

BOROONDARA

Bicycle Users Group

Newsletter March 2006

Boroondara BUG meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, except January. Next meeting will be on Wednesday 8th March, at the Swinburne Hawthorn Campus in room TD244. The TD building is between Park and Wakefield Streets. Councillor Nicholas Tragas who represents the Maranoa ward will be present at the meeting.

The Boroondara BUG is a voluntary group working to promote the adoption of a safe and practical environment for commuting 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 [HYPERLINK http://www.boroondarabug.org/](http://www.boroondarabug.org/) 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 [HYPERLINK "mailto:BoroondaraBug-subscribe@yahoogroups.com"](mailto:BoroondaraBug-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) to receive this monthly newsletter and occasional important messages.

Send a blank e-mail to [HYPERLINK "mailto: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

Connecting Cycling Melbourne

On Thursday 16th February I, along with several other Boroondara BUG members, attended a free one day seminar 'Connecting Cycling Melbourne: Health and Culture in Planning for Bicycles' organised by the TravelSmart Team in connection with the Sustainable Living Festival. It proved to be an information packed day and a wonderful opportunity to mingle and exchange ideas with other like-minded people.

The overall theme of the day's presentations was how Melburnians can be encouraged to adopt cycling or walking for more of their everyday trips, whether travelling to work or down to the shops. The line-up of speakers was most impressive and varied with academics, local government, Bicycle Victoria, VicRoads and of course TravelSmart personnel all well represented. There were a number of strands or themes that emerged from the day's presentations.

Most cyclists would take little convincing that their chosen mode of transport, along with walking, is more sustainable than motor transport. However several of the speakers made the point that this is not what will convince individuals to choose to cycle or walk. People are basically selfish so what needs to be emphasised is the enormous benefit to them, and especially to their health. The keynote speaker John Pucher, Professor of Urban Planning, Rutgers University, USA, quoted a British Medical Association claim that for every hour of vigorous walking or cycling we gain more than an hour of healthy lifespan. As he also pointed out that 'we can eat more cookies' without becoming obese, and for most individuals adopting cycling and walking for utility purposes provides a form of exercise that is far easier to maintain long term than working out at the gym or on home exercise equipment.

Several speakers waxed lyrical about cycling and pedestrian facilities in northern European countries, especially Holland, Denmark and Germany. They showed slide after slide of brilliant on and off-road cycling facilities in these countries as well as graphs to illustrate their success in achieving rates of cycling, and walking, many, many times greater than those in English speaking countries including Australia. The point was made more than once that, contrary to popular belief here, this is not something that has always been so. Rather, in the mid 70's governments in these countries realised that the amenity of their cities was being destroyed by motor traffic and they decided to take drastic steps to remedy the problem. The wonderful bike facilities in these countries and consequent high rates of cycling have only been achieved through the formulation and implementation of government policies and the expenditure of large sums of money. Some of the facilities in these countries

are near ideal, but often compromise has been necessary as bike routes have been squeezed into existing infrastructure. And it is not only physical infrastructure that has changed in these countries, it is also the whole road culture. Motorists in these countries have come to accept speed limits as low as 30kph in residential streets, and that pedestrians and cyclists have absolute priority in many urban areas. Rights of pedestrians and cyclists are an important element in driver education and licence testing.

A point that was made most strongly by Melbourne City Council's Susie Strain, but which was endorsed by John Pucher, was that the cycling culture in northern Europe differs markedly from that in Australia. Northern European cyclists for the most part do not ride head down, bum up, clad in gaudy lycra. They sit in a more upright position on sturdy bikes designed to be ridden in normal clothes; they are not required by law to wear helmets and relatively few do. In many ways they are seen as part of the pedestrian rather than the road traffic. There is less emphasis on speed and cyclists are often directed off the road and onto crossings shared with pedestrians at intersections. Susie suggested that this approach could well solve some of our knottier problems in Melbourne, such as getting cyclists safely through St Kilda junction. She also showed slides illustrating how special paving is often used to indicate cycle routes and more signage is marked on the pavement surface and less displayed on poles.

The point that was made by other speakers that the people we need to encourage to ride are not the confident young males, who are already riding in relatively large numbers, but rather the slower and less confident riders, especially older people and females. This is an important target group for BV's Ride to Work Day, for TravelSmart programs and for Eliot Fishman's wonderful community project in North Yarra. Safety rather than speed is the major issue for such riders. Geoff Rose from the Monash Institute of Transport also made the point that here cyclists and pedestrians often come into conflict, often because of cycling speedsters. This explains in part reluctance on the part of some authorities to allow cycling through parks and across tram stop platforms.

For me the seminar also served to reinforce how far we still have to go to achieve proper recognition for cycling in Boroondara. Other municipalities such as Melbourne, Port Phillip and Stonnington have impressive bike plans. Yarra has its Bicycle Advisory Committee and Port Phillip has a Sustainable Transport Officer with a thorough grasp of cycling issues. Individual staff members at Boroondara have shown a willingness to listen to representations from the Boroondara BUG and to work on projects to improve cycling facilities. However there is still no bike plan in place, no staff position with overall responsibility for developing and maintaining cycling infrastructure, and no framework in place to ensure that regular consultation with local cyclists occurs. More than a year after work on it first began, and several Boroondara BUG members attended workshops and made submissions, our Integrated Transport Strategy still has not produced so much as a draft report.

I can only hope that eventually our politicians at all levels of government, and our city planners, will realise that the northern Europeans have shown us the way to make our cities much more liveable places. The Copenhagen style bike path planned for Swanston St, linking the CBD to Melbourne University, is setting a new standard for the future, one that will hopefully be adopted all over Melbourne, and Australia, and sooner rather than later.

For those interested in more detail on Professor Pucher's inspirational keynote address check out the following web site for a summary complete with lots of terrific photos: {HYPERLINK
http://www.boroondarabug.org/other_resources/Urban_Transport_Pucher.pdf }

Julia Blunden

General News

Amy Gillett Scholarship

Media Release: Amy Gillett's memory honoured with cycling Scholarship - applications now open

The Amy Gillett Foundation calls for applications for the inaugural Amy Gillett Scholarship in memory of champion cyclist Amy Gillett, who was killed in a tragic road accident while training in Germany in July 2005.

The Foundation is proud to join with Cycling Australia to offer this important opportunity to assist the sporting and educational aspirations of Australia's talented women cyclists. The scholarship is a joint partnership between the Foundation and the Cycling Australia/AIS High Performance Program and will provide national and international competition and training opportunities for the next generation of Amy Gilletts.

A strong business and commercial base has also been established to ensure the name of Amy Gillett will endure through work towards achieving the aims of the Foundation. Husband Simon has been instrumental in setting up the Foundation and initiating the scholarship. "I am really pleased to be able to announce that we have been able to provide such a lasting legacy in Amy's name" he said. "The scholarship also has a strong emphasis on providing further educational opportunities, something Amy successfully combined with her elite sporting career."

The scholarship is one of the three key aims of the Foundation. In addition to the scholarship, it will also assist the five women cyclists injured in the accident and will promote road safety awareness among cyclists and motorists.

For more information and scholarship application form go to: {HYPERLINK www.amygillett.org.au }

Beyond Boroondara

Melbourne Transport Strategy

The City of Melbourne is inviting public comment and feedback on its recently prepared draft Transport Strategy.

