

BOROONDARA

Bicycle Users Group

Newsletter May 2013

Boroondara BUG meetings are normally held on the 2nd Thursday of each month except January. Our next meeting is on Thursday 9th May. It will be held in the function room at the Elgin Inn, corner Burwood Rd and Elgin St, Hawthorn (Melway 45 B10). Optional dinner at 6.30pm, meeting starts at 7.30pm.

The Boroondara BUG is a voluntary group working to promote the adoption of a safe and practical environment for utility and recreational cyclists in the City of Boroondara. We have close links with the City of Boroondara, Bicycle Network Victoria, and other local Bicycle Users Groups. Two of the positions on the Boroondara Bicycle Advisory Committee, which meets quarterly, are assigned to Boroondara BUG members.

Boroondara BUG has a website at <http://www.boroondarabug.org> that contains interesting material related to cycling, links to other cycle groups, recent Boroondara BUG Newsletters and breaking news. Our email address for communications to the BUG is boroondarabug@gmail.com

We also have a Yahoo Group: Send a blank email to: BoroondaraBug-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to receive notification when the latest monthly newsletter and rides supplement have been placed on the web site and details of our next meeting, and very occasional other important messages.

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 the Rides Supplement are embarked upon at your own risk.

Trail Notes

Regional Rail Project to Disrupt Eastern Side of Maribyrnong River

Works on the Maribyrnong River section of Regional Rail Link, mean that a small section of the shared use path on the eastern (city-side) pathway of the Maribyrnong River will be closed temporarily from Thursday 18 April to 31 July 2013. Pedestrians and cyclists are advised to use the western path between Dynon Road and the Hobsons Road Footbridge. Detours will be in place at Footscray Road, Dynon Road and the Hobsons Road Footbridge.

The western (Footscray side) pathway will re-open on Monday 15 April 2013 for pedestrians and cyclists to continue using throughout construction.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding these works, please phone the 24-hour Community Information Line on 1800 107 925 and ask to speak with a member of the City – Maribyrnong River project team, or visit their website at www.regionalraillink.vic.gov.au.

Deer Park Bypass Path Closure for RRL Works

As part of the Regional Rail Link project, the Deer Park – West Werribee Junction project team will be undertaking works at Deer Park Bypass. These works briefly comprise:

- Three stage construction of bridge deck on Deer Park Bypass between Riding Boundary Road and Christies Road closure.
- Construction of Laverton Drain on the north side of Deer Park Bypass.
- Closure of Deer Park Bypass shared user path between Ballarat Road and Riding Boundary Road, Ravenhall.

To perform stage three of the Deer Park Bypass works the current shared user path next to the works area will be reconstructed to make way for a strengthened road over rail bridge structure. To achieve this, the shared user path next to the working area will be replaced over a three to five month period, weather permitting. The shared user path is currently closed.

The Project have investigated alternative routes with VicRoads and have failed to locate a safe alternative route. All surrounding roads have been assessed as possible detours, but have been deemed unsatisfactory alternative routes for cyclists. Bike user counts have been completed along the shared user path. The results showed the path is used by a small number of users who are mainly recreational cyclists.

Events

Cycle Queensland 2013. 8 - 15 September, Mission Beach to Port Douglas

Looking for a holiday with a difference? This two-wheel adventure holiday will take you from the palm fringed coastline at Mission Beach to the tropical paradise of Port Douglas via the spectacular Atherton Tablelands.

Cycle Queensland is all about having fun – both on and off your bike! You don't need to worry about cooking meals, transporting luggage or navigating from town to town because all your needs are taken care of by our support crew. Each day we dish up three delicious, cyclist-sized meals and provide hot showers, entertainment, a place to relax, and much more. Cycle Queensland is all about having a good time – after all, you're on holidays.

Why do it? For some it's a challenge, for others it's an adventure but for many it's simple – life is better on a bike. Entries close **2 August 2013**. Enter before **31 May** and receive a free event jersey.

Visit www.cycleqld.bq.org.au

General News

City of Melbourne Bicycle Forum

On Wednesday 17th April the City of Melbourne hosted a bicycle forum at the Multicultural Hub in Elizabeth St. They plan to hold such forums twice a year.

The first bicycle forum held on 17 April 2013 provided an opportunity for the community to raise questions about cycling projects and exchange information with City of Melbourne councilors and staff.

Notes of this forum are available at

<http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/ParkingTransportandRoads/cycling/Pages/BicycleForum.aspx>

Boroondara News

Darebin-Yarra Link Planning Permit Extension Refused

On Monday 22nd April the Boroondara Urban Planning Special Committee voted against their officers' recommendation to extend for a further two years the planning permit for the bridge over the Yarra into Willsmere Park, which is needed to complete the long-awaited Darebin-Yarra Link.

