

BOROONDARA

Bicycle Users Group

Newsletter May 2005

Boroondara BUG meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, except January. Next meeting: 7.30pm Wednesday 11 May, at the Swinburne Hawthorn Campus in room TD244. The TD building is between Park and Wakefield Streets.

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

We also have two Yahoo Groups:

Send a blank e-mail to BoroondaraBug-subscribe@yahoogroups.com 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 Boroondara BUG. All rides publicised in this newsletter are embarked upon at your own risk.

Features

Cycling South Australia's Fleurieu Peninsula

Having toured extensively in Victoria over many years, and having tackled Tasmania last year, South Australia seemed the obvious next cycle touring destination. But where to go exactly? A quick look at our road atlas left me without inspiration. Then I remembered Lonely Planet's *Cycling Australia* that I had bought some years ago. The choice between the two tours listed was easy. The Fleurieu Peninsula sounded both easier and less touristy than the Barossa Valley.

The party that finally gathered in the Adelaide Caravan Park a few weeks ago numbered ten – eight riders and two support drivers. Most had driven and some were to leave their cars in the caravan during the tour. One person had flown in. Our riding capabilities were quite disparate but after a couple of days we would settle into a routine that worked fairly well for everyone.

Our first day's riding was a day tour of Adelaide, planned with the aid of Transport SA's brilliant free set of eight *Bike Direct* cycling maps. With a forecast maximum of 37 we opted for a rather shorter ride than we might otherwise have done, but one modelled on that rather vaguely described in the Lonely Planet guide. From our caravan park on the city's north-eastern fringe we headed round the top of the city and southwest on the excellent Westside Bike Path, including a very new section not shown on the map. After a refreshing swim at Glenelg we headed north, mostly off-road to the Torrens River, then followed the attractive riverside path almost right back to our caravan park to finish off with another swim in the caravan park's pleasant pool.

The next day our destination was Strathalbyn. With the help of a knowledgeable bike shop proprietor and the *Bike Direct* maps some group members had identified a safer, easier route south-west out of the city than the Lonely Planet one. This used a newish off-road path alongside Mt Barker Road. Even so three slower members of the party opted for a lift up to Crafers to dodge the fairly serious climb involved. From Crafers to Strathalbyn we all followed the Lonely Planet route as we did for the bulk of the tour, that is the legs from Strathalbyn to Victor Harbour, then on to Normanville, and finally McLaren Vale. This consisted of a mixture of main and back roads interspersed with the occasional stretch of off-road path and was designed to include as many points of interest as possible.

Our one bike problem, a split and bulging tyre, occurred at Normanville and was easily resolved. Shortly after heading out of town we passed *Yankalilla Cycles and Mowers*, just as the guide advised us we would. The proprietor kindly opened early and supplied a suitable replacement.

We stayed two nights at McLaren Vale to allow time to explore the district's many wineries and other attractions. Olive growing and production of olive oil is another major industry in the area. Two of us rode a well-signed tourist route that was almost identical to the circuit suggested in the Lonely Planet guide. Others did their own thing, driving around the wineries in one of the support vehicles, walking around the town, lunching in style, having massages or just resting. This was the only day when the weather tended towards the bleak.

For our return journey to Adelaide scrutiny of the *Bike Direct* maps once again suggested a route that looked preferable to the Lonely Planet one. We were able to ride almost the entire 50km from McLaren Vale to Adelaide on off-road paths, including a long stretch alongside the new Southern Expressway. While not as flat as we had fondly hoped, the paths were noteworthy for their high quality, generally excellent signage, and an almost total absence of chicanes and bollards. One of our group commented that she had never ridden on a bike path with a shoulder before!

A detour to the gracious old Hardys winery at Reynella proved well worth the short extra distance on roads. When we expressed our disappointment at the lack of a café we were invited to use the staff canteen which turned out to offer an excellent range of food, hardly surprising as the winery employs hundreds of staff. Luckily we got there before the official lunch break!