All submission will be considered prior to the Strategy being finalised by Council in June 2006. For more information or to receive a copy of the document click on one of the links below, contact Council on 9658 9658. or email { HYPERLINK "mailto:rutmea@melbourne.vic.gov.au" } Submissions must be received by **Monday 3 April 2006**.

Download a copy of the draft Melbourne Transport strategy

{ HYPERLINK

"http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/rsrc/PDFs/MelbourneTransportStrategy/DraftMelbourneTransportStrategy.PDF" \t "_blank" } (pdf)

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/rsrc/PDFs/MelbourneTransportStrategy/Meltransportstrategy.DOC" \t "_blank" } (Word)

The Draft Transport Strategy has quite a bit to say on the subject of cycling. Many of our readers will be in the habit of riding through the City of Melbourne either on a regular or occasional basis. Issues that you may feel worth commenting on are the desirability of retaining, and possibly improving, the cycle route through Southbank, and a repeal of the local laws prohibiting cycling through gardens such as the Carlton and Fitzroy Gardens. Don't be put off by the word 'submission' – all that is needed is an email. Last night, in a unanimous vote, MCC approved spending \$1.9M on bike stuff so they really mean business. Ed

New Local BUGs Starting Up

Moonee Valley Bicycle Users Group (MV BUG)

The Inaugural Meeting of the Moonee Valley BUG will be held on Thursday 2 March, from 7pm at the Civic Centre (9 Kellaway Ave).

Are you a social recreational bike rider? Do you ride your bike with family and/or friends? Do you ride your bike to be active and healthy? Do you want to be involved in a community group that will be an advocate for improving opportunities and facilities for cyclists? We are calling all young, young at heart, families, individuals, friends, the serious and the not so serious bike riders to come along to register your support in establishing a Moonee Valley Bicycle Users Group (MVBUG).

Please RSVP your attendance by 5pm, Monday 27th February 2006 through either contacting Kathie Schnur on 9243 8820 or Emailing your name, address and telephone contact to: { HYPERLINK "mailto:mvbug@mvcc.vic.gov.au" \o "mailto:mvbug@mvcc.vic.gov.au" } Can't make the meeting but really want to be involved? Please Email your name, address and telephone contact to { HYPERLINK "mailto:mvbug@mvcc.vic.gov.au" }

Brimbank BUG

There is a new BUG that is being established in the Brimbank area (Sunshine and surrounds). The first step is to have a meeting to establish a core of interested cyclists. This is going to be at Isis Primary Care on Station Road, Deer Park, at 9.30am Tuesday 7th March. Anyone is welcome. At this meeting we will be discussing having a public forum and the things we will want to address there.

If anyone can't attend that meeting, but would like to be kept informed they can email Gavin on brimbuggw@yahoo.com.au (best option) or phone him on 9311 6762. Alternatively, they can call Murray (who works at Isis Primary Care) on 9219 7103.

Suzanne Cleary, Sustainable Transport Officer, Sustainable Development & Environment, Maribyrnong City Council, Napier St, PO Box 58, Footscray VIC 3011, P | (+61 3) 9688 0395, F | (+61 3) 9688 0258, E { HYPERLINK "mailto:suzanne.cleary@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au" }, W { HYPERLINK "http://www.maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/travelmart" }

Cardinia

A new BUG is also proposed for the Cardinia Shire, comprising Gembrook, Cockatoo, Pakenham, etc. Contact person is Peter Wylaars, phone: (03) 5968 1997; email: peterwylaars@exemail.com.au

Events

Aeolian Ride

The Aeolian ride will be in Melbourne, Australia, Saturday, March 11th 2006. The ride will start at Station Pier next to the Beacon Cove Food Store, suiting up at 4pm and ending at around 6:30pm the Belgian Beer Café where cyclists are loved.

Aeolian Ride is a free, public art event where 52 people wear wind-inflated suits and ride their bikes through cities around the world. Aeolian Ride seeks to excite, delight and involve the rider as well as the passer by. The idea is to create a fun, public participatory art event that transforms the landscape of the city. All 52 suits were handmade out of rip-stop nylon and easily inflate when riding at a slow pace. There are three suit shapes, a "bunny" a "bubble" and a "drop".

Sign up is available online now at www.aeolian-ride.info ! Bring your bike and your friends! Get inflated! The first 52 web signups to CONFIRM will get wear a suit for the ride. Riders who won't be wearing suits are welcome to ride along for the fun! Volunteer to take pictures or film the ride!

Twenty percent of all donations to the Aeolian Ride will go to Recycle-a-Bicycle and other educational charities for children. The ride also supports itself by sale of Aeolian Ride posters available online

For further information: email: {HYPERLINK "mailto:info@aeolian-ride.info" } or web site: {HYPERLINK "http://www.aeolian-ride.info" }

Wangaratta Combined BUGs Weekend

Saturday 11th to Monday 13th March. Contact Alan Watson, phone: 57215073

Celluloid Cycles: A Festival of Bicycles on Film

When: 6,7,8 and 9 April 2006

Where: Kaleide Theatre, RMIT, Swanston Street, Melbourne

For full program details see: {HYPERLINK <http://www.celluloidcycles.com.au/> }

Contact Person: Tim Sheedy, phone: 9347 3115; email:

Grasshopper Adventures

Dear Boroondara BUG

I am writing to you from Grasshopper Adventures - one of Asia's leading bicycle tour operators. We run tours from the heights of the Himalya, the grasslands of Mongolia, to the tropics of South East Asia. I would like to let you know of an exclusive offer that we would like to make to your club members: 5% off any Grasshopper Adventures tour in South East Asia (valid for booking made before June 30, 2006)! In South East Asia we operate tours in Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam and Borneo, and have departures throughout the year so there is something for everyone!

Here's a sample of what coming on our calendar:

Borneo - 28 May - Ride through jungles, trek up mountains, and discover rare wildlife in Malaysia's adventure wonderland.

Laos - 11 June - Cycle overland from ancient to modern capital - Luang Prabang to Vientiane - over limestone mountains, past picturesque rivers and through remote villages in South East Asia's secret jewel.

Cambodia - 25 June - Ride the fun roads of Cambodia visiting the magnificent Angkor Wat, stately Phnom Penh, the undiscovered Cambodian coastline and everything else in between.

In order to take advantage of this special offer your members simply have to enter the name of your club in the "Where did you hear about Grasshopper Adventures?" field of the booking form and we will instantly take 5% from the price. We also operate many private group trips for group of friends, bike clubs, tour companies and even a group of unicyclists. For all private groups the organiser receives a free place on the tour if there are 10 full paying cusomtars.

If you would like more information about these offers, our tours, or Grasshopper Adventures feel free to email me or visit our website: {HYPERLINK www.grasshopperadventures.com }

Jason Williams, Managing Director, Grasshopper Adventures, Cycling journeys through Asia,

Reviews

Wired to Win

Following on from recent cycling movies such as "Hell On Wheels" and "Overcoming" is the IMAX production, 'Wired to Win - Surviving the Tour de France'. Its basic plot follows the 2003 Centenary Tour de France (arguably the world's most gruelling sporting event). In following the peloton, the film brings to the audience some appreciation of the intensity of the sport, the struggle to cut through physical and mental barriers, and the sheer highs and lows of this elite sporting event.

Melbourne's cycling community, came along in droves to the IMAX Theatre for the opening preview night on 21st February 2006. So much so that the IMAX management lamented that they needed more staff to cater for an unexpected inflow of patrons.