Only a small number of objectors spoke against the extension. Seventeen supporters spoke in favour including representatives of the Community Coalition, which comprises 11 different organisations, Darebin, Banyule, Manningham and of course Boroondara BUGs, and the Boroondara Bushwalkers. Supporters had carefully planned their presentations so as to cover as many different angles as possible and to avoid repeating the same points. But in vain. It was very clear that most of the councillors had come to the meeting with closed minds. Only Crs Heinz Kreutz, Coral Ross and Phillip Mallis voted in favour of the extension.

It is now a question of whether the Minister for Planning, Matthew Guy, will call the project in or instruct VicRoads, who are charged with managing it, to take Boroondara Council to VCAT.

If any readers wish to add their support to the cause, letters to the Minister may help. If you feel you need more information before writing check out the Community Coalition web site at <http://www.darebinarralink.org/>

Minutes of Boroondara BUG Meeting, Thursday 11th April 2013

Elgin Inn, Hawthorn

Attendance and Apologies

Present: Gordon Macmillan, Julia Blunden, David Farrow, Glennys Jones, Peter Campbell (Chair), Jenny Henty, David Hall

Apologies: Alan Tonkin, David Leong, Hank Van Apeldoorn, Mick Nolan, Alister Huth, John Parker, Mal Faul

Correspondence:

In

- More issues of *The Squeaky Wheel*
- Letter from David Powell, Director Environment and Infrastructure, Boroondara in response to the BBUG submission to councillors on the Darebin-Yarra link
- Invitation from Josh Frydenberg to apply for a National Volunteer Grant
- Email from Evergreen Advertising & Marketing
- Email from Annie Liu about customised T-shirts
- Letter from Council re PP extension for Darebin-Yarra link

Out

Matters Arising:

1. **Hawthorn to Box Hill Trail:** Jenny H reported that the feasibility plan for this will not be in this year's council budget but will be in the next one. The estimated cost is \$200,000. Peter C and Mick N will be meeting with Andrew MacIntosh to promote the project to him and ask for his assistance in getting a meeting with the Minister for Transport, the purpose of which will be to get the project into all the relevant planning documents such as the PBN. The fourth rail line to Camberwell has been announced with a 20 year time frame and it is important to promote the idea of including a bike path as part of this project.
2. **Golfers Choice and Urban Bush Path:** Nil to report.
3. **Gasworks Site Redevelopment:** Glennys J reported that Melbourne Water has been asked to rectify the damaged retaining wall on the creek side of the path. Glennys and John P have both been lobbying the Masters management re the bollards on the access path to the centre from the Gardiners Creek Trail, especially in view of the difficulty of returning to the trail via the driveway with its 'No Left Turn' sign. More complaints to management would assist.
4. **Darebin-Yarra Link:** Letters have been sent from Council to those who have made submissions in the past notifying them of the council meeting on 22nd April when the PP extension will be an agenda item. Community Coalition and BUG members have been preparing for the meeting. It is important that supporters intending to speak at the meeting attend the briefing by Cr Kreutz on Friday 19th April so they are clear about the issues. Presentations need to be prepared and timed to be between 2 and 3 minutes. It would be helpful if intending speakers email an outline of their speech to Julia B so we can avoid too much repetition or any contradictions or errors of fact.
5. **Belford Rd Underpass:** Nil to report
6. **Dights Falls Trail:** David F reported that he received very positive feedback at his meeting with City of Yarra officers Mark Donellan and Justin Hanrahan, who indicated that their council and their BAC would probably support the proposal. They had various suggestions one of which was to talk with Parks Victoria about the alignment of the route through Yarra Bend Park. There was general agreement that **David** should now contact Minister Matthew Guy and seek his support for the proposal.
7. **Stonnington Matters:** Glennys J reported on some relatively minor works featured in the *Stonnington Leader*.
8. **Proposed Changes to Local Laws re Riding through Parks:** Nil to report.
9. **Anniversary Trail Pedestrian Refuge at Prospect Hill Rd:** Nil to report. Agreed to remove this from the agenda until there are new developments.
10. **Incorporation:** This issue was postponed once again.
11. **Domestic Animals Management Plan Review:** **Glennys J** is preparing a BUG submission in response to Council's draft plan which omits any mention of dogs on shared paths.

12. **Invitations to Councillors to Attend BUG Meetings:** Julia B reported that she had invited Cr Hurd to the April meeting, but had received no reply.
13. **Council's Disability and Inclusion Plan:** Glennys J reported a small gain, in that Council's web site now makes mention of the possibility of obtaining a letter from a doctor which enables those with a disability to ride on the footpath.
14. **Need to Collect Stats for Incidents on Shared Paths:** Alan T has written to the minister, and Julia B has contacted Greg Barber about creating an App for this purpose. No responses have been received to date.
15. **BBAC Meeting Friday 15/3:** Minutes of this meeting were still not available. Glennys J expressed concern about the scope for non-cyclists to derail these meetings. It was agreed that we need to request that the chair exercise tighter control over the participation of observers. We also need to clarify who our two official BUG representatives are, though these could change from meeting to meeting.
16. **Lighter Footprints stall at Kew Festival:** Unfortunately Jenny H had left so was unable to report on this.
17. **Bollards vs Post and Rail Fences:** Glennys J reported that installation of post and rail fences appears to have stopped for the present. However those rails that have been installed need to be removed. **Glennys** offered to write to David Powell explaining the problem with the rails and asking for their removal, listing those she has identified.
18. **Jacka Trail aka Gordon Barnard Reserve Path:** David F reported that Council has received various submissions on this but has yet to make a decision on whether to proceed with the path construction. Cyclists speeding on shared paths are a major cause of objections to this and other shared paths. It was agreed to put the topic of speed limits on paths on the agenda for the next Victorian BUGs meeting.
19. **New BUG Newsletter Editor Needed:** Still no offers.
20. **Treasurer's Report:** Mal Faul was not present. However he has sent an email to BNV requesting payment for Super Tuesday counters.

