

BOROONDARA

Bicycle Users Group

Newsletter May 2006

Boroondara BUG meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, except January. Next meeting will be on Wednesday 10th 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://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 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

2006 Main Roads LifeCycle Great Western Australian Bike Ride: Forest, Surf and City

Sunday 19 March to Saturday 1 April 2006

Introduction

'There are two tragedies in life. One is not to get your heart's desire. The other is to get it'. [George Bernard Shaw, *Man and Superman*, Act IV] During our working years many of us lack the leave, the fitness level, or possibly the money to undertake multi-day rides. Having retired from our jobs, saved up, trained for and completed the ride, there is at its conclusion an inevitable slight sense of let-down. Not because the ride didn't meet expectations, but due to that inevitable sense of loss after such an enjoyable experience is over.

For the first time my 32 year-old daughter, Mandy, came on a multi-day ride with me. She commented similarly on the sense of loss she felt at the end of the ride and attributed this largely to the strong sense of community and the lowering or elimination of those barriers that exist between people in everyday city life. On these rides you are able to talk to anyone about practically anything and of course riding, eating, showering in those communal 'cheek by jowl' showers and camping close together, you feel you get to know many of them.

On these rides I feel I enter a different space and live in a way that is more relaxed, uncluttered and friendlier than is normally possible when living in a big city. Being so well looked after by the helpful BV staff and hundreds of 'volies', your main job is to ride your bike. This lack of everyday cares and responsibilities undoubtedly adds to the enjoyment of these rides. This ride being of 14 rather than the usual 9 days gave more time to strengthen this sense of community.

The Ride

The ride guide described this ride as 'a fourteen day journey through the best of the South West of Western Australia', from Albany to Perth. Certainly the scenery far exceeded my expectations as the route covered what I have been told are some of the most beautiful coastal parts and forests in WA. The vegetation is in many ways different from that of the Eastern states with Kangaroo Paws growing wild beside some roads, and giant Tingle trees, Karri and Tuart forests naturally occurring in some of the areas we travelled through. Huge Hakea and Banksia bushes, the latter with enormous hairy yellow cones or dried-out

open-mouthed velvety brown ones and leaves with deeply serrated margins made the landscape at times appear surreal. A commonly occurring Bottle-Brush had a bright flower on it that looked like orange flames against the duller green of the bush.

At around 2,500 riders the numbers were manageable and queues mostly short or non-existent. Only a few young families were on this ride, the average age of riders being 59, somewhat older than on the other BV rides I have done. Many riders I spoke with had done previous organized rides with BV and/or other state run bicycle organizations or private tour companies. Roughly half the participants were WA residents. According to the ride guide WA has more women cyclists than any other state and has recently achieved the largest growth in cycling in Australia.

The Free Bike

The aptly nicknamed 'Green Machine', a hybrid bike with a smart green and black frame was provided free of charge to those who paid early. With touring tyres and a comfort saddle, this bike generally proved a reliable and comfortable mount. A little lighter and faster than the free mountain bike BV provided for the 2004 GVBR, the Green Machine was often seen on the ride. My free bike required a new spoke and rear derailleur whilst on the tour, but these were both quickly and efficiently repaired by the mechanics.

The Route

Day 1 – Sun 19/3/06 – Albany to Denmark (59km)

This was a gentle introduction to the ride on mainly flat terrain. In the heat of the afternoon we stopped off at the West Cape Howe Winery for a refreshing iced water and a glass of passionfruit tinged, locally grown wine sitting under the welcome shade of the vineyard's verandah. At Denmark huge Karri trees surrounded the Denmark River. We stopped for afternoon tea overlooking its banks before heading into camp and setting up our tents.

Day 2 – Mon 20/3/06 – Denmark to Walpole (73km)

An early start made for a superb morning's ride in the cool of the day, but it became very hot by late morning. Early in the day we stopped at Greens Pool, an azure blue beach with a large white sand and crystal clear rock pool to swim in. Mandy brought her sarong that proved invaluable as a towel at the beach and to sit on at rest stops.

In the afternoon a friend talked me into doing the extra few kilometers to the Giant Treetops Walk along the Valley of the Giants Road in the Walpole-Nornalup National Park to view the unique WA Tingle trees. Some had huge trunks with large, warty branches and growths that made them appear like elephants or enormous ancient animals. The relative cool of the shaded forest canopy was a respite from the intense heat of the early afternoon sun.

The Bibbulman Track had an access point near the start of the Giant Treetops Walk. This track is one of the world's great long distance walking trails that goes for nearly 1,000km from Kalamunda near Perth to Albany. I certainly want to come back to explore this trail further.

Day 3 – Tues. 21/3/06 – Walpole to Shannon River (65km)

Today we rode those steadily ascending, undulating hills into the Karri and Marri forests protected by Shannon National Park. Although some missed the comforts of a town, I really liked the remote-feeling bush camp at the Old Mill near Shannon River. With no town in the vicinity, BV did a great job providing the usual camp comforts, but a water shortage made getting a shower difficult. A 4km walk through the forest and a swim in the cold, dark water of a local dam provided a cooling alternative. On the way back to camp I walked a few extra kilometres to The Rock with some friends to get a view of the surrounding bushland. Dressed in my bathers, sarong and sandals I must have been a strange sight on a bushwalk!

Day 4 – Wed. 22/3/06 – Shannon River National Park to Manjimup (54km)

A pleasant and easy morning's ride through green regrowth forests to farmlands. By late morning we were watching the black storm clouds gathering on the horizon. About 5km out of Manjimup the thunder rolled and rain poured on us as we rode into town. Amazingly we were able to find a room at the local hotel for 2 nights. This was very fortunate as the rain hardly stopped for the next 2 days, and much of our equipment had become drenched due to inadequate packing. Ironically this hotel room had previously been booked by a rider who'd had to withdraw from the ride due to dehydration.