The film is not long – barely an hour, but you get plenty of spectacular scenery of the Tour de France, great close ups of effort and pain, and, for want of a better finish, local Aussie Baden Cooke beating Robbie McEwen to win the Green Sprinter's jersey on the ultimate cycling stage of them all. The dizzy IMAX view transports you onto the road, into the ride and over the alps, with so much impact, that it leaves you more than a touch giddy and awe-struck at times.

So far so good, but this movie has more, and that is where it diverges from being merely a cycling movie about Le Tour de France. The first scene, as described on the film's web site (<http://www.wiredtowinthemovie.com/> \o <http://www.wiredtowinthemovie.com/> }) gives us an early unexpected insight. A jumpy home movie shows a six-year-old child learning to ride his first bicycle with help from his father. The narrator tells us that, 'with each moment, each new experience stimulates growing networks of cells in our brains. We used to think these changes happened only in childhood, but now we know that our brains never stop developing — they keep wiring and rewiring themselves with every experience and every challenge.' After several initial failed attempts and even crashes, the child begins to show improvement and confidence. Finally, he is riding alone in a seaside park, amazed at his own accomplishment. Then all of a sudden, the movie cuts to a full IMAX screen aerial shot descending the steep eastern escarpment of the Col d'Aubisque in Southern France. As the camera drops down the mountainside, we discover a ribbon of cyclists and vehicles streaming down a narrow, twisting, road. This, says the narrator, 'is the legendary Tour de France – a 3,400km, three-week bicycle race that has been called the world's most gruelling sports event, and the ultimate test of the human brain.' Yes, this movie is certainly different. Not just a sports documentary, but also a science documentary.

But that is not where the surprises finish. The production of the movie has been delayed and embroiled in controversy, necessitating a re-cast of the main on-screen stars. This film was not originally going to be about Baden Cooke going for (and winning) the green jersey, nor about Jimmy Casper. It was originally going to be about US cyclist, Tyler Hamilton (a former team-mate of Lance Armstrong), when he was with the CSC team. And what a story that would have been, for in the 2003 Tour, Tyler Hamilton had not only left Armstrong's team but in the early stages, crashed and broke his collarbone, to then ride the next 20 days, arm in a sling and mind pushed through an unimaginable pain barrier, to complete the Tour.

However, after the 2003 Tour (and after the IMAX production crew had taken what must have been kilometres of very expensive IMAX footage of Tyler Hamilton and his story), Tyler Hamilton became embroiled in the centre of a doping scandal, a claim he has disputed and which is still currently before the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI). In short, 'Wired to Win' was to be called 'Brainpower', and <http://www.csc.com/features/2003/31.shtml> \o <http://www.csc.com/features/2003/31.shtml> }, and educate us about the brain and its interaction with the rest of the human body. After his fall from grace, the sponsors of the film became hesitant and the filmmakers were forced to change course, and to Australia's luck, Baden Cooke and fellow Francais des Jour rider Jimmy Casper were chosen as the new stars of the film. There is only one short shot of Hamilton, which left me thinking of the full potential of the movie, which unfortunately now lies on the editor's cutting room floor.

I say that not to deny Baden or Casper their fine achievements, but it is evident that the producers have had to often resort to secondary non IMAX footage, such as television footage, to complete the movie. The huge IMAX screen clearly shows up the limitations of this compromise and in addition to this, quite a few of the Baden shots, seem to be re-enactments in more recent times (rather than actual footage from the 2003 Tour de France). Not that any of this matters too much. Whatever the case and the cut and pastes, this is a film well worth seeing (DVD even with a Plasma screen, is no substitute for IMAX). So get yourselves ready for a giddy ride around France. It's a great ride. Go see it!!!

Thanks to David Leong for this in-depth review

Cycling Tips

***From the urbanbicyclist project © :: top tricks 'n hints for RIDING IN TRAFFIC :: Melbourne City Rider Guide**

Urbanbicyclists quickly learn to beat city traffic to get around safely & quickly. When riding in traffic be confident & visible but prepare for evasive action! <http://www.urbanbicyclist.org/> \o <http://www.urbanbicyclist.org/> }

Use the Street Space

· Use sightlines to find gaps in the traffic and look ahead and around corners.

Changing Traffic Lights

· Ride over black circular traffic light sensors at intersections to change the lights.

Take the Lane / Share the Lane

· Depending on lane width and traffic speed use the remaining space or take the whole lane.

Positioning In the Traffic Flow

· Be aware of drivers' blind spots next to rear doors.

Use vehicles for cover at intersections (cross tram tracks at wide angles). Be aware of what's behind you.

Look for any gaps in the traffic pattern and immediate street environment such as spaces between parked cars, kerbs and buildings.

top tricks 'n hints for WET WEATHER URBANBICYCLING

Preparing Your Bike

- Make your own mudguards using drink bottles or plastic folders. Keep a plastic bag stuffed under your seat for waterproofing when parking in the rain. Clean your brakes & rims after rain.

What to Carry

- Get a good waterproof jacket, don't compromise on style!
- Spray your shoes & bag with waterproof sealant.
- Carry a spare pair o socks in a plastic bag.
- Keep a change of clothes at work/uni. Get a good bag. Use plastic bags inside for your books etc.

Riding In the Wet

- Watch out for slippery metal grates and covers, especially when turning.
- Beware! Puddles may be deeper than they seem.
- Remember you and others will have a longer braking distance.

top tricks 'n hints for RIDING AT NIGHT

Bikes can get you home long after the trams 'n trains have gone to sleep.

- Don't be afraid to go out in the early hours of the morning. There are few cars and the streets are empty!

Lights

- Use front beam lights to see and flashing lights to be seen. Lights on your helmet are more visible.
- Buy lights that take standard battery types. (AA or AAA)
- Carry spare batteries in your puncture kit.

Being Reflective

- Add reflective material, tape and stickers to your helmet, clothing, shoes, bike and bags.
- Reflective tape, fabric and stickers can be sourced from hardware stores, boating and cycle shops and road construction sites.

Riding Behaviour

- Watch out for drunk pedestrians who may lunge at you.
- Look for car headlights at side streets and from behind.
- Riding at night can be LIBERATING!

top tricks 'n hints for LOCKING YOUR BIKE

Which Lock To Use

- Cable locks are easily cut.
- Get a good d-lock, the more you spend, the better the lock.
- Use a cable as well for extra security.

Where 'N How to Lock

- Don't lock to poles that can be lifted out of the ground.
- Lock in visible areas with lots of light and pedestrian traffic.
- Check your lock before leaving.

What Does Your Bike Look Like?

- Remove your lights etc or secure with super glue or cable ties.
- Disguise your bike with stickers; wrap the frame with electrical tape or old inner tubes.
- Replace quick releases with bolts or secure with hose clamps.
- Get your bike engraved (free) by the Bicycle Police 9247 5517

If Your Bike Is Stolen!

- Report it to the police visit pawn shops with a photo/description of your bike. E-mail the urbanbicyclist project

top tricks 'n hints for DODGING DOORS

Scoring the Door Prize

- Parked cars can be more dangerous than moving ones.
- Car doors are the number one cause of bike accidents in the city.