New Business

Other Business:

1. **Harp Junction:** Alister H has pointed out that the vacating of the wood yard has created an opportunity to improve the alignment of the Outer Circle Trail which performs a messy S-bend at this junction. The land apparently belongs to VicRoads. **David F** offered to ring one of his contacts there to make enquiries.
2. **Short Term Works:** David F queried action to be taken on his list of small, relatively inexpensive projects such as pram ramps. The BUG has a standing invitation to send lists of needed pram ramps to Jim Hondrakis and lists of needed bike parking rails Chris Hui. It was agreed that the list of standing items on the BAC agenda needs to be better organized into large, medium and small projects, or possibly according to the responsible authority.

Next meeting: This is currently scheduled for Thursday 9th May.

Notes by Julia Blunden

Contacts for Rides

There are many BUGs, clubs and other organisations, several of them local, which organise rides. Below are some of their contact details. A separate supplement contains details of many of their forthcoming rides.

Ashburton Riders Club

Contacts:

Tony Landsell - email: tony@diacher.com

Justin Murphy - email: murphjj@au1.ibm.com

website: <http://www.ashburtonridersclub.asn.au/>

Banyule BUG

email: banyuleBug@yahoo.com.au

website: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~banylbug/>

contacts: Richard phone: 9459 8648, or Les phone: 9459 2701

Boroondara Bushwalkers

contact Julia Blunden

phone: 9853 5095

email: jblunden@bigpond.com

website: www.keypoint.com.au/~bbwinc

Kew Neighbourhood Learning Centre Bike Riding Group

Contact: Robin Kendrick, phone: 9853 3126

Council on the Ageing (COTA) Cycling Group

contact Janet Bennett

email: janpeter@bigpond.net.au or COTA,

phone: 9654 4443

website:

http://www.cotavic.org.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/1006/cota_cycling_brochure_jul-dec_2007.pdf

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)

website: www.darebinbug.org.au

Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre

Phone: 9890 2467

Email: info@surreyhillsnc.org.au

Website: www.surreyhillsnc.org.au

Boroondara BUG Contacts

Membership Secretary & Treasurer:

Malcolm Faul

Phone: 9853 1369

Email: malfaul@alphalink.com.au

Address: 38 Grove Rd, Hawthorn, 3122

Media Contact: Peter Campbell

Phone: 0409 417 504

Email: <http://greenlivingpedia.org>

Hawthorn Cycle Tours

contact Hawthorn Aquatic and Leisure Centre

phone: 9815 0988

email: lexbishop@bikerider.com

website: <http://www.geocities.com/perften/Hct.html>

Knox Bicycle Touring Club Incorporated

email: Mikeaatleisure@aol.com

website: home.vicnet.net.au/~knoxbike

Manningham BUG

email: seball@netlink.com.au, H.Edwards@bom.gov.au

website: 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

website: home.vicnet.net.au/~mbush/

Melbourne Bicycle Touring Club

email info@mbtc.org.au (Note that this email address doesn't get checked every day - so don't expect an immediate response!) website: mbtc.org.au

Whitehorse Cyclists

email: ejhopper@vicnet.net.au

website: <http://www.whitehorsecyclists.org.au/>

Finbar Neighbourhood House Rides

Contact Deb in the office on 9428 7668 or 0403 028 200

YHA

contacts: Ride Co-Ordinator Kathy

rides@yhacycling.org.au or mobile 0425-792 574

or Secretary Voula on secretary@yhacycling.org.au

website: www.yhacycling.org.au has free registration

Newsletter Editor & Minutes Secretary:

Julia Blunden

phone: 9853 5095

email: jblunden@bigpond.com

Boroondara Bicycle Users Group

Membership Application Form

Name _____

Address & Postcode _____

Phone (H) _____

Phone (M) _____

Phone (W) _____

Email _____

Member of Bicycle Victoria? Please circle: Yes / No

Membership requires a payment of \$15 per household which covers 3 years. Please send cheque (made out to Boroondara Bicycle Users Group) along with this form to:

Malcolm Faul

Phone: 9853 1369

Email: malfaul@alphalink.com.au

Address: 38 Grove Rd, Hawthorn, 3122