So as not to have to transport our heavy packs to and from the hotel, I had hastily pitched my tent in which to place the bulk of our gear. Against a friend's sound advice I unwisely chose a spot that turned into a small lake in the heavy rain. Despite this friend kindly getting up in the middle of the night to move my tent to higher ground, Mandy's pack and contents had become soaked. We learnt from this experience the importance of listening to more experienced friends, choosing a well-drained tent site, and double plastic bagging all luggage as sometimes a single plastic bag can develop a hole and let water in.

Day 5 – Thursday 23/3/06 – Rest day – Manjimup

The temperature dropped markedly. From the warmth and comfort of the window of our hotel room we watched the queue of wet campers outside the one Laundromat in Manjimup. For much of the time the queue stretched down the main street for several hundred metres. The locals in Manjimup made us very welcome and we felt for this town that had gone to so much

trouble to provide food, entertainment and activities for our benefit only to have many of them hampered by the rain. Many riders had heart-warming experiences of locals taking pity on them as they waited in the Laundromat queue and taking them home to do their washing and have a cup of tea or even a meal.

Day 6 – Fri. 24/3/06 – Manjimup to Nannup (62km)

Another town ending in ‘up’ and the best day’s riding yet. Though damp in the morning, we rode through aromatically scented forest that I had never experienced before. The Donnelly River rest stop was like stepping back in time to a little medieval village set down in country WA. This small town was an old timber mining town with unpaved streets and simple shingle-roofed houses. Emus and kangaroos wandered around the town apparently unafraid of us.

The sun came out and we warmed up as we rode down the final exhilarating descent into Nannup, a charming old town now mainly used as a tourist destination and renowned for its colorful flower boxes. Somewhat overwhelmed by the influx of an extra 2,500 people most of the local tea shops managed to provide delicious afternoon teas with home-made cakes, slices and biscuits.

Day 7 – Sat. 25/3/06 – Nannup to Augusta (86km)

A misty cool morning cleared to an increasingly fine day as we battled the headwind in the afternoon into Augusta. This town is located on the southwestern tip of WA and is the state’s third oldest settlement. After downing 3 strong milos and an early dinner, we caught the last shuttle bus to Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse at dusk. Mandy took many scenic photos of the dusk light over the coastline and the lighthouse. Back in town that evening we visited the town’s attractive art and craft shops that had stayed open late for our convenience.

Day 8 – Sun 26/3/06 – Augusta to Margaret River (55km)

This is one of the most beautifully scenic day’s riding I’ve ever experienced. Today we cycled through the Karri forest. A fine, cool day and undulating terrain allowed for a relaxed pace. The Caves Road was appropriately named and took us past many tantalizingly named caves such as Jewel Cave and Lake Cave. At the Jewel Cave we paused for coffee and cake whilst others visited the cave. One woman who suffered from claustrophobia made a hasty exit from the cave and joined us for a coffee to calm her nerves. Lunch was at the Voyager Winery, a sumptuously fitted out winery complete with perfectly manicured lawns and rose garden. How important the weather is on a bike tour! Today’s sunny, warm weather and easy pace made for a most enjoyable day.

Day 9 – Mon 27/3/06 – Margaret River Rest Day

Mandy and I accepted a friend’s kind invitation to share her undercover accommodation in Margaret River. Complete with a huge bathroom, laundry and comfortable bed and couches, this was a luxurious and welcome change from the tent. A friend and I decided to cycle the bushy, unsealed rail trail to Cowaramup or ‘Cow Town’ as some of the locals call it. Cowaramup is a pretty, small town with a green, shaded park where the locals had provided an art exhibition, folk singers, sheep shearing and blacksmithing demonstrations. Unfortunately few cyclists were there to see these. Hopefully the word will spread so that tomorrow more will come to enjoy these activities.

Day 10 – Tues 28/3/06 – Margaret River Rest Day

Today our friend’s partner drove us around the local area to see the many superb beaches, rock formations and wineries. Margaret River is a major Australian gourmet food area with a wide choice of wineries and other gourmet offerings such as olive, chocolate and cheese shops. The many limestone caves in this area add to its interest.

A friend had booked a ‘sleep easy’ tent and paid \$500 hundred dollars more for this. These new and spacious tents with 2 new, comfortable self-inflating mats were a big improvement on those provided on previous BV rides. Due to the large number of sleep easy tents BV had brought, there were insufficient volies to put them up. This meant that some riders who’d booked this option had to erect their own tents. BV had to come up with some softeners including partial refunds to stem the rising tide of complaints about this.

Day 11 – Wed 29/3/06 – Margaret River to Busselton (66km)

The country changed as we left the forests for more open farmland, although the natural-looking roadside verges continue. Today’s weather was perfect – warm for riding in the morning with a slight tailwind. In the afternoon we swam in a calm and warm azure sea. Our camp was right on the foreshore overlooking the beautiful Busselton beach. Mandy walked the 1.6km long Busselton jetty to take sunset photos. Others visited the last stand remaining of Tuart trees in Tuart Forest National Park.

Day 12 – Thurs 30/3/06 – Busselton to Bunbury (61km)

Another relatively easy ride over more open, drier terrain. At morning tea a white parrot (Corella?) flew low amongst the riders, exhibiting unusually odd behaviour. We speculated as to whether it was sick or someone’s pet. An Osprey hovered in the updraft from the sea cliff at the lunch stop.