I can highly recommend both Adelaide and the Fleurieu Peninsula as cycling destinations. In addition to the varied and attractive scenery, there are an amazing number of beautifully preserved old stone buildings, including several pubs where we enjoyed excellent food and wine. Autumn and Spring are probably the best times to go. And if you do go make sure that you get hold of the wonderful *Bike Direct* maps. These can be ordered or viewed online at:

http://www.transport.sa.gov.au/personal_transport/bike_direct/maps.asp

Julia Blunden

General News

Wheels of Justice Protests

In SA Eugene McGee, lawyer and former police officer, under the possible influence of alcohol (this is not confirmed because the police failed to breath-test him within 2 hours of the incident, although McGee admits to having consumed about 5 glasses of red wine) hit a cyclist with his 4WD and did not stop. The cyclist Ian Humphrey, husband and father of two, was left on the side of the road to die. McGee was fined \$3100 and is having his licence suspended. Is that justice?

Bring water bottles for self and friends to leave your messages for "Justice". Bring friends, wear armbands (Red, Blue, Black), tell your bike shop, tell your paper, tell your neighbours to be there.

Wheels of Justice - Melbourne

Show support for Adelaide's Wheels of Justice in Melbourne.

Saturday 7th May, 9.30am start at Fed Square, cycle up to Parliament. Leave water bottles with messages for justice written on them upon the steps of Parliament, Spring Street.

Wheels of Justice - Adelaide

Saturday the 7th May 9:30am, Victoria Square - City.

Wheels of Justice - Sydney

Saturday 7th May 2005, Starting 9:30am, Sydney Hyde Park Fountain.

Folks on foot also most welcome. Come and show your support for Ian Humphreys family and friends, and protest against this appalling travesty of justice.

For more information see: <http://bicyclejustice.blogspot.com/>

Item passed on by Yarra Bicycle Users Group

The Bike Shed at CERES

The bike shed offers advice, space and tools to maintain your own bike. It is run by volunteers. Bring your bike along for assistance with repairs and pay only for any replacement parts needed. And for a small membership fee you can join the BrunsBUG (Bicycle Users Group) - \$10.00/\$5.00 concession, or \$13.00 family.

The Bike Shed is open 11:00 am - 5:00 pm Fridays and Saturdays at CERES Environment Park, 8 Lee St, Brunswick. Phone: 9387 2609

It's Cheaper by Train

Did you know that with the new Sunday Saver Metcard you, and your bike, can travel all day on Sundays across Zones 1,2 and 3 for only \$2.50? Why not take the opportunity to travel out to Belgrave, Lilydale, Pakenham or Frankston for a ride?

If you use a Sunday Saver on Sunday 15 May you will be eligible to enter the draw to win two tickets to the Essendon Chairman's Function at the Telstra Dome for Round 10 AFL match between Essendon and the Western Bulldogs, Sunday 29 May. Total prize value is \$670.00. For further details see the Metlink web site at: http://www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au/metcard/news/news_detail.php?id=1534

Boroondara News

Main Yarra Trail Chandler Highway Steps Bypass Update

Notes on a meeting between: Stuart Hughes – Ranger, Yarra Bend Park, Mary McParland – Bicycle Victoria, Michael Yule - Boroondara Council and Jason Den Hollander – Boroondara BUG at the Chandler steps to the Boulevard.

We all met as arranged at the top of the 70 steps (Melway 45 A1) where BBUG had campaigned recently on Bicycle Victoria's Bike Paths Discovery Day to highlight the need for an alternative route for the Main Yarra Trail from this point to the pipe bridge.

Stuart gave some history to the current scenario, that of the 'dreaded' goat-track. A couple of years ago Parks Victoria had been limiting access to the myriad informal paths formed in the area of bush bounded by the Boulevard, the river, Chandler Highway and the Pipe Bridge, with many fences being constructed limiting off road access from the Boulevard down to the path under the bridge. Despite these measures an informal 'home grown' path was built by 'people unknown' in a very rudimentary manner using concrete blocks and basic digging.

Two days later Parks Victoria received a phone call from a lawyer whose client had suffered serious injuries 'on your new bike path'. This was the first Parks Victoria had heard of its existence. Rather than block it off, they realised the need was there, so fixed the path and formalised it by smoothing it out, surface-gravelling it and fencing it. Whilst it was not a great solution it was a step in the right direction!

Having received our flyer on the desired alternative route closer to river level, Stuart talked whilst we walked the area and we looked at the pros and cons of such a solution. Basically the formalisation of a riverside path would not be supported by Parks Victoria due to soil erosion concerns, fragility of the fauna in the area and the desire to keep it as a walking path. Mary and I agreed that the extent of engineering and loss of amenity to other users would be too great a cost.

