onto the Inner Circle Railway route to Rushall and from there back to Jika Jika.

Plenty of (ghost) trainspotting for everyone! Ride leader Robin will fill you in on the history of the various closed railway lines and the Elwood Canal. Around 50km, with shorter option ending at Elsternwick (21km). BYO Lunch, Water.

August 15 - Lysterfield Lake

More details soon.

September 19th - Darebin to Alamein

GRADE: MEDIUM

Meet at Darebin Station 10:00am. We will ride via the Eastern Freeway, Blackburn Lake and Gardiners Creek, catching the train home from Alamein. About 60km. BYO Lunch, Water. MET: 2-hour Zone 1+2.

October 17 - Dandenong Creek Ride

More details soon.

November 20-21 - Weekend Ride to Brisbane Ranges

More details soon.

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

More details soon.

Manningham BUG

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.

DATE	RIDE DETAILS	GRADE	CONT ACT	MEET AT...
July				
Sun 11th	Woodend Wander Quiet country roads BYO Lunch or buy at Woodend before we ride to Hanging Rock (A winery too)	40km medium	Harv 9850- 8006	10am Bourke's Bakery Woodend
Mon 19th	BUG Monthly Meeting The night your new subscription is due – but we will let you in for free! The Manningham Club , 1 Thompson's Rd Bulleen		Harv 9890- 8006	8pm Mel 32 D10
Sat 31st	Clifton Hill A little of Merri Ck and St George's track combined- with a Cafe Quince chaser. – See our Cuisine guide	15km Easy	Harv 9850- 8006	9:30am Yarra Bend Rd Mel. 2D F1
August				
Mon 16th	BUG Monthly Meeting The Manningham Club , 1 Thompson's Rd Bulleen		Harv 9890- 8006	8pm Mel 32 D10
Sat 21st	St Kilda – Mornington (Progressive Dinner Ride warm up) - Mordialloc option	Solid	Kevin 9842 3323	
Sun 22nd	St Kilda – Mornington (Progressive Dinner Ride warm up) -Mordialloc option Repeat of yesterday's ride for those that can't do Saturdays!	Solid	Kevin 9842 3323	
September				
Sat 4th Sun 5th	Progressive Dinner Ride Medium thru to serious! Car backup and drive options available	40+50 / 230km	Kevin 9842 3323	Bookings essential- fills up fast
Mon 20th	BUG Monthly Meeting The Manningham Club , 1 Thompson's Rd Bulleen		Harv 9890- 8006	8pm Mel 32 D10

Whitehorse Cyclists: Rides Program

Check the rides calendar on <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~wcycle/calendar.htm> Note: All rides are subject to change. Phone the named contact person to confirm details. You do not need to be a member to ride with us! We ride every Thursday and on the weekend, usually on the Sunday. Contact: contact Alec or Barbara 9890 8954.

Melbourne Bicycle Touring Club

JULY			
Thu 1	<i>The History of the Mountain Bike in Australia</i>		Geoff
Sat 3	Queensland Ride Meet up with Jay and Jackie for a ride somewhere in Queensland. Contact on www.geocities.com/luvtravln		Jay & Jackie
Sat 3	Eltham BikeTrail Tour A tour of the Yarra Valley around Eltham and Templestowe.	Easy 30 km	Alan
Sun 4	Woodlands Park / Gellibrand Hill Ride out to this historic property along the Moonee Ponds Creek and Maribyrnong bike paths.	Medium 65km	Peter M
Sun 4	Peter Boemo's Birthday ride.	Medium 65km	Peter B
Thu 8	<i>Cycle Racing</i>		Margo
Weekend 10-12	Kerang Long Weekend Enjoy cycling along the Murray and escape the rain and cold of Melbourne.	Medium 150 km	Tony B
Sat 10	Lebanon and Italy ... warmer than Melbourne in winter Take a suburban tour of Melbourne's food diversity. Visit Cedar's Middle Eastern bakery & supermarket in Preston & then finish with Italian gelati & hot chocolate in Ivanhoe.	Easy 40 km	Kerry
Sun 11	Yea Highlands A scenic loop through the Yea Highlands and along the Goulburn River.	Medium 60 km	Liz
Sun 11	Dandenong Creek Ride Bayswater to Carrum and beyond	Medium/Hard 45 km or 86 km	Bente
Thu 15	<i>Trip Planning</i> <i>(and deadline for Spokenotes)</i>		David
Weekend 17-18	A weekend in Central Victoria Tour a scenic part of central Victoria from Malmsbury to Heathcote and back.	Medium 100 km	Glenn
Sun 18	Hurstbridge Circuit Visit wineries around Hurstbridge and Arthurs Creek.	Medium 30 km	Geoff
Tue 20	Club Lunch Star Park Café at Camberwell Junction.	Social	Fred
Thu 22	<i>The Saddle Show and Tell</i> <i>(The great Saddle Debate)</i>		Glenn
Weekend 24-25	Geelong-Queenscliff-Geelong Bellarine Peninsular tour with Robyn & Gerry.	Medium 60 km	Gerry