It's Illegal to Open Doors into Traffic

To avoid doors look:

- through CAR windows for heads
- in mirrors of trucks and vans
- at cars that have just parked
- at cars' tail lights

Riding In the Door Zone

- If you can't see into cars, ride slower or move out of the door zone.
- Be aware of what's behind you if you have to swerve out.

Don't be afraid to take a lane if you're being forced into the door zone

If A Door Opens In Front Of You!

- Don't waste your time fiddling with a horn or bell, go for your brakes and scream!
- Move out but don't swing into traffic.

If You Get Hit

- If you get doored and injured or damage results, it is a traffic accident and details must be exchanged. Report uncooperative motorists to the police.

ACCIDENT?

You will go into shock

- Although it is difficult to prepare for this, understand you and others involved will not behave rationally after an accident.

Ensure the scene is safe before taking further action.

- You must give assistance to any injured person. Call for police and an ambulance if required. Dial 000 on any phone. Record the number Plate, Model and colour of all cars involved in the accident. Include a description of the drivers. Before people leave Collect names and phone numbers of as many witnesses as practically possible.

Exchange details

Names, addresses, vehicle registration and vehicle owner details should be exchanged with all involved.

Collect insurance details from all motorists involved.

Record All This on Paper Keep a Copy for Yourself

Thanks to Damon Rao for permitting these tips to be included in our newsletter.

For Sale

I have a Tour de France cycling package from Cousins Travel, that I bought at a charity auction, to sell as I can no longer use it. It is a seven day trip with seven nights' accommodation in Pau, guiding, bike service and road service to the Pyrenees week of this year's tour, including 3 days at the tour and a lot of riding in the Pyrenean passes that are used by the Tour. It is valued at \$4000, and I would like to sell it at the price I paid at the auction, which was \$1900, or less. If any one is prepared to pay more then I would donate the difference to charity.

Mark McKillop, Senior Associate - Commercial Disputes, Insolvency and Reconstruction Groups, Minter Ellison Lawyers, Tel: +61 3 8608 2695, Fax: +61 3 8608 1068, Mobile: 0402 891 370, e-mail: { [HYPERLINK](#) "mailto:mark.mckillop@minterellison.com" \o "mailto:mark.mckillop@minterellison.com" }

Boroondara News

Minutes of Boroondara BUG Meeting 7.30pm Wednesday 8th February 2006

Held at 2/255 Mont Albert Road, Surrey Hills

Present: Graeme Stone, Phil Crohn, Peter Campbell, Tim Connors, Julia Blunden, Dick Menting, David McMillan, Malcolm Faul, Marion Green, Allen Brittain

Apologies: Jason den Hollander, Graham Ellis

Correspondence:

1. Christmas card from Darebin BUG
2. Boroondara 'Community on Board' program for February
3. Information from BCC directed mainly at incorporated bodies making applications for grants

Bunnings Development: GS and David McMillan attended the BCC meeting on 6/2 at which plans for this were accepted despite a number of objections, including ours regarding the negative effect on bike lanes in Burwood Rd. The last chance of getting any improvement is if the issue goes to VCAT. Objectors should be informed if this happens. JB offered to write a letter of protest to the *Progress Leader* and it was agreed that a letter should also go to Bunnings.

Tooronga Village: BCC has been pushing for changes to the plans for this development but the State Government has not agreed to these. Dick Menting advised that the BUG's best course is to contact the BCC planner and ask for advice on our best means of protesting against negative impacts for cyclists. He suggested also contacting BV. GS agreed to follow up with BCC and VicRoads.

Integrated Transport Strategy: Dick Menting said that after a period of inaction of over 12 months this is soon to be reactivated. He was uncertain whether Jim Hondrakis is still responsible for the ITS.

Tram 109: Phil Crohn drew attention to the report with mock-ups in the latest *Boroondara Bulletin*. This shows bike lanes marked on both sides of the road between the tram/car lanes and the parked cars. This has supposedly been achieved by narrowing the footpaths. This version has now been accepted by BCC but the state government still has the final say. PC was sceptical as to how realistic the mock-up in the BB is as space is very tight. If anyone wishes to pursue this issue further they should do so by writing to the state government or VicRoads.

Gardiners Creek Missing Link: GS reported that there is currently an application for PBN funding with VicRoads for developing the route from Alamein Station to Warrigal Road via Markham Reserve. TC alerted the BUG to a new building development apparently beginning in the reserve. MF suggested an alternative route from Solway Bridge to connect with the upper section of the Gardiners Creek path. GS suggested that we wait for JD to return before pursuing this issue further. JD has been trying to find out what was being done with the government grant of \$30,000 to Stonnington Council, which was supposed to enable plans to be completed for filling the gap.

Surrey Hills Festival: Dick Menting alerted us to this festival which takes place on Saturday 22nd April. DM will be on the Banks table and PC on the Greens table for part of the day. It was agreed that our flyer should be updated and copies made to distribute from one or both of these tables.

Leonda: JB reported that Don Glasson has been pursuing this issue regularly and that his latest email on the subject held out some hope of action on this short missing link in the not too distant future. A change of lease at Leonda has been the most recent of many reasons for hold-ups to what should have been a very simple project.

Bike Parking Rails in Glenferrie: JB reported that she had recently followed up this issue with Adam Hall, BCC Team Leader, Landscape and Design. One rail has been installed outside Mountain Designs and according to Adam's email another will be installed in front of the National Bank shortly. Two rails planned for the front of Lawrenceia have been deleted at the trader's request! Another planned for the front of shop 700, opposite Coles is still under discussion. There was no mention of the sixth rail originally proposed. It was agreed that JB should go down to Glenferrie and take digital photographs of other suitable locations for parking rails. She should organise a meeting with Adam Hall to put the case for additional rails. Rosemary West could be asked to come to this meeting too as this has been a long time project of hers.

Hawthorn and Victoria Bridge Shared Paths: JB produced an email from Richard Smithers giving details of the proposal that the City of Yarra sent to VicRoads on 15/2/05. This includes: bike lanes across the bridge; a painted centre median strip to narrow lanes and slow traffic; shared footways either side; and green textured paint across the intersection of Bridge Rd and Yarra Blvd, including painted kerb extensions and a splitter island. BCC approved this design.

Bicycle Advisory Committee: The possibility of addressing BCC council members at a meeting was raised. JB agreed to investigate this. It was agreed that we should invite other BCC councillors to our regular BUG meetings and to our pre-meeting dinners at the Sarah Bistro. It was agreed to begin with the councillors who have indicated some interest or involvement in cycling and to aim to get one of these along to the next meeting. It was suggested that having figures from BV for the number of their members living in Boroondara and any other relevant statistics would be helpful and that JD would be asked to obtain these.

Eastern Rail Trail: Peter Campbell reported that the initial response from VicRoads to his proposal has been fairly negative. However Peter is meeting with BCC's Jim Hondrakis in hopes of obtaining his support for the project.

BUG Promotion: JB has been contacting people who have written to the *Progress Leader* recently in support of bike lanes. As a result of these contacts we have one new financial member and one new newsletter subscriber. It was agreed to continue with this means of promoting the BUG whenever the opportunity arises.

Public Transport Users Association Plans for Alamein Line: JB reported that the PTUA have a plan, not as yet well-developed, for locating a station closer to Toorak Rd so as to connect with the 75 tramline. She suggested that it would be worth the BUG's while to write to the PTUA indicating our interest in such a plan in so far as it could fit in with our goal of a bike path across Toorak Rd level with the rail line. At present this is the worst road crossing on the Anniversary Trail and no other solution seems practical. JB offered to draft a letter.