The alternative path proposed now is basically a better version starting at the base of the goat-track, using the same 20m (heading west) but going up to the Boulevard over a longer distance (and therefore more rideable gradient) and meeting the Boulevard approximately 100m west of the current goat-track/boulevard entrance. The impact on fauna would be minimal as the intended path goes through open grassed area without any existing trees needing to be affected.

Once at the Boulevard one would ride about another 150m further west to the entrance of some formal paths off to the right. The lower option basically follows an almost straight line down to the base of the Pipe Bridge, which averages out the gradient very well and avoids the extreme descent/climb of the current Pipe Bridge approach. This section of path has long been dangerous due to its winding, cornered path and the persistent debris washed/blown onto it during storms. The conflict between pedestrians and cyclists is also exacerbated by this path design. The approach to the bridge could follow the existing route of the pipes as they head east from the bridge, thus going south of the protected fauna area and ensuring good sightlines for all present.

Some areas of this path may need special treatment to avoid highside washoff and Stuart is hoping to get funding for the design process underway as soon as possible. Yarra Bend Park is managed by a trust, which is self-funded from monies from facilities hire (golf courses, etc) with little assistance from Government. I suggested that Stuart could get in contact with VicRoads to see if they could help with funding for this important project as it would solve many VicRoads related issues too.

I think this has been a very valuable exercise for BBUG as it has given us a tangible result from a very good campaign run at the steps in March. Without this effort this meeting and agreement on a way forward most likely would not have been achieved. Nor would those many signatures have been collected to put further pressure on government to hopefully gain better funding for cyclists needs in Boroondara and beyond.

I have revised the BBUG Chandler Path Information sheet and it will be up on the website shortly.

Jason den Hollander

Opportunity for Cyclist Input to Council Plan

BBUG has received a working draft of the Boroondara Council Plan 2005-2009. It may require some input from cyclists given that 'Roads for Communities' is one of 4 key directions and is defined as:

'Traffic and Parking are recognised as an important focus for the City. Council's emphasis includes advocating for more and better public transport and reduced congestion on our roads.....hence...speed limits....parking....activity centres.

(Are bikes part of the solution as recorded, we expect, in the yet-to-be-released Integrated Transport Strategy? Sorry, at first it appears not. But wait! Under Strategic Objective 3 'Maintaining our City' we find with some pleasure a commitment for 2005-

06 to '[adopt an integrated transport strategy](#)'. Great! And there's more! In 2005-06 the City Works Directorate will undertake to '[Develop a local roads bike network](#)'

One might think that it should be part of an overall [bike strategy](#) that takes account of how all the pieces fit together. One might also wonder if this initiative is a flow-on from the recent completion of some good Principle Bicycle Network routes or has it been derived from Bicycle Victoria's 2000 '4 Networks Challenge'? (To refresh – N1: Cycling on main roads, N2: Cycling on local roads, N3: Cycling on shared paths, N4: Cycling on Rail Trails). Anyway it is certainly a good objective and no doubt local cyclists will be consulted perhaps through a Bicycle Advisory Committee! DOI's Travel Smart mapping should provide a good start too.

Submissions are required by Monday 16th May, hence to be discussed at May BBUG meeting.

Graeme Stone

Harrison Crescent Ramp Completed

Following a suggestion from the Boroondara BUG, and after some follow up, a ramp has been constructed allowing easier access to Harrison Crescent from the lane which links it to Myrtle Street. Since news of Rosemary West's route to bypass the squeeze point of the cutting in Barker Road got out, use of this lane by cyclists has increased. They will find the route a bit easier now this ramp is in place. The next step is to have the footpaths on Victoria Bridge, especially that on the south side, signed as shared footways.

Closure of Collins (Gipps Street) Footbridge, Abbotsford

The Collins footbridge at the eastern end of Gipps Street, Abbotsford (Melway Map 2D A11) will be closed to all traffic from Monday 2nd May to Sunday 31st July 2005 for maintenance and repair works.

The works will include:

- deck replacement
- replacement of fence and installation of hand rails
- maintenance works on the steel structure and concrete pylons
- civil works on approaches to the bridge.