I swam in the afternoon and was dumped by an unexpectedly large wave that the locals blamed on the cyclone up north. Later in the afternoon I climbed a lookout that appeared like a large spiral slide except it was a spiral staircase instead. The view out over the Bunbury harbour and town was worth the effort.

Day 13 – Fri 31/3/06 – Bunbury to Pinjarra (108km)

The flat terrain should have made for a relatively easy ride but I found it a hard slog due to an unrelenting headwind. Two friends kindly rode me in for the last 11km when the wind was at its strongest.

After we'd set up our tents we did a short walk into town. Pinjarra is a town where the old inner section has been restored or left relatively untouched whilst the newer development is put on the town's outskirts. We went to the quaintly historic Heritage Tearooms for afternoon tea. In the evening there was a spectacular red sunset that the locals said foretold a change in the weather. Sure enough during the night the rain set in making for a wet breakfast and tent packup in the morning.

Day 14 – Sat 1/4/06 – Pinjarra to Perth (94km)

I was dreading today's ride as I thought we may have to battle the headwind again, but today's strong wind was at our tail so worked for us. We whipped into Perth making good time. The last 33km of today's ride was on the well constructed, sealed bike path – more like a cycle freeway – that runs beside the Kwinana Freeway into Perth CBD.

As we approached the end of the ride there was the strange sight of many tents pitched in Langley Park right in the centre of Perth. My tent joined the flapping throng and was dried out in the short time it took to collect our luggage and knock down the bikes in preparation for transport back to Melbourne.

Cathy Taylor, Rider, Great W.A. Bike Ride

Inbox

Parking Problems

Recently I attached my bike to a pole on the east side of Glenferrie Rd along the shopping strip, courtesy of a shop owner who allowed me to move her A board temporarily as there was not another pole available. When I returned after my shopping my bike was on the ground and all tangled up with my U lock. I righted it with some difficulty, hopped on and prepared to pedal off in the traffic. My front wheel spun alarmingly and I almost went straight over the handle bars into the traffic. Apparently the fall had either temporarily derailed the chain or in some other way messed up the gears. Mercifully the bike righted itself and I continued straight to the council office.

I spoke with Adam Hall about the incident. He reiterated that the delay was caused by trader reluctance to have bike parking rails though heaven only knows why. I am quite sure they would be the first to complain if car parking was banned and I cannot imagine why they think cyclists are attempting to park if not to shop - or is my money of less concern than that of a BMW driver's? As far as I am concerned this is the last straw. From now on I shall take my bike into the various shops and if they object I shall cease patronising the Glenferrie Traders and shop elsewhere until such time as parking rails are provided.

Rosemary West

Events

Cycling Course for Parents

A Families of the future cycling course, will be held in Northcote on 13th and 20th May. The course is about family cycling and encouraging parents and friends to feel confident about cycling with young children:

Part 1: cycling with children on board (0-4 years) – 13th May

Part 2: cycling with novice riders (5-10 years) – 20th May

See <http://www.envict.org.au/inform.php?menu=8&submenu=715&item=774> for further details. Or call Rachel Carlisle, Sustainable Transport Projects Coordinator, Environment Victoria, phone: 9341 8107

Melbourne Memorial Ride of Silence May 20th 2006

Melbourne memorial ride to honour the memory of ALL cyclists killed whilst riding their bicycle. 10am Saturday May 20, 2006

Assembly: Federation Square footpath corner Flinders St & St Kilda Rd, facing Flinders Street Station

Destination: approx 11-30am Parliament House, Spring Street

Route: City CBD streets approx 5-8km time permitting, several loops of Swanston, Collins, Elizabeth Street and Bourke Street.

Protocol: Two abreast, stop at red lights, obey all traffic laws, no corking, move slowly at speed of funeral procession, wear black armbands, wear any signage you think appropriate to stop disrespect against cyclists.

Invite: friends, family, to attend and speak at finish, we aim to have media, celebrities and cycling advocates address at beginning and conclusion.

Authorities are advised this is an apolitical, peaceful memorial occasion.

Note: The worldwide Ride of Silence will take place from 6pm on 17th May in the USA, this time is not appropriate for Melbourne, in winter in the dark on a weeknight, and thus for safety and visibility concerns the Melbourne Ride of Silence will take place on Saturday May 20 at 10am <http://www.rideofsilence.org>

Russell Mockeridge, Anthony Marsh, Amy Gillett, Maddy Cole, Alan Scott, Ian Humphrey, Kyle Forth, Ken Kifer, and too many thousands of others in our communities and across the world have died whilst riding their bikes, it is a sad and poignant thing that too many have died doing what they love and celebrate in their life. We shall not forget them, be there, bring friends!!

Other cities feel free to join us in this moving tribute to the memories of our cycling kin. An initiative of Melbourne Wheels of Justice, Melbourne Ride of Silence and various Bicycle User Groups of Melbourne.

Email: auswoj@gmail.com; web site: <http://bicyclejustice.blogspot.com>;

Leaflet available here: <http://www.yarrabug.org/wp-content/RoSLeafletx3-3.pdf>

Cyclovia

A Cyclovia, the first of its kind in Australia, will be held on Sunday 28 May 2006.

What is a Cyclovia? We close 4km of Sydney Road to cars and trucks between Bell Street and Brunswick Road and turn the street over to bikes and pedestrians for 6 hours. Cars still cross Sydney Road at main intersections - trams will operate as normal. Stroll the footways, shop, stop for a cake and coffee, go for a walk, or cycle, up to Coburg and back. Your friends, family, even young children will be protected from car traffic between 8am and 2pm.