Thanks to Phil Crohn for hosting a very enjoyable back yard barbecue prior to this meeting.

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: { [HYPERLINK](#) "mailto:jblunden@bigpond.com" }; web site: { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://www.keypoint.com.au/~bbwinc" }

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

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

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

Manningham BUG: e-mail: { [HYPERLINK](#) "mailto:seball@netlink.com.au" }, { [HYPERLINK](#) "mailto:H.Edwards@bom.gov.au" }; web site: { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://www.vicnet.net.au/~manbug" }

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: { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mbush" }/

Whitehorse Cyclists: e-mail: { [HYPERLINK](#) "mailto:ejhopper@vicnet.net.au" }; web site: { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://www.whitehorsecyclists.org.au/" }

Banyule BUG: email: { [HYPERLINK](#) "mailto:banyuleBug@yahoo.com.au" }; web site: { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://home.vicnet.net.au/~banybug/" }; contacts: Richard phone: 9459 8648, or Les phone: 9459 2701

Darebin BUG:{ [HYPERLINK](#) "mailto:darebinbug@yahoo.com.au" }; web site: { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://www.darebinbug.org.au/" }

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

Melbourne Bicycle Touring Club: contact Touring Secretary, Dave Cash, phone: 9817 3269, or e-mail { [HYPERLINK](#) "mailto:rides@mbtc.org.au" } (Note that this e-mail address doesn't get checked every day - so don't expect an immediate response!) Web site: { [HYPERLINK](#) "http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mbtc" }

Boroondara BUG Contacts:

Membership Secretary & Treasurer:

Graeme Stone, 16 Jervis Street, Camberwell VIC 3124.
e-mail: { [HYPERLINK](#) "mailto:graeme_stone@optusnet.com.au" }

Media Contact & Webmaster:

Jason den Hollander, phone: 0407 11 88 91
email: { [HYPERLINK](#) "mailto:fdutch@gmail.com" }

Newsletter Editor & Minutes Secretary:

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

Meeting Chair:

Phil Crohn: { [HYPERLINK](#) "mailto:philcrohn@ozemail.com.au" }

Additional Contact:

David Leong: { [HYPERLINK](#) "mailto:leongd@anz.com" }

Boroondara Bicycle Users Group

Membership Application 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

Ride Report for the February Ride:

The ride description beforehand read – ‘a leisurely ride from Southbank to Port Melbourne, along the beach to Elwood and on the Frankston – approx. 57km’.

The reality was – a ride from Southgate with 13 riders starting, including newcomers Margaret, Toni and Catherine down to Port Melbourne, past the many wealthy tourists from the QE2 queuing for a tram in the drizzling rain, then alongside Beaconsfield Rd – our first hitch. The Triathlon being performed created a path and road closure from there to Elwood. What to do! Fortunately a couple of riders had local knowledge and led us along the bumpy bluestone lanes – the old ‘nightman’s’ route (as in sewage disposal) – which took us to St. Kilda where we followed the old ‘ladies of the night’ streets and eventually rejoined the bayside path at Elwood – by this time the rain had stopped. The welcome coffee at North Point – Brighton, along with the many dog walkers was most appreciated.

We then enjoyed the lycra trail - along Beach Rd. down to Mordialloc – after an enjoyable lunch stop at Ricketts Point. Nine of us by this time continued to Carrum with the intended final destination Frankston, however, thanks to mobile phones, we heard from Geraldine who had left earlier that the trains from Frankston were finishing at Moorabbin and then passengers could transfer to buses. – again what to do? Our wonderful intrepid leader Julia posed the alternatives but we really had no choice but to take the Carrum-Dandenong track to Dandenong Station, not Frankston as we had planned. We eventually trained back to Richmond from there. A total of approx. 56kms overall. Thankfully the weather was kind and we survived the changes of direction to the original planned ride. Thanks to Julia for her calm, informative leadership on a ride that needed more than one directional change. A great day was had by all.

Thanks to Bruce and Yvonne Dite for this report. The moral of the story is of course that I should have checked the Connex web site prior to leading so many people so far from home. Work on train lines is commonly done on weekends and is notified on the web site. I'm not sure where one checks for triathlons! Julia Blunden

March Ride: Sunday 19th March

THE RIDE: Lilydale Station to Woori Yallock and back along the Warburton Rail Trail – 44km return. There is a long, gentle climb to Mt Evelyn on both the outward and return trips, but that means nice downhills to follow. The trail is most attractive and generally well-shaded. The surface is unsealed so not suitable for road bikes or thin tyres. Those who want a shorter ride can turn back before Woori Yallock if preferred.

MEET AT: Lilydale Station, east side car park, at 10.15am for a 10.30am start. There is a train that reaches Lilydale at 10.11am. Catch it from Hawthorn at 9.21, Camberwell 9.27, Blackburn 9.43. Parking is available at the station for those who prefer to drive. BYO lunch or buy at Woori Yallock bakery.

ENQUIRIES: Elva – 9836 6392.

Weather: If the temperature is forecast to be 30 deg or over the ride will be cancelled.

CDGBR PROGRAM FOR 2006

RIDES: March 19th Elva; April 23rd Elva; May 21st Yvonne & Bruce; June 10th - 12th (Long Weekend) Geraldine & David; July 16th Graeme S; August 20th ?; September 17th Val & Joe; October 15th Lee & Alan; November 12th Geraldine & David,.

DINNERS: July 14th; November 17th

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: *{HYPERLINK*

"http://www.geocities.com/perften/Hct.html"} or e-mail: {HYPERLINK "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 7:30am to ensure departure at 7:30am sharp. Arrives in Sassafras around 9:00am and leaves Sassafras by 9:30am Arrives back in Hawthorn around 10:45am.

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 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.

Plans for Seniors Bike rides in 2006

We will ride 4 Wednesdays in the month .We will meet at 10 am at the place specified. If the weather forecast for the day, published the evening before, is 31°C or above 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 or roads 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 1st and 3rd Wednesday rides will be reasonably short, approximately 30km. The details of these rides will be decided on the morning with the group, at the listed starting point.

The 2nd and 4th Wednesday rides will be more challenging, approximately 50- 60km, and are detailed below.

All riders are encouraged to join Council on the Aging (COTA). We also recommend that riders consider joining Bicycle Victoria for the insurance and service they offer.

Abbreviations for the ride grades are # easy * medium ! hard ^ hills.