Possible alternative routes are: Walmer St footbridge - to the south and Johnston St Bridge - to the north of Collins footbridge.

The bike path under the bridge along the Yarra River and steps from this path to Gipps St will be operational at all times.

The works will be carried out by Council contractors Midwest Civil, who recently successfully completed works on Kanes Bridge in Studley Park.

For more information contact Council's Project Engineer, Leonid Volkov on 9205 5750 or 0412 205 575

Events

CARE Cycling Challenges

CARE Expeditions offers two sensational cycling journeys that showcase some of the most intriguing locations in vibrant Southeast Asia from handle-bar height. Each trip includes a visit to a CARE Australia field site where you'll see CARE's life-changing work firsthand.

Choose from the [Mekong Challenge](#), taking you to Laos, or the [Highlands to Delta Challenge](#), travelling through Vietnam. Both trips not only provide you with an amazing personal adventure, the money raised also supports CARE Australia's work in some of the poorest countries in the world. They're designed to be challenging, but are suited to participants of all ages and abilities.

Current Challenges

Cycle Laos on the Mekong Challenge, 19 November –30 November 2005

The Mekong Challenge features a cycling journey through one of Asia's least-developed regions, northern Thailand and Laos.

Cycle Vietnam on the Highlands to Delta Challenge, 20 April – 2 May 2005 or 14–26 April 2006

This exhilarating cycling epic through enchanting Vietnam provides a rare cross section of cultures and sites as we travel the length of the country.

Boroondara BUG News

Minutes of Boroondara BUG Meeting 6.30pm Wednesday 13th April 2005

As several regulars were unavailable an informal meeting was held over dinner.

Present were: Jason den Hollander, Phil Crohn, Peter Campbell and Marion Green

We discussed Peter Campbell's vision for the 'Eastern Rail Trail' to allow a safe cycling route from Box Hill to the CBD. Apparently there was a Consultant's report done many years ago that Graeme Stone has a copy of, which outlined temporary/cheap/short-term and longer-term versions of this route and its facilities.

Some of the specific issues/elements of this were discussed and Peter suggested running off a copy so he and JdH could discuss further.

I ran through the results of our Chandler Steps campaign and the resultant meeting with Stuart Hughes (Parks Victoria Ranger for Yarra Bend), Michael Yule (Boroondara Council), and Mary McParland (BV).

I have written a more detailed report regarding this and have drafted a revised map/flyer for this which David Leong and I are currently reviewing and which will be posted on the Web site and I'll email everyone the link when it's up.

Riding a 'fixed' bike popped up in there somewhere. Phil having recently become enlightened. (sessions of intense brainwashing, err... 'conversion', shall now follow :-)

I handed out some draft BBUG business cards to Phil and Marion, which I have been handing to the occasional fellow rider on my commutes.

We discussed Michael Yule's efforts to design/get-designed a Gardiners Creek Trail underpass at Warrigal Road, into Markham Reserve, which I am following up with Michael and trying to find out more about.

The Chandler Highway EBL's are FINISHED! (no, they aren't-JdH) Haven't ridden them yet but reports from friends say they are great. Tooronga Road lanes are also installed. Last I saw they didn't have the finishing touches of bike logos on them but that may have been done since late last week.

Phil picked up some correspondence from someone at Swinburne (can you pass on details of this, Phil?) that a seminar/open day type thing was being held over a series of days(?) and if we were interested could be provided with space/table to display 12-2pm on a particular day to show/share our presence.

Phil and I discussed contacting BBUG new member Tim Connors who is a Ph D student at Swinburne to possibly help out with this (along with a suitable 'experienced' BBUG'er). I can print off appropriate flyers/literature if necessary/wanted for this.

In summary, a good m-eating. No wonder MBTC base everything around food! :-))

Jason den Hollander

Contacts for Rides

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

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

Boroondara Bushwalkers: contact Julia Blunden, phone: 9853 5095, e-mail: jblunden@bigpond.com; 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: <http://www.whitehorsecyclists.org.au/>

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

YHA: contacts: Claire, phone: 9726 5142 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:

Convenor:

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

Webmaster:

Jason den Hollander
email: communic8@iprimus.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 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

April Ride

A most enjoyable day was had by 16 riders as we meandered from Allnut Park in McKinnon along the Elster canal trail, taking in Landcox Park (Karen had hinted we may see a wedding or two there - but instead we settled for a variety of ducks in the lake) then continued through lovely Brighton, to the beach road where the Brighton Trail Link is nearing completion. Of interest along the Elwood canal on the ride home was the reading of the "memory tiles" - giving us an idea of life there in earlier times. Thanks to Karen for a most enjoyable and interesting ride, completed by wonderful weather.