Cyclovias are common in cities around the world including Colombia, France and Italy, and becoming more and more popular as people take back the streets for fun, clean air, personal health and a more livable neighbourhood.

Cyclovia Sydney Rd will be an exciting event, but we need your help to make it happen. Volunteers are needed with all kinds of skills, but mainly to assist with putting out signs, directing participants and giving out information. Previous experience is not necessary, we will train you. Additionally, accredited traffic management training will be provided free of charge to some volunteers before the event.

If you: are over 16; are available on Sunday 28 May 06 for a few hours, and can attend a training session for 1 hour at one of the following times: Sat 20 May, 2 - 3 pm, at Brunswick Town Hall OR Mon 22 May, 6:30 - 7:30 pm, at Brunswick Town Hall OR Wed 24 May, 11am - 12 pm, at Coburg Town Hall we want to hear from you!

Please tell us something about yourself online www.cyclovia.org by the CLOSING DATE, Friday 28 April 2006. We look forward to your support in this historic event.

More information? Website: www.cyclovia.org; Phone: 9240 1294

Valley to the Vines, Sunday 7th May

A great day of riding has been organised to fund raise for the Goulburn Valley Community Fund. The proceeds from this fund raiser helps up to 80 different organisations within the Goulburn Valley, so is a very good cause to help make our community stronger. The ride is open to anyone as long as you can do it, and would also be a great day out for the family. Come to Shepparton on Sunday the 7th of May and help us to make this a great annual event. We have also catered for people who only wish to ride a short distance.

Our main ride starts in Shepparton and takes us through Mooroopna and Murchison and then follows Robinson Rd over Kirwin's Bridge and then around the back of Nagambie to Tahbilk Winery. Those not quite as used to riding may choose to start at Murchison. Travel arrangements to and from Murchison are the responsibility of the rider

On Sunday May 7th Tahbilk Winery will again host a gathering of all Nagambie Lakes Wineries in a 'Country Fair' setting to celebrate the vintage just past. Great music, food and produce from local restaurateurs and regional producers plus the best of Nagambie Lakes wines - all the senses will be well covered! A gourmet lunch will be provided on arrival at the winery for all riders. Adult riders will also receive a souvenir glass and wine tasting with their meal.

Our raffle features some great prizes and tickets are only \$2 each! First prize is a magnificent Malvern Star mountain bike, while 2nd, 3rd and 4th prizes offer a hybrid bike from Bicycle Victoria

For any queries please email Jill Pinner at jpinner@gotafe.vic.edu.au; or phone Direct (03)58332648; Fax (03)58332551; Mobile 0408 578 780

Boroondara News

Solway Bridge Closure

The bridge across Gardiners Creek that provides the link between the Gardiners Creek, Scotchmans Creek and Anniversary Trails (Melway 69 B1) is currently closed due to safety concerns. The bridge is to be replaced. Work should start in July and be completed by the end of the year.

Recent BCC Work on Shared Paths

The section of the Main Yarra Trail west of Burke Road behind Chris Cross has been cleared at last. It was so overgrown, a bob cat had to be used but it has come up well. Note that this is not a Council responsibility as the land is owned by VicRoads and DoI, however BCC did the works. They intend following this up with line marking within the next 2 months.

BCC is also looking at replacing approximately 230m of the Gardiners Creek trail at the velodrome. The new path is to be 3m wide in asphalt with concrete edging. This will hopefully happen within the next 2 months. During construction there will be a detour via Reserve and Robinson Roads.

Work on reconstruction of the Anniversary Trail at Frog Hollow has now been completed. Line marking will follow - either by June 30 2006 or early in new financial year.

Thanks to Jim Hondrakis for this information

New Tramstop Planned for Corner Burwood Rd and Church St

Yarra Trams are to replace tracks and build DDA (disability) compliant tram stops at the Burwood Rd / Church St intersection very soon. Two platform tram platform stops are to be created south and west of existing stops thus in the middle of the intersection. These will serve both 48 and 75 trams which is a great improvement for tram travellers. Tracks are to be significantly realigned.

Burwood Rd westbound: tracks move north. Storage box at lights. WKL (probably 3.8m) will continue for about 20m beyond stop line to opposite existing Moreton Bay Fig then cyclists have option of new ramp onto shared footpath or continue with traffic as at present. Or cyclists can exit onto shared path at Coppin Grove. Lanes past minimalist new DDA compliant stop will be 2 X 3m.

Burwood Rd eastbound: death defying right turn as at present, then in middle of road will have short EBL leading to a new EBL heading east up Burwood Rd.

Church St City bound: Storage box at lights, on road space as cross intersection then have new ramp off straight ahead near existing Moreton Bay Fig on to shared path over bridge. (Same ramp off in 'Burwood Rd westbound' above.)

Church St outbound: Ramp off just over bridge. Existing shared path continues up hill with ramp into new EBL, proposed by Jim Hondrakis, up the hill.

VicRoads was asked to comment and Graeme Stone was also asked for comments on design. VicRoads MSE region, Tony Barton and BCC Jim Hondrakis have put considerable thought into options to maintain /improve conditions for cyclists.

Notes by Graeme Stone

Minutes of Boroondara BUG Meeting 7.30pm Wednesday 12th April 2006

Held at Swinburne, Hawthorn Campus, Room TD 244

Present: Phil Crohn, Graeme Stone, Jason den Hollander, David Leong

Apologies: Graham Ellis, Julia Blunden.