Date	Place to meet	Description	Grade
Mar 8 th	Yarra Boulevard, jct. of Main Yarra trail and Gardiner Creek trail MEL 59 B1 (near St. Kevin's boathouse) or ride from Flinders St. station.	Ride the Capital City Trail circuit, via the Games village if possible, with an extension down St. Georges Rd., ~50km.	#
Mar 15 th	No ride	The Commonwealth Games !	
Mar 22 nd	No ride	The Commonwealth Games !	
Mar 29 th	As above	We will ride the main Yarra trail, Plenty river trail, the Western Ring path and return via Merri Creek trail, ~60km.	
Apr 5 th	Collingwood Children's Farm carpark, St. Heliers St., MEL 44 G5 or ride from Victoria Park station.	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Apr 12 th	Smythesdale at Courthouse Hotel, Brooke St., 15km. past Ballarat on Glenelg Highway.	We will ride part of the Ballarat to Skipton rail trail, from Smythesdale to Pittong or further depending on the weather and track condition. Distance 52km +. Ring Janet to organise car pooling as no train is available currently.	*
Apr 19 th	Collingwood Children's Farm carpark, St. Heliers St., MEL 44 G5 or ride from Victoria Park station.	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Apr 26 th	Somerville (carpark behind the hotel), MEL 107 E12 or train to the Somerville station.	Tour through Hastings, the Bittern Coastal Wetlands to Stoney Point and Somers and return, approx 55km.	# if no wind!
May 3 rd	Jell's Park East, MEL 72 A6, car	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#

	park 5 or ride there from Glen Waverley station.		
May 10 th	As above	We will ride the Blind Creek and Upper Dandenong Creek circuit with an extension to Belgrave, ~ 55km.	* some ^
May 17 th	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
May 24 th	Flowerdale area, meet at Break O'Day cnr Whittlesea-Yea rd. & Break O'Day Rd., MEL 510 P9 or 610 P9.	Ride to Flowerdale, Strath Creek, Yea, and return to Break O'Day. This is an undulating road ride of ~70km. Bring lunch as we may try a short-cut to avoid most of the Goulburn Highway and Yea.	!
May 31 st	No ride		
June 7 th	Collingwood Children's Farm carpark, St. Heliers St., MEL 44 G5 or ride from Victoria Park station.	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
June 14 th	As above	Ride the Capitol City trail to Moonee Ponds trail and then cross on western Ring path to Merri Creek trail with an extension along the new Craigeburn bypass trail, approx 65km.	#
June 21 st	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Jun. 28 th	Carpark at the Lilydale Station or take the train there.	We will ride a circuit of part of the Warburton rail trail and then roads to Healesville returning to the Lilydale station via back roads, ~ 70km.	!
July 5 th	East Malvern RSL Bowls club, MEL 60 A12 or train to East Malvern or Darling Station.	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
July 12 th	As above	We will ride the Scotchmans Creek trail to Jell's Park and then a circuit of Oppy's trails to return via Waverley rail trail ~60km.	*
July 19 th	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
July 26 th	As above	We will ride the Gardiners Creek trail to Blackburn lake, the Koonung Creek trail including the new section and then the Main Yarra trail to return, approx 55km.	*

For further details later in the year, see the Cota website, { [HYPERLINK http://www.cotavic.org.au/events/cycle_group.htm](http://www.cotavic.org.au/events/cycle_group.htm) }

Darebin BUG

Social Rides

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.

The **DBUG Rides Planning Committee** is looking for people who are interested in arranging and leading a ride, or in gaining leadership experience by co-leading a ride. Ride dates, suggestions and leaders should be coordinated through the Rides Coordinator. Please contact Doug on 9499 7325 / 0409 956 913 with your ideas.

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 AH 9499 7325 { [HYPERLINK "mailto:dougmorf@alphalink.com.au"](mailto:dougmorf@alphalink.com.au) }

Download the { [HYPERLINK "http://www.darebinbug.org.au/docs/small_rides_calendar.doc"](http://www.darebinbug.org.au/docs/small_rides_calendar.doc) }, with details of these rides. (Word doc)

Please note all rides are free to anyone who would like to participate. After the third ride you take part in, we will invite you to join the BUG. 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. In the case of an emergency, ride leaders will call an ambulance if required. The ambulance will charge the injured person, not the BUG. This can be very expensive, so it is wise to consider taking out ambulance membership.

{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.darebinbug.org.au/rides.html>" \ "mon#mon" } - { HYPERLINK "<http://www.darebinbug.org.au/rides.html>" \ "tues_thurs#tues_thurs" } - { HYPERLINK "<http://www.darebinbug.org.au/rides.html>" \ "sun#sun" } - { HYPERLINK "<http://www.darebinbug.org.au/rides.html>" \ "weekend#weekend" } - { HYPERLINK "<http://www.darebinbug.org.au/rides.html>" \ "atb#atb" }
{ HYPERLINK "<http://www.darebinbug.org.au/rides.html>" \ "reports#reports" } - { HYPERLINK "<http://www.darebinbug.org.au/rides.html>" \ "photos#photos" }

Rides for Beginners

Monday Rides

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

"Time to Ride" Beginners Rides

Details TBA

Market Rides

Collingwood Children's Farm Market ride - Second Saturday of each month - 9:30am

Meeting Place: Jika Jika Community Centre

Ride Leader: Vivienne 9482.3147

Ride Distance: 12km

Ride Grading: Easy

Ride Route: Merri Creek path then Yarra River Path to Collingwood Children's Farm

Notes: Time to ride event

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 & Sunday Rides - Varying Distances & Locations

Sunday Morning Rides, For experienced riders.

Every Sunday, 2-3 hours riding, various distances, training for ATB.

Meet at **Jika Jika Community Centre**, corner of Plant and Union sts, Northcote, at 9am.

Contact Yannick on 0438 785 450

Saturday & Sunday Social Rides, Some for beginners, others for experienced cyclists.

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

{ HYPERLINK "http://www.darebinbug.org.au/sunday_rides.html" }

Saturday Jazz in Fitzroy Gardens Ride: Saturday 4th February - Grading: Easy/Medium, 22km

Meeting Place: Jika Jika Community Centre

Ride Leaders: Aaron Bailey; Susan Pennington 9646.5494

Start Time 3:00pm

Ride Route: Merri Creek path then Yarra River Path to Federation Square in the city

Notes: Warm clothes and food required for the Jazz. Free entry

Darebin Festival Ride: Sunday 26th February - Grading: Easy/Medium, 30km

Meeting Place: Jika Jika Community Centre

Ride Leaders: Aaron Bailey; Michael Hansford; Sean Walsh; Sue Pennington

Start Time 10:00am:

Ride Route: Jika Jika, up Darebin Creek along Western Ring Road then down Merri Creek. Finish at All Nations Park.
Notes: Darebin Festival event.

Weekend Rides

Benalla to Tatong Weekend Ride - Saturday 4th March to Sunday 5th March 2006

Ride Leaders: Jo 9499.5987; Roger 9381.4650

RATING: EASY PEASY; GREAT FOOD (of course); COMFY ACCOM AT TATONG HOTEL

A good one for non-cycling partners to join us via a carpool. Train to Benalla (\$51.20 return, plus bikes), early lunch and enjoy Benalla Gallery and Botanic Gardens, inc bronze statue of Weary Dunlop, then easy 30km ride to Tatong. Weather and energy levels permitting, there could be an additional 20km circuit to add distance and variety. Tatong Hotel is the only building in Tatong, is listed the Age Good food Guide, and has accommodation of couples, singles and a family room for 18 people. There is also a B&B nearby which could accommodate an overflow of up to 8 people. 30km return via same route on the Sunday.

NB: Deposit \$40 by end January.

Northern Victoria Easter W/E Ride - April Friday 14th to Monday 17th.

Accommodation: Rutherglen Heritage Hotel with day rides to local wineries, Millawa Cheese Factory, etc.

Costs: Train travel; Accommodation; personal spending.

Deposit: \$50 by early December to secure accommodation at Easter.