Bruce Dight

May Ride, Sunday, 15th May 2005

THE RIDE:

Start and finish at Alphington Station. Parking on the **north** side of the station. This ride is about 35-40km but can be shortened by bailing out at train stations on the way home. A moderate to easy ride that is mostly flat. The ride has been adapted from the Rushall to Alphington Stations Darebin Creek and Epping train line ride in Julia Blunden's *Bike Rides Around Melbourne*.

MAPS: Melways 31, 19, 18, 30 & 31.

WHERE: Meet at Alphington Station at 9.45am for 10am departure along Darebin Creek bike track to Bundoora Park for lunch. Return on roads and tracks to Reservoir station. Along High St Reservoir to Robinson's Park (Garden Street) to join the bike track alongside Epping Rail Line. Join Spring St at Frankston Street (Spring Street becomes St Georges Road). Ride in the bike lane in St Georges Road centre strip all the way to Merri Parade, Northcote. Join the Capital City trail to Rushall Station and continue to Alphington Station along Westgarth and Wingrove Streets - visting Fido along the way at Fairfield.

Bail out opportunities at Reservoir and other stations on the Epping Line or Clifton Hill or Westgarth on the Hurstbridge Line.

REFRESHMENTS:

Morning tea at Northland Shopping Centre and lunch at Bundoora Park (Mount Cooper Settlement Visitors Centre Cafe) where a good choice of food is available and there are interesting displays.

ENQUIRIES: Contact Bruce on 9852 1921 or 0401 145009.

CDGBR Program for 2005

Ride and other Dates for 2005: Sundays: 12/6, 8/7 (Dinner), 17/7, 21/8. 11/9, 16/10, 20/11, 25/11 (Dinner)

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

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

Plans for Seniors Bike rides in 2005

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 |
|--|---|--|--------------|
| May 11 th | Melbourne Zoo carpark, MEL 29 E11 or train to Royal Park | Ride the Moonee Ponds Trail to Woodlands Park and return, approx 50km. | ! with wind. |
| May 18 th | As above | We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day. | # |
| May 25 th & 26 th | Carpark at the Lilydale Station or take the train there. | Ride the Warbuton Rail Trail over 2 days, staying at the Warbuton Hotel overnight. Distance each day is 40km. And the cost for accom.. is approx. \$50 per head. Please register with Janet for this trip. | * |
| June 1 st | 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 8 th | As above | Ride the Merri Creek trail to Reservoir and then cross on small local roads to Darebin Creek trail, approx 45km. | # |
| June 15 th | As above | We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day. | # |
| Jun. 22 nd | Flowerdale, meet cnr Whittlesea-Yea rd. & Broadford- Flowerdale Rd., MEL 510 P9 or 610 P9. | Ride to Strath Creek, Yea, Break O'Day and return to Flowerdale. This is an undulating road ride of approximately 70km. | ! |
| June 29 th | No ride this week. | | |
| July 6 th | Glen Iris Bowls club, MEL 59 G6 or train to Gardiner Station. | We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day. | # |
| July 13 th | As above | Ride the Merri Creek Trail/ Western Ring trail/ Plenty River Trail and return, approx 60km. | ! some ^ |
| July 20 th | As above | We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day. | # |
| July 27 th | As above | We will ride the Gardiners Creek trail and the Koonung Creek trail via Blackburn lake and then the Main Yarra trail, approx 50km. | * |

For further details later in the year, see the Cota website, www.cotavic.org.au/events/cycle

Contact Janet Bennett, e-mail: janpeter@bigpond.net.au or COTA, phone: 9654 4443.

Darebin BUG

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Saturday Market Rides *Beginners and families welcome.*

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

9-11am (ish) Sunday Boulevard Or Bust *For experienced riders.* Ride along the Yarra Blvd hills at a steady pace of around 20 k/ph. Distance: 30km +. Join us for coffee or brunch at Hugos after if you have time.