Correspondence:

1. Flyers from MBTC re MAD ride.
2. Goulburn Valley /Shepparton - Valley to the Vines rides, May 7th.
3. Manager Engineering & Traffic, BCC advising of indefinite closure of Solway bridge due to deterioration. Work on new bridge to commence 2nd half of 2006.

Bunnings Development: GS gave update. Decision to grant a Permit has been made. VCAT appeals unlikely. VicRoads and Council could have insisted on retention of the WKL but didn't.

Tooronga Village: State Government Planning Committee may be appointed – causing delays. Await Planning Scheme amendment to be advertised when Boroondara BUG would make submission. It has been reported that a VicRoads engineer is looking at options for bike lanes and that the issue of Tooronga Rd EBL been flagged with VR Bicycle Programs Manager.

Gardiners Creek Missing Link: A case has been prepared for Council for 1:1 funding of if same from VicRoads. Solway bridge could start shortly. Bridge to be 2.35m wide.

Stonnington \$30,000 feasibility grant: GS advised by Paula Heyward from Stonnington that concepts have been developed by consultants and community consultation next in April(?). Boroondara BUG recorded as a stakeholder and so would definitely be included in consultation.

Darebin Creek – Main Yarra Trail Link: Parks Victoria have funds for the path to progress to Heidelberg Rd this year.

Integrated Transport Strategy: Council working group has met re ITS. Aim is to have draft for public consultation by June 30th for 4-6 weeks. Jim Hondrakis has supplied Boroondara BUG with draft copy for members (only) perusal. JdH will make a few copies for members.

Northern Pool Complex: Bicycle parking facilities at the complex increased from 3 to now 11 rails. Probably potential to expand if demand. Action: JdH can follow up with project manager, Rob Bradshaw.

Bike Parking Rails in Glenferrie: JB had reported unsatisfactory response re bike parking rails from Adam Hall Landscape Architect. JdH since spoken to Lawrencia owners who would accept alternative locations for bike parking rails but options weren't offered. JdH sighting a new parking rail in Glenferrie Rd, possible others? Action: BoroondaraBUG to pursue with Landscape.

Hawthorn Bridge: Jim Hondrakis has shown Boroondara BUG plans from Yarra, not for shared path, but for an EBL of 1.05m and a 2.80 m car lane adjacent. Does propose a green cycle lane across Boulevard intersection. JH has expressed support through Richard Smithers, Yarra, in submission to VicRoads, Metro NW Region. Plan is still with VicRoads and no response from them to date.

Boroondara BUG Promotion: JB has flyers but is away. JdH will supply more to Phil Crohn for distribution at the Surrey Hills Festival on April 26th.

Priority List: JdH has reformatted list with additional information. JdH will resend as Excel file and **EVERYONE** is to provide input as to preferred projects as listed and other ideas. To be reviewed at the next meeting as a group effort.

Kooyong Tennis Parking clash: At Glenferrie Rd parking under the freeway during the Davis Cup was poorly organised with no supervision or signing to avoid conflict between cars and cyclists on the Gardiners Creek path. Action: JdH will write a letter to Council.

Bicycle Federation of Australia Membership: May be action behind the scenes. Deferred.

Anniversary Trail: GE to discuss at later Boroondara BUG meeting alternative alignments for the AT in vicinity of Camberwell High School. The problem of stones from an informal car park on the Outer Circle path near Willsmere still to be resolved. Also JdH reported gravel on AT path a problem at school car park near Whitehorse Rd. JdH to follow up.

Guide Dogs Path: Issue of conflict with vehicles entering driveway to be resolved after discussion with Guide Dogs people by erecting 'No Standing' signs, remarking road centre line, installing reflectors and line marking chevrons on approaches to existing path bollard, and marking a stop bar for cyclists approaching the road.

Meeting with Jim Hondrakis: Jason den Hollander, Graham Ellis & Graeme Stone [met](#) Jim Hondrakis, Team Leader, Transport Management and Masha Patikinikorale also of BCC, [at Camberwell](#) April 7th, 2006 to discuss Boroondara's [bicycle](#) works program and cycling issues [in](#) Boroondara generally. A most useful meeting and notes of meeting will be circulated shortly.

Notes by Graeme Stone

[Bicycle Works Program and Cycling Issues](#) [in](#) Boroondara

Your BUG was represented at a meeting in April with Jim Hondrakis and Masha Patikirikorale of the City of Boroondara. Your reps, Jason den Hollander, Graham Ellis and Graeme Stone were given a detailed account of current works and programmed works. A useful exchange of information and ideas took place as indicated by the extracts below.

Jim outlined more current works for widening /reconstruction and line marking of sections of Trails /shared paths as funded by the \$250,000 allocation for this year. Path widths generally to 2.5m and with concrete edging to extend serviceability.

1. Review of bicycle facility works programmed and underway for 2005/06 - Recent projects include:

- Yarra Trail from Willsmere Park to Belford Rd, reconstruction finished.
- 'Guide Dogs' path: Issue of conflict with vehicles entering driveway to be resolved with signs, reflectors and line marking.
- Anniversary Trail: work completed near Frog Hollow. Re-built by raising path to avoid tree roots. Higher cost than expected but quality job.

- Line Marking: Line marking has been completed on Yarra Trail from Pipe Bridge to Willsmere. Koonung Trail also completed.
- Line marking of Anniversary Trail will be done in the next 2 months.
- Issue of private construction sheds obstructing shared path just east of Harp junction was raised.
- Treatment of terminals on shared paths at road crossings etc. including line marking, chicanes, bollards to be addressed as a package of treatments.
- Graham raised related issue of safety of road crossings where path crossing is offset from intersections and thus path users don't have any crossing rights they have at intersections. Jim has drafted preliminary design to address this.