Ride leader: expressions of interest - Roger 9381.4650

Other weekend rides are being planned. Offers to assist with planning and leading are very welcome, please contact the Rides Coordinator, Doug on 9499 7325 / 0409 956 913

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

		GRADE	CONTACT	MEET AT...
March				
Sat 4th	The last of the PWC rides for '06 A slightly more ambitious ride in the easy category. From Westerfolds into the depths of Doncaster (most likely). Proposed route has had to be altered because of closure of Main Yarra Trail east of Westerfolds - Sorry, but we still will aim to get to a coffee shop!	Easy 15-20km	Harv 9890-8006	9:30 am Westerfolds at Porter St. bottom car park Mel 33 F3
Sat 18th	Finn's to Beasleys Follow the Yarra Trail to Beasleys for coffee, then return to Finns along the same path. However an alternative route with a few hilly bits will be used if the trail is still under maintenance.		Terry 9848 6027	Finn's Reserve 9.30am Mel 33 B4
Sat 18th	<i>Commonwealth Games road race. City, Botanic Gardens, St Kilda.</i>			
Mon 20th	BUG Monthly Meeting In the Stanley Room at The Manningham Club, 1 Thompson's Rd Bulleen		Ed 9850-7062	8pm Mel 32 D10
Sat 25th	DEF of trails - the next alphabet ride Diamond Ck - Eltham- Fairfield Gary takes us on another of his alphabet rides along the paths and byways of Melbourne!	Easy 35-40km	Gary 9439-5016	Diamond Creek station 9.00am Mel: 12 B6
April				
Sat 1st/ Sun	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.	Sat 55km Sun	Neville 9802-0187	Bookings essential

2nd April		30km		
Sat 1st	Zoo to Southbank. (For those who can't go to Sandy Point) We ride underneath Citylink, explore Docklands, coffee at Southbank.	Easy lingering, 20kms	Gary 9439-5016	9.00 am Zoo car park next to the train station Mel 29 E11
Sat 8th	Bay St to Sirens at Williamstown; (Surf, sculptures, seagulls, Swans and Sirens) About 25kms and very flat and is a great ride for those people who don't like hills and is mostly on bike paths. The Punt costs \$5 return trip or \$4 one way An alternative return is ferry from Gem Pier to St Kilda and then ride back to Bay Street from there. Cost another \$6.50 + \$2 per bike. Includes an optional lunch if people are interested. Easter Bunny ears optional Westgate Punt Phone 0419 999 458 http://www.williamstownferries.com.au	Easy 20km	Ann T 94597112 / 0404876156	9:30 am Cnr Bay St + Beach St - Beaconsfield Pde, Port Melb. Mel 57 B4
Sun 9th	Warrandyte Festival Mountain Bike Fun Ride. Ride through Warrandyte State Park by the Yarra River and Historical Gold Mining areas. Take the challenge with your friends and family. This ride is for both family groups and experienced mountain bikers. Riders will be grouped by experience level. Each group will be led by experienced riders with local knowledge. Marshals will be directing riders along the route. All riders must register prior to the ride see www.vicnet.net.au/~warrfest/events/bike.htm	Easy 10&16 km	Stewart 9844 1156	Warrandyte Netball Courts. 7:30am for 8:00am sharp start

Interested?

{ [HYPERLINK "mailto:seball@netlink.com.au"](mailto:seball@netlink.com.au) }

Whitehorse Cyclists Inc

Rides Program

Last updated February 25 2006

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. .

Note: Tuesday rides are designed to enable new, inexperienced or recovering riders build up their abilities.

More cycling opportunities in our area: Ron of Rotary Forest Hill leads an easy ride every Sunday at 8am: Contact Ron on 0413 042 043

Date	Event	Distance	Grade	Contact
Thur 2 Mar	Ringwood Croydon	50	Easy/Med	Ken 9801 7157
Sat 4 Mar	Seniors Week Ride Drouin - Pakenham	40	Med	Darby 9878 3589
Tues 7 Mar	1st Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	Len 9898 2660
Thur 9 Mar	Tour the hills	40	Med	Ken 9801 7157

Sat 11 Mar	Fish'nChip ride to Brighton	40-55	Easy	Elsa 9849 0131
Wkend 11-13 Mar	Cycle touring East Gippsland	32 per day	Med	Darby 9878 3589
Tues 14 Mar	2nd Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	David Y 9884 8037
Tuesday 14 March 7.45 pm : Club Night: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Mike Taylor 9859 3647				
Thur 16 Mar	Round the paths of Knox	65	Med	Lindsay 9801 2809
Sun 19 Mar	Commonwealth Games ride to see the marathon	45	Easy	Bruce 9848 4804
Tues 21 Mar	Commonwealth Games ride to see the marathon	45	Med	Elsa 9849 0131
Thur 23 Mar	Along Blind Creek	50	Med	Robin 9830 1449
Sun 26 Mar	Commonwealth Games ride to see the time trials	45	Easy	Bruce 9848 4804
Tues 28 Mar	4th Tuesday easy ride	35	Easy	Ken 9801 7157
28-31 March	Hotham Heights to Nicholson	95	Med/Hard	Keith 9857 5805
Thur 30 Mar	Warburton Trail	80	Med/Hard	Doug 9727 3811
Sun 2 April	Find the Aida Tree	45	Med/Hard	Mike McN 9830 4195 and Keith 9857 5805
Tues 4 April	1st Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	Ken 9801 7157
Thur 6 April	Hoppers Crossing to Richmond and Box Hill	860	Med	Ken 9801 7157
Sun 9 April	RAAF Air Show at Point Cook	28	Easy	Darby 9878 3589
Tues 11 April	2nd Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	David M 9885 7673
Tuesday 11 April 7.45 pm : Club Night: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Mike Taylor 9859 3647				
Thur 13 April	Visit the Black Snake Range	75	Med/Hard	Max A 9862 1223
Easter 14-17 April	tba?			
Tues 18 April	3rd Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	Ken 9801 7157
Thur 20 April	You Yongs	60	Med	Mike T 9859 3647
Sun 23 April	MAD Ride	Run by MBTC		Contact MBTC
Sun 23 April	Great Divide Ride	Run by Great Cycling Events		Contact Daniel, Event Director 8508 9845
Tues 25 April	ANZAC Day ride	25	Fast, early, easy	Jacques 9497 2306
Thur 27 April	Box Hill Brighton	55	Med	Alan

	Richmond			9898 0415
Sun 30 April	Port Melbourne	47	Easy	Mike T 9859 3647
Tues 2 May	1st Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Thurs 4 May	Thursday ride	50	Med	tba
Wkend 6-7 May	tba			
Tues 9 May	2nd Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Tuesday 9 May 7.45 pm : Club Night: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Mike Taylor 9859 3647				
Thurs 11 May	Thursday ride	50	Med	tba
Sun 14 May	tba			Mike McK
Tues 16 May	3rd Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Thurs 18 May	Australia's Biggest Morning Tea: Brighton	50	Med	Marion 9844 2971
Wkend 20-21 May	tba			
Tues 23 May	4th Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Thurs 25 May	Thursday ride	50	Med	tba
Wkend 27-28 May	tba			
Tues 30 May	5th Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Thurs 1 June	Thursday ride	50	Med	tba
Sun 4 June	Williamstown			Mike T 9859 3647
Tues June 6	1st Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Thurs 8 June	Thursday ride	50	Med	tba
Queens Birthday June 10-12	tba			
Tues June 13	2nd Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Tuesday 13 June 7.45 pm : Club Night: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Mike Taylor 9859 3647				

Banyule Bicycle User Group—Rides Program

Rides start **9am** from Heidelberg Park (Melway ref 32 B4) except where indicated. A reasonable level of riding fitness is assumed, but novice riders will be looked after on shorter versions of scheduled rides. Members BYO morning tea. We welcome visiting riders.