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

Weekend Rides Darebin BUG hopes to offer a series of weekend rides throughout 2005:

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

Around the Bay in a Day 2005

Darebin BUG usually has teams going in the 100km and 210km ATB rides. Watch this space for 2005 info.

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

Rides Program May – December

| | | GRADE | CONTACT | MEET AT... |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|-------------------|---|
| Sat 14th May | The Warby Ride Starting at Mt Evelyn we ride the picturesque rail-trail for lunch at Warburton and return | 70 km Medium | Joan 9859-7188 | 9am Mt Evelyn car park Mel 118 B12 |
| Mon 16th | BUG Monthly Meeting In the Stanley Room at The Manningham Club , 1 Thompson's Rd Bulleen | | Harv 9890-8006 | 8pm Mel 32 D10 |
| Sat 21st May | Belgrave Downhill Train up to Belgrave for the great downhill favourite – all the way to Ringwood options of hoping on a train anywhere down the line! | Easy/Medium | Harv 9890-8006 | 9:15am sharp Blackburn Station Mel 47 K10 |

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------|--------------------|---|
| Sat 28th May | ABC of trails Altona – Brighton – Carrum An all-dayer Gary does another of his very long rides along the paths of Melbourne! | Solid 70km | Gary 9439-5016 | 9:05am Altona train from Flinders St station |
| June | | | | |
| Sun 5th June | The Editor's Expedition Our editor takes us to coffee at Beasley's. (- does he have shares in the company?) | 21km Easy | Terry 9848-6027 | 10am Ruffey Lake Park The Boulevard carpark Mel 33 F10 |
| Sat 18th June | Dights Falls Follow the Main Yarra Trail to Dights Falls & return | Medium 30km | Gary 9439-5016 | Yarra Flats 9:30am Mel 32 B6 |
| Mon 16th | BUG Monthly Meeting In the Stanley Room at The Manningham Club , 1 Thompson's Rd Bulleen | | Harv 9890-8006 | 8pm Mel 32 D10 |
| July | | | | |
| Sun 3rd July | Woodend Wander Quiet country roads BYO Lunch or buy at Woodend before we ride to Hanging Rock (A winery too) | 40km medium | Harv 9890-8006 | 10am Bourke's Bakery Woodend |
| Sat 16th July | Clifton Hill -Infectiously Delicious Ride A little of Merri Ck and St George's track combined- with a Cafe Quince chaser. | 15km Easy | Harv 9890-8006 | 9:30am Yarra Bend Rd (Mel. 2D F1 |
| Mon 18th | BUG Monthly Meeting In the Stanley Room at The Manningham Club , 1 Thompson's Rd Bulleen | | Harv 9890-8006 | 8pm Mel 32 D10 |
| August | | | | |
| Sun 7th August | Beasley's to Diamond Ck & back some hills, choice of some easier options depending on the riders | Easy 30-40km | Gary 9439-5016 | 10am Beasley's Nursery Car park Heidelberg-Warrandyte Rd., Mel 34F3 |
| Mon 15th | BUG Monthly Meeting In the Stanley Room at The Manningham Club , 1 Thompson's Rd Bulleen | | Harv 9890-8006 | 8pm Mel 32 D10 |
| Sat 20th August | Training Ride (Progressive Dinner Ride warm up) Start, distance and location yet to be determined! | Solid | Kevin 9842 3323 | |
| Sun 21st August | Training Ride (Progressive Dinner Ride warm up) Start. distance and location vet to be determined! | Solid | Kevin 9842 3323 | |

| | | | | |
|-----------------|--|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| | Most likely a repeat of yesterday's ride for those that can't do Saturdays! | | | |
| Sun 21st August | Terry's Tour About 30 km, includes trails, roads, and good hills - but if the old man can do it, so can you! Might even cover areas that are new to you. Coffee at Beasleys when we finish. | Solid 30km | Terry 9848 6027 | 9.30am. Beasley's Nursery Car park Heidelberg-Warrandyte Rd., Mel 34F3 |
| Sat 27th August | Woori to Warby Start Woori Yallock, 20km to Warburton for a coffee stop. Then back to Launching Place Pub for lunch (The most dangerous part of the ride.) then 5km to return to Woori Yallock. For those people with energy to burn - ride on to Lilydale and return to Woori Yallock 34kms. Ride option 1: total 40kms, Ride option 2: total 74kms. | Medium 40km – 74km | Ann T 94597112 / 0404876156 | 10am Old Woori Yallock Station car park, Warburton Hwy -end of Symes Rd (To be confirmed) Mel 286E10 |