2. Ongoing Funding - Expect \$250,000 again next financial year: 2006/07. Allocation is for asset renewal program. Desirable for BorBUG to encourage councillors to support this bid. Capital works funding is separate.

3. Tram 109 - Jim been active in consultations. Options: (a) All centre stops (b) Combination of centre stops & kerb access mid block – as per Whitehorse section. Option of parallel routes: provide higher order bike facilities on adjacent local roads. Preferred option yet to be presented to government.

4. Northern Pool/sporting complex - bicycle parking facilities - Bicycle parking facilities at the complex increased from 3 to now 11 rails. Probably potential to expand if demand exists.

5. Glenferrie Rd Bike Parking Rails - Julia had reported unsatisfactory response re bike parking rails from council's Landscape section. Jason since spoken to Lawrencia owners who would accept alternative locations for bike parking rails. BUG will pursue with Landscape officers.

6. Integrated Transport Strategy - Aim is to have draft for public consultation by June 30th for 4-6 weeks. Jason suggested that a proactive action for BCC would be to help fund the Boroondara Travel Smart map.

7. Tooronga Village status of planning - State Government Planning Committee may be appointed – causing delays. Await Planning Scheme amendment to be advertised when BorBUG would make submission. Need to look at options for bike lanes and the issue of Tooronga Rd EBL

8. Markham Reserve link: - Aiming for Council 1:1 funding of \$175,000 if same from VicRoads with aim of progressing in 07/08. Solway St bridge could start shortly. Stonnington \$30,000 feasibility grant: Path linking concepts (Solway/Warrigal/Gardiners) have been developed by consultants and community consultation is next step in April(?).

9. PBN Network: - As per Sept mtg JH has submitted 3 projects to VicRoads for 2006/07 PBN works.

1. Markham Reserve link: involves shared paths from at Alamein Station & an off road path across Reserve.

2. Balwyn Rd from Whitehorse Rd to Canterbury Rd [BorBUG still needs to look at this route to ensure best meets need]

3. Wellington St Kew: Provides link to Kew Junction and Studley Park Rd via Sackville St and Mont Albert Rd.

Jim listed further PBNs to be scoped in readiness for applications for 2007/08.

1. Doncaster Rd (Bulleen to Freeway)
2. Canterbury Rd (Stanhope to Union)
3. Belmore Rd (Balwyn to Elgar?)
4. Rathmines Rd
5. Camberwell Rd

BUG suggested including:

6. Stanhope –Sycamore Rds – the 'Ring Road' (Burke around to Riversdale)

Jim is open to suggestions for priorities from BUG.

10. Bicycle Advisory Committee - Referred to Director City Works, Vince Haining. Jim is more than happy to meet with BorBUG as we currently do and would organise the relevant staff members to attend also.

11. Hawthorn and Victoria Bridge Shared Paths - Jim displayed plans from Yarra, not for shared path, but for an EBL of 1.05m and a 2.80 m car lane adjacent. Includes a green cycle lane across Boulevard intersection. Need to see if this gets adopted/approved first before addressing Boroondara's side and then work in with resultant design.

12. Walmer Street, Kew – Ramp access from Bridge to Walmer Street - Masha has investigated; Ramp will be on direct alignment of existing shared path. Work to be done in 2005/06.

13. Leonda Link: – the short linking path could be done with 2006/07 funds. Would be dependent on investigating site and sorting out any issues with Leonda such as leases.

14. Projects: Jim requested that Boroondara BUG pass on ideas for desirable works to improve cycling infrastructure in Boroondara.

Notes by Graeme Stone in conjunction with Graham Ellis and 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/>

Banyule BUG: email: banyuleBug@yahoo.com.au; web site: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~banylbug/>; contacts: Richard phone: 9459 8648, or Les phone: 9459 2701

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 (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:

Membership Secretary & Treasurer:
Graeme Stone, 16 Jervis Street, Camberwell VIC 3124.
e-mail: graeme_stone@optusnet.com.au

Newsletter Editor & Minutes Secretary:
Julia Blunden, phone: 9853 5095
e-mail: jblunden@bigpond.com

Additional Contact:
David Leong: leongd@anz.com

Media Contact & Webmaster:
Jason den Hollander, phone: 0407 11 88 91
email: fdutch@gmail.com

Meeting Chair:
Phil Crohn: philcrohn@ozemail.com.au

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 Report

A big thank you to Bruce and Yvonne Dite for their efforts in arranging our last ride (Maribyrnong River and Moonee Ponds Creek Trails). Twelve riders took part, including two friends of Bruce and Yvonne. It was a perfect day and all who took part enjoyed the ride thoroughly.

Elva Parker

May Ride – Sunday 21st May

Kororoit Creek there and back ride. Meet at Sunshine Station at 10.39am. Catch the 10.16am from Flinders Street. Further details from Elva Parker, phone: 9836 6392.

CDGBR PROGRAM FOR 2006

RIDES: 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: <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 7:30am 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: Caf  "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 |
|-----------------------|--|--|-------------|
| May 10 th | Jell's Park East, MEL 72 A6, car park 5 or ride there from Glen Waverley station. | 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, 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 dougmorf@alphalink.com.au

Download the [Darebin BUG rides flyer](#), 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.

[Beginners Rides](#) - [Tuesday & Thursday rides](#) - [Saturday & Sunday rides](#) - [Weekend Rides](#) - [Around the Bay in a Day Ride Reports](#) - [Ride 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.