March 2006

Sun 5 Riders' Choice (Banyule Festival finale)

Tue 7 Royal Park 40 km. Out through Wilson's Reserve, Capital City Trail. Return by Upfield railtrail to North Coburg, then Merri Creek Trail and streets to West Heidelberg.

Wed 8 General Meeting. 8 pm Watsonia Library. All welcome.

Sun 12 Wangaratta Weekend.

Tue 14 Hampton 70 km. Out by city, port and Bay Trail. Break at Brighton or Hampton beach. Return by streets and Anniversary Trail (H1). Train return convenient from Hampton or Brighton Beach.

Sun 19 Anniversary & Yarra Trails. 45 km. Ann. Trail (H2 & H1) to Gardiner's Ck. Break at Hedgeley Dene Gardens. Home by Yarra Trail (H1 & H2).

Tue 21 Riders' Choice

Sun 26 Yarra Ride 45–50 km. To and from break at or near Botanic gardens, with option to view Games cycling road race.

Tue 28 Craigieburn 73 km. (Distance can be reduced 18 km by taking trains to Epping via Clifton Hill (Zone 1,2 ticket from H'berg—ring Les if taking this option). All meet **Epping station 10.30**. Morn. tea Epping Reserve, then Hume Trail to Craigieburn (hard 8–10 km if N. wind). Lunch in Roxburgh Park, then home by Broadmeadows Valley Trail (long downhill), Moonee Ponds Creek Trail, streets to Merrie Ck Trail.

For further information contact Richard (9459 8648) or Les (9459 2701)

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

Rides Program

Date	Ride	Rating	Leader
	2006 March		
<i>Thurs 2 March</i>	<i>Bicycle maintenance games</i>		<i>Fred</i>
Sat 4 March	Lysterfield Evening MTB Ride. Check out the CWG course before the big event. Lights & MTB essential. Car or train.	15-30km med-hard	Tony
Sun 5 March	Bayside with The Bobs: join Baby-Bob on his 1st ride. City - Mordialloc on bike paths; beaches, ice-creams & family fun.	35km easy & other options	Anna
Sun 5 March	Yea loop including Flowerdale Pub for lunch - serious fun	85 km hard	Judy
<i>Thurs 9</i>	<i>Trip planning</i>		<i>Gael</i>
Sat 11 - Sat 18	Retiree's Ramble of Mornington Peninsula & Sth Gippsland	400km medium	Roger
Sat 11	Port Melbourne to Frankston for an early dash	90km med-hard	Rob
Sun 12	Docklands to CERES - bike path delight!	25km easy	Byron
Sun 12	MAD Ride 110km route - challenging but enjoyable		Dave
W/E 11 - 13 March	Base camping at Nagambie, rides & routes to suit all	50-200km easy to hard	Jon
<i>Thurs 16</i>	<i>Warren Cay from Bike Now re matters bicycle</i>		<i>Elizabeth</i>
Sat 18	Moonlighting in the Strzeleckis - Classic day trip with much to offer including hills, scenic views & quiet back roads	75km Med-Hard	Kerry
Sun 19	Woodend-East Trentham-Wombat SF. Celebrate St. Pat's Day at the 'pub in the middle of nowhere'	50km medium	Tony
Sun 19	Books to Boathouse - Eltham to Fairfield by bikepath	25km easy	Alan
W/E 18 & 19	Lilydale via Warburton Trail to Yarra Junction to Noojee	130km medium	Peter
Tues 21-Weds 22	Midweek escape! Lilydale loop via Healesville	80km medium	Heather
<i>Thurs 23</i>	<i>Avoiding heatstroke hyperthermia with Heather</i>		<i>Phil</i>
Sun 26	Dandenongs mystery ride - challenging	65km med-hard	Peter
W/E 25 & 26	Blackwood CP weekend; base camping; MTB & touring rides		Gail
<i>Thurs 30</i>	<i>Cycle Touring in Laos</i>		<i>Gail</i>
	2006 April		

Sat 1st April	Warburton loop via O'Shannessy aqueduct	50km medium	Leon
Sun 2nd April	Fed Square, Gardiners Creek, Fairfield & Outer Circle	55km easy	Joe
Sun 2nd April	Beasleys Nursery from Fairfield Station	70km med-hard	Peter
<i>Thursday 6 April</i>	<i>MAD Ride mailout - all hands on deck!</i>	<i>rewarding</i>	<i>Geoff</i>

For information on the above rides, please contact the Touring Secretary, Gael Reid, on (03) 9495 0538, or at { HYPERLINK "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.

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.

Rides Program

DATE	RIDE	Bike	GRADE	CONTACT
Saturday, 4 March	Ride Leaders Picnic - Venue TBA			
Sunday, 5 March	Mordialloc to Ricketts point	Any	Easy	Leanne & Liz
Sunday, 12 March	Available - please note this is a long weekend, please email Belinda @ { HYPERLINK "mailto:yhacycling@yahoo.com" } if you would like to lead a ride this day			
Sunday, 19 March	Kinglake Canter	Mountain bike	Easy / Medium	Mark & Nevi
W/E Saturday, 25 March and Sunday, 26 March	Weekend ride Kayaking - riding weekend with YHA canoeing - Eildon - Beginner 3 ride options, 20kms, 35kms and 50 kms	Any	Easy / Medium	Daniel & Joe
Friday, 31 March	Elsternwick Sorrento - Night ride leaving 6:00 pm - stay at YHA overnight and return Saturday	Road / hybrid	Hard	Mark & Nevi
Sunday, 2 April	Fairfield - Broadmeadows - Craigieburn return 2 ride options, 60km's and 100kms	Any	Easy & Medium	Ann Bull & Joe
Tuesday, 4 April	Ride Planning Night - Elsternwick Hotel			
Sunday, 9 April	East Malvern and Blackburn Loop	Mountain / hybrid	Easy	Jim
W/E Saturday, 8th April and Sunday, 9th April	Castlemaine - Cider and Wine trip	Touring hybrid Mountain	Medium	Genia
Easter weekend 14. 15. 16 & 17	Available - please email Belinda @ { HYPERLINK "mailto:vhacvcling@vahoo.com" } if you would like to lead			

April	a ride this day			
Sunday, 23 April	Available - please email Belinda @ { HYPERLINK "mailto:yhacycling@yahoo.com" } if you would like to lead a ride this day MAD Ride also on this day Details to come from Jon Miller. This is not a YHA ride	Any	60 or 110km road. Or 65 km MTB options	Jon
W/E Saturday, 29 April & Sunday, 30 April	Wangaratta - Bright Wangaratta 3 ride options 110/180/260km with Friday option to Beechworth	Any	Easy /Medium /hard	Joe

Last updated on 29th January, 2006.

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.

YHA contacts: Claire, phone: 9726 5142 or Jane, phone: 9525 6462; e-mail: { ***HYPERLINK*** "***mailto:yhacycling@yahoo.com.au***" }; website: { ***HYPERLINK*** "***http://www.vicnet.net.au/~yhacycle***" }

How to join our mailing list

Send a blank e-mail to {HYPERLINK "mailto:YHA_Cycling-subscribe@yahoogroups.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.