September

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|-------------------|--------------------|--|
| Sat 3rd Sun 4th Sept | 10th Anniversary Progressive Dinner Ride Medium thru to serious! Car backup and drive options available | 40+50 / 230km | Kevin 9842 3323 | Bookings essential- fills up fast |
| Sat 17th Sept | Eltham - Hurstbridge - Nutfield - Diamond Ck - Eltham Three short challenging hills but with lots of flat. Passes three!! coffee shops | Medium/Solid 60km | Gary 9439-5016 | 9.30am Eltham Lower Park Mel 21H10 |
| Mon 19th | BUG A.G.M & Monthly Meeting The Manningham Club , 1 Thompson's Rd Bulleen | | Harv 9890-8006 | 8pm Mel 32 D10 |

October

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------|-----------------------------|--|
| Sun 2nd Oct | Lanes, Lorriveets & Lattés The ever popular family ride. Mostly on paths and quiet roads. An ideal introductory ride. | Easy 20km | Tracey & Steve 9894-7975 | 10:30 am Blackburn Station (south side of the track) Mel 47 K10 |
| Wed 5th Oct | Ride to Work Day An alternative way to get to work! | | BV 8636 8888 | |
| Sat 15th Oct | Mitcham to Jell's Park Jacinta heads downhill for a change! ring for details | Medium | Jacinta 9842 3323 | 9:00 am Mitcham station Mel 48 J9 |
| Sun 16th Oct | Around the Bay in a Day | | BV 8636 8888 | |
| Mon 17th | BUG Monthly Meeting In the Stanley Room at The Manningham Club , 1 Thompson's Rd Bulleen | | Harv 9890-8006 | 8pm Mel 32 D10 |

November

| | | | | |
|--------------------|--|-----------|-------------------|---|
| | Great Victorian Bike Ride 26 November 2005 to 4 December 2005 | | BV 8636 8888 | |
| Mon 21st | BUG Monthly Meeting In the Stanley Room at The Manningham Club , 1 Thompson's Rd Bulleen | | Harv 9890-8006 | 8pm Mel 32 D10 |
| December | | | | |
| Wed 21th Dec | 11th Annual Fish & Chip Ride The ever popular end of year event Be part of this institution! Lights are required for the return trip after some of the best fish and chips have been consumed | 20km Easy | Harv 9890-8006 | 6pm Floral clock St. Kilda Rd Mel 2F H8 |

Interested? [Email us to find out more about the BUG](#)

Whitehorse Cyclists Inc

| Cycling opportunites in our area: Graeme's message board | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|----------|-------|-----------------------|
| More cycling opportunites in our area: While Ron is overseas, Hans of Rotary Forest Hill leads an easy ride every Sunday at 8am:Contact Hans on 0419 312 866 | | | | |
| 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. . | | | | |
| Date | Event | Distance | Grade | Contact |
| Thur 5 May | Trip to the North | 50 | Easy | Len 9898 2660 |
| Sat 7 May | Mullum and Yarra Trails | 45 | Med | Pat 9898 0415 |
| Sun 8 May | Gumnut Village ride | 31-50 | Med | Darby 9878 3589 |
| Tuesday 10 May Note new time: 7.45 pm: Club Night: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Bruce 9848 4804 | | | | |
| Thur 12 May | Box Hill - Carrum | 50 | Easy | Mike 9859 3647 |
| Sun15 May | Williamstown via the punt | 32 | Med | Bruce 9848 4804 |
| Tues 17 May | Third Tuesday easy ride | 30 | Easy | Ken 9801 7157 |
| Thur 19 May | Hurstbridge Yan Yean | 45 | Med | Doug 9802 6702 |
| Sun 22 May | Heatherdale to Jells Park loop | 50 | Med | George C 9878 0293 |
| Thur 26 May | Circuit in the northeast | 50 | Med | Bob 9874 5078 |
| Sun 29 May | Southern racecourses | 60 | Med | Graeme S 8504 0773 |
| Thur 2 June | Berwick via Jells Park | 60 | Med | Ken 9801 7157 |
| Sun 5 June | Yarraville Brunch ride | 45 | Med | Jacques 9497 2306 |
| Tues 7 June | First Tuesday easy ride | 30 | Easy | Ken |