Sat 24	Brisbane Ranges Tour Loop ride from Bacchus Marsh exploring the forest around the Brisbane Ranges. Suitable for touring bikes.	Medium/Hard 65 km	Jim
Sun 25	Capital City Trail A tour around the CBD and inner Melbourne.	Easy 30 km	Margo
Thu 29	<i>Slide Night of Queens Birthday Weekend</i>		Leon
Weekend 30-31-1	Hurstbridge Loop A loop tour via Lilydale, Yea and Healesville with cabin accommodation.	Medium/Hard 200 km	Leon
Sun 1	Fido to Fido via Eltham A variation on the Books to Boat House tour.	Easy 30 km	Lou

For information on the above rides, please contact the Touring Secretary, Dave Cash, on (03) 9416 2646, or at 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

YHA Cycling Winter Program July – August 2004

DATE	RIDE	GRADE	CONTACT	TELEPHONE
Sunday 25 th July	Maribyrnong River - Sunshine to Flinders street via Kensington, lunch @ the Keilor hotel (50km's)	Easy/Medium	Heath	0417 186 320
Sunday 1 st August	Yarra Valley Wineries	Easy	Claire	9726 5142
Sunday 8 th August	Castlemaine	Medium	Jason	9499 4591
Sunday 22 th August	Moonee Ponds bike path - 55km	Easy-Medium	Paul	9587 2940

And also, Around the Bay in Two Days

September 2004

The 2003 ride sold out in a record 42 hours. Watch this space for details of the 2004 ride.

Want to find out more? Then please *[contact us](#)*

- our website: <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~yhacycle/>
- e-mail: yhacycling@yahoo.com.au
- telephone: Call Belinda 0410 488 288
- mail: YHA Cycling, GPO Box 25A Melbourne Victoria 3001.

General Information.

Grade of Rides

Easy - Suitable for beginners 3-5 hours riding time at easy going pace and plenty of rests.

Medium - Suitable for riders with some experience and good general level of fitness. 4-7 hours riding time. Steady pace some hills with some rest stops.

Hard - Suitable for fit experienced riders . 5 -10 hours riding time some steep hills difficult terrain and consistent pace.

Information on Bicycles.

Bikes must be well maintained with good brakes and tyres. It is recommended the bicycle have at least 10 gears to cope with hills encountered on most rides. Bikes should also be fitted with water carriers, and water bottles should be used on all rides. Either panniers or day pack can be used for carrying items during the day.

There are three main styles of bicycle suitable for YHA cycling trips.

Touring Bikes and ten Speed Bikes. Best for longer medium and hard trips particularly on country roads. Also suitable on city trails. They are not suitable for Mountain Bike trips.

Hybrid Bikes. These are suitable for most YHA trips except some medium and hard mountain bike trips. Hybrid bikes are the best all round bike for use on YHA trips and are excellent for general riding in the city area.

Mountain Bikes. Also suitable for most YHA trips except longer tours on country roads. Mountain bikes are excellent all round bikes for city and mountain use. Essential for hard mountain bike trips.

Cost

A nominal booking Fee of \$3.00, (Day Rides) and \$5.00 (Weekend Trips) apply. This is in addition to any travel, accommodation, etc. costs.

Day trips

Please contact the leader for the starting place and time for each trip.

Weekend trips.

Low cost accommodation such as Youth Hostels or cabins is arranged for Friday and Saturday night. Weekend trips usually involve two separate day trips on Saturday or Sunday so it is only necessary to carry items such as food, drink and clothing required for each day. Some trips specify panniers in which case clothing and other equipment will be carried during the day.

Bookings for weekend rides must be made no later than Club night prior to the ride. A deposit will need to be paid.

Please note. Participants should have adequate property, medical and especially ambulance insurance.

Further Information.

Contact any of the leaders listed in the program or Claire 9421 3006 or Jane 9525 6462. Or visit our website at <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~yhacycle>. Also visit Clubnight on the Monday before each weekend ride except public holidays (check first that the leader will be there). Clubnight venue is the YWCA building 489 Elizabeth Street Melbourne 8pm.

Next Program

The next program will be out August 2004.