Manningham BUG

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

For general enquiries ring Harvey (03)9890-8006 or Garry (03)9439-5016

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... |
|-----|--|-------|---------|------------|
| May | | | | |

| | | | | |
|-------------|--|----------------|--------------------|--|
| Sat 7th | Bike Path Discovery Day A free, fun day of exploring Melbourne's paths by bike. For us it will be the Main Yarra Trail. Contact BV to register so they can plan food and giveaways and to reserve a free copy of the special Parkways Guide. Plus a draw to win a weekend at Wilsons Promontory National Park valued at \$450, www.bv.com.au & search "Discovery Day" | | BV 8636 8888 | Westerfolds Park Mel 33 G1 |
| Sun 13th | Doing Doncaster East - (with a few tiny hills). Coffee at Beasley's | 20km Easy | Terry 9848-6027 | 9:30am Ruffey Lake Park 'The Boulevard' carpark Mel 33 F10 |
| Sun 21st | The You Yangs Ride Details TBA but will involve train travel as well | | Ed 9850-7062 | |
| Sat 27th | Autumn in Blackburn (may need a name change!) details TBA | Easy 25km | Anne 9890-8006 | |
| June | | | | |
| Sat 3rd | Blind Dandy Ride Blind & Dandy Ck tracks All bike path ride starting and ending at Heathmont station, or more correctly ending at a coffee shop nearby! (Take train from Blackburn at 10:07am) | 25km easy | Harv 9890-8006 | 10:30am SHARP Heathmont Station Mel 50A12 |
| July | | | | |
| Sun 2nd | Woodend Wander The old favourite on quiet country roads ... BYO Lunch or buy at Woodend before we ride to Hanging Rock | 40km medium | Harv 9890-8006 | 10am Bourke's Bakery Woodend |

Interested? [Email us to find out more about the BUG - seball@netlink.com.au](mailto:seball@netlink.com.au)

Whitehorse Cyclists Inc

Rides Program

Last updated 21 April 2006

Cycling opportunities in our area: [Graeme's message board](#)

**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.

Club members.... Like to lead a ride? Click here for [66 ideas](#) ...There are also more detailed ride lists in the [members' area](#)

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 |
|-------------|-------------------|-------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Thurs 4 May | Amy Gillett ride | 50 | Med | Ken 9801 7157 |
| 7 May | Maribyrnong River | 50-65 | Med | Elsa 9849 0131 |
| 7 May | BAD Ride | 50, 75, 100 | Depends! | pdf details |

| | | | | |
|--|---|---------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| Tues 9 May | 2nd Tuesday easy ride | 30-35 | Easy | Loretto 9808 1960 |
| 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 Lilydale Gruyere circuit | 45 | Med | Ken 9801 7157 |
| Sun 14 May | Anaconda ride | 70 | Hard | Graeme 9571 0671 |
| Tues 16 May | 3rd Tuesday easy ride | 30-35 | Easy | Ken 9801 7157 |
| Thurs 18 May | Australia's Biggest Morning Tea: Brighton | 50 | Med | Marion 9844 2971 |
| Sun 21 May | St Andrews | 50 | Med/Hard | Ian & Val 9844 3038 |
| Tues 23 May | 4th Tuesday easy ride | 30-35 | Easy | Elsa 9849 0131 |
| Thurs 25 May | Box Hill to Dandenong | 55 | Med | Ken 9801 7157 |
| Sun 28 May | Box Hill to Port Phillip | 60 | Easy/Med | Doug 9802 6702 |
| Tues 30 May | 5th Tuesday easy ride | 30-35 | Easy | Mike T 9859 3647 |
| Thurs 1 June | Box Hill to Diamond Creek | 55 | Med | Doug 9802 6702 |
| Sun 4 June | Williamstown | 55 | Med | Mike T 9859 3647 |
| Tues June 6 | 1st Tuesday easy ride | 30-35 | Easy | Len 9898 2660 |
| Thurs 8 June | Thursday ride City- Mordialloc | 45 | Easy | Russell 9850 4375 |
| Queens Birthday June 10-12 | South Gippsland Explorer | Various | Med | Mike & Anna 9830 4195 |
| Tues June 13 | 2nd Tuesday easy ride | 30-35 | Easy | David M 9885 7673 |
| Tuesday 13 June 7.45 pm : Club Night: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Mike Taylor 9859 3647 | | | | |
| Thurs 15 June | Asian lunch in Richmond | 45 | Easy | Ken 9801 7157 or Tom 9427 0332 |
| Sun 18 June | Max's brunch ride | 35 | Easy | Max 9899 9556 or Anna 9830 4195 |
| Tues June 20 | 3rd Tuesday easy ride | 30-35 | Easy | tba |
| Thurs 22 June | Thursday ride | 50 | Med | tba |
| Sun 25 June | Adventure ride | | Easy | Yvonne & Bruce |

| | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-------|------|-----------------------|
| | | | | 9852 1921 |
| Tues June 27 | 4th Tuesday easy ride | 30-35 | Easy | tba |
| Thurs 29 June | Thursday ride | 50 | Med | tba |
| Sun 2 July | To be decided | | Easy | Graeme S 8504 0773 |
| Tues July 4 | 1st Tuesday easy ride | 30-35 | Easy | tba |
| Thurs 6 July | Thursday ride | 50 | Med | tba |
| Tuesday 11 July 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. *Novice riders will be looked after on shorter and slower versions of scheduled rides.* Members BYO morning tea. We welcome visiting riders.