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|--------|------|-----------------------|
| | | | | 9801 7157 |
| Thur 9 June | Circuit in the east | 50 | Easy | Ken 9801 7157 |
| 11-13June | Wilson's Prom | Varies | | Mike McN 9830 4195 |
| Tuesday 14 June Note new time: 7.45 pm: Club Night: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Bruce 9848 4804 | | | | |
| Tues 16June | Third Tuesday easy ride | 30 | Easy | Ken 9801 7157 |

[Last updated 27 April 2005]

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 March 2005

For information on the above rides, please contact the Touring Secretary, Alan Hutchison, on (03) 9431 0458, 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!

| | MAY | | | |
|-----------|---|------------------|--|----------|
| Thur 5th | Uno Clothing | | | Alister |
| Sat 7th | Books to Boathouse (Optional Fido - Eltham first) For beginner and returning cyclists | 30km EASY | | Tony |
| Sun 8th | Southbank -Werribee - Point Cook RAAF Museum via Williamstown | 45km EASY | | David |
| Thur 12th | Geoff's trip to Alaska | | | Jon |
| Sat 14th | Warragul & Mount Worth - Gippsland at its best. Scenic and a bit hilly. | 70km MED/HARD | | Kerry |
| Sun 15th | Melbourne Rail Trails | 40km EASY | | Peter |
| Tue 17th | Club Lunch - Hawthorn | | | Margaret |
| Tue 17th | Club Dinner - Kew | Easy | | Tim |
| Thur 19th | Trip Planning | | | Alan |
| Sat 21st | Foodies' Tour of Brunswick - Let the expert show you the multi cultural gourmet delights of the area. | 15km EASY | | John |
| Sat 21st | Pakenham Pushover A quick road ride for experienced riders. | 100km HARD | | Steve |
| Sun 22nd | Romsey Loop (car based) Let Liz show you around the granite country. | 60km MED | | Liz |
| Thur 26th | Club Lunch - 2 Darling Street South Yarra | Easy | | Darren |
| Thur 26th | Paul McKay - Cycle Factory in China | | | Dave |
| Sat 28th | Belgrave - Macclesfield - Hilly. | 55km HARD | | Jon |

| | | | |
|----------------------|--|-------------------|-------|
| Sun 29th | Pakenham via Gembrook to Woori Yallock. Very scenic. | 70km MED | Peter |
| JUNE | | | |
| Thur 2nd | Club Auction - Bring along your unwanted cycling treasures. Buy some from other members. Fun and useful. | | Margo |
| Sat 4th - Sun 5th | Loch - Loch via Inverloch. Gippsland coastal scenery weekend ride. | 100km MED | Sally |
| Sun 5th | MAD ride revisited. A re-run for club members who were helping with the organisation on the day. | 100km MED/HARD | Gael |

For information on the above rides, please contact the Touring Secretary, Alan Hutchison, on (03) 9431 0458, 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

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.

Autumn Rides Program

| DATE | RIDE | Bike | GRADE | CONTACT |
|---|---|-------------|-----------------|---------|
| Sunday 8 th May | Camberwell to Blackburn on Bike paths (50km) | Any | Easy | Jim |
| Sunday 15 th May | Frankston to Flinders (100 km) | Any | Hard | Jon |
| Sunday 22 nd May | Ringwood Lake to Carrum Via Dandenong Creek | Any | Easy | Paul |
| W/E 28 th - 29 th May | Weekend Ride Phillip Island & local farming area | Road/Hybrid | Easy -Medium | Sue |
| Sunday 5 th June | Mornington Peninsula Ride | Road/Hybrid | Medium | Voula |
| Sunday 12 th June | Williamstown Ride | Any | Easy | Greg |
| Sunday 19 th June | Frankston - Mooroduc - Mornington Triangle | Any | Meduim | Paul |

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----|------|-------|
| Sunday 26 th June | City to Williamstown for lunch | Any | Easy | Peter |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----|------|-------|

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: yhacycling@yahoo.com.au; website: <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~yhacycle>

How to join our mailing list

Send a blank e-mail to YHA Cycling 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.