

BOROONDARA

Bicycle Users Group

Newsletter March 2005

Boroondara BUG meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, except January. Next meeting: 7.30pm Wednesday 9th March, at the Swinburne Hawthorn Campus in room TD244, diagonally opposite TD246 where we met last year. 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/~bदारabug/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

Macleod Secondary College on the Great Victorian Bike Ride, *continued*

DAY 3 – Port Campbell to Camperdown, 29th November 2004

Even though today was only 89km we all found it was harder than the day before as there was 3km hill after 3km hill. Only Liam, Callum and Ms. Moorhouse were able to ride up all of the hills. Three of our people and 1000 others took the Sag Wagon and five hundred people left the ride altogether. We were able to go on the Rail Trail which only Zac, Joanna, Marelena and Hannah took and found it very bumpy and hard to ride on. They were able to stop at the lake and have a quick swim. We had a nice lunch today and not so big a queue. Today was the first day of bad weather and it started to rain a little. Hayden Stewart, Callum and Liam climbed up the hill overlooking the campsite and mooned us all who were setting up our tent, and on the way down Callum fell over and rolled a little down the hill. We all found the group getting closer as we again sat together and talked that night.

Teachers' Notes-I decided it was better if I rode at the back because if there were any problems or delays with students I had a good chance of catching the others up. It is quite a challenge having to ride behind everyone else, deal with problems and then the pressure is on to ride hard to catch up with group and get into camp at a reasonable time. I let the group go and then had some quiet time in town at a very pleasant café, drinking real tea from a pot (luxury!), reading the newspaper, writing postcards and ringing school. The scenery along the coast was stunning. Before reaching the lunch stop at Timboon coming fast downhill the man in front called out something completely unintelligible-I realised there was a black snake on the road and just managed to avoid hitting it. Not so the person behind me who just clipped it and it reared up. Luckily no harm done to either snake or cyclist.