May 2006

Sun 7 Riders' Choice

Tue 9 Croydon 53 km. Anniversary Trail to Canterbury station (1 x H2). **Train** (Zone 2,3 ticket) to Heathmont. Ride to Ringwood Lake for break. Then up Mullum-Mullum Trail to end, streets (H2) to Croydon town. Down Tarralla and Dandenong Creek Trails then streets (short H3, + H1), and Koonung Trail home. Optional link with train again at Heathmont would shorten ride by ~12 km.

Wed 10 General Meeting. 8 pm Watsonia Library. All welcome.

Sun 14 Queens Park 45 km. Out and back to Moonee Ponds via Capital City Trail, M.P. Creek Trail, Bent St.

Tue 16 Currawong Park 35 km. Out and back via Westerfolds & Mullum Trail. Short H3 into Park.

Sun 21 Carrum–Dandenong (≥ 6 hours). **Meet at Heidelberg train station–Sunday Saver ticket.** Depart **8.41** am train to city. Then 2nd train to Sandringham. Ride to Carrum for break (20 km) (shops en route). Ride to Dandenong (15 km). Train to Hughesdale. Ride Anniversary Trail home (20 km).

Tue 23 Riders' Choice

Sun 28 Koonung Trail 35 km. H1 and short H2 out. Break at Bill's Forest. Return via Ruffey Lake (H2 from Koonung 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 May | | |

| | | | |
|------------------|--|-----------------|------------------|
| Thurs 4 May | <i>Sean Deany's photos of his 2002 trip Melb to Darwin</i> | | <i>Gail</i> |
| Fri 5 May | Wine Lovers get together at Kirsty's | tippling | Kirsty |
| Sat 6 | Smiths Gully Saunter MTB ride | 45km med hard | Graham |
| Sat 6 | Tree planting at Woodlands with Friends of Moonee Ponds Ck | 50km easy | Peter |
| Sun 7 | Gisborne Loop on quiet country roads | 55km medium | Anne |
| Tues 9 | CBD Club lunch Gopals vegetarian | Indian | Kathy |
| Thurs 11 | <i>Trip planning and social night</i> | | <i>Gael</i> |
| Sat 13 | Country ramble to stretch the legs | 80km med-hard | Peter |
| Sun 14 | Stony Point to Frankston | 60km medium | Jon |
| W/E 13 & 14 | Euroa loop via Mt Separation Cottages | 120km med | Leon |
| Tues 16 | Club Lunch Starpark Café Camberwell | yummy | Fred |
| Thurs 18 | <i>Club auction. Bring in your unwanted bike bits for resale to eager members</i> | | <i>Fred</i> |
| Sat 20 | Flat Track Hill MTB - Toolangi State Forest | 40km med-hard | Geoff |
| Sun 21 | Yea loop: up & down hills, in & out of forest; car based | 60km medium | Elizabeth |
| Thurs 25 | <i>Sleepless in the Czech Republic and beyond. Gerry and Robyn present slides of their recent trip to Eastern Europe</i> | | <i>Elizabeth</i> |
| Sat 27 | Mason's Falls Kinglake NP | 75km medium | Peter |
| Sun 28 | Geelong to Queenscliff via Bellarine Rail Trail | 50-65km med | Susan |
| W/E 27 & 28 | Intro to Touring ride - train based ride on the Bendigo line | 100km med | Jon |
| 2006 June | | | |
| Thurs 1 | <i>Kerry's Christmas trip 05-06 Sth Gippsland and Great Divide</i> | <i>gripping</i> | <i>Phil</i> |
| 2 June - 12 June | Barossa & Clare Valleys tour, cabin accom | 500km medium | Glenn |
| Sat 3 | Brunswick Op-shops | 15km easy | John |
| Sun 4 | Lilydale to Upwey via Mt Dandenong Observatory | 50 km med hard | Graham |
| Mon 5 | Club lunch at Graduate House; \$7.50 4 course buffet | edible | Darren |

For further information on any event, contact the Touring Secretary Gael Reid on (03) 9495 0538, after hours. Or at rides@mbtc.org.au

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 | Description | Grade | Contact |
|-----------------------|---|---------------|--|
| Friday 5 May | Ron's Bush Dance, Collingwood Town Hall. (yha bushwalking club) | | Colleen |
| Sun 7 May | Carlton - Hurstbridge - Whittlesea - Carlton - 80ks - | Medium / Hard | Mark Wassell |
| Sun 14 May | Williamstown - lunch ride | Easy | Ian Wood |
| Sun 21 May | Main Yarra Trail & Diamond Creek Path - 80km | Easy | Chris Kent |
| Sun 28 May | Carrum to Dandenong return | Medium | Colleen |
| Sun 4 June | TBA | | Liz |
| Sat to Monday 10 June | Weekend ride - Locksley - Base Camp - Nagambie / Strathbogies | | Kathy |
| Friday 16 June | Social night - TBA | | Liz |
| Sat 17 June | Hurstbridge - St Andrews Loop | Medium | Paul |
| Sun 18 June | NO RIDE | | Contact yhacycling@yahoo.com.au to lead a ride on this date |
| Sun 25 June | NO RIDE | | Contact yhacycling@yahoo.com.au to lead a ride on this date |
| Sun 2 July | Mitcham - Emerald - Monbulk - Olinda - Mitcham | Hard | Daniel |
| Sun 9 July | Collingwood - Whittlesea | | Mark / Nevi |
| Sun 16 July | NO RIDE | | Contact yhacycling@yahoo.com.au to lead a ride on this date |
| Sun 23 July | NO RIDE | | Contact yhacycling@yahoo.com.au to lead a ride on this date |
| Sun 30 July | NO RIDE | | Contact yhacycling@yahoo.com.au to lead a ride on this date |

Last updated on 1st May, 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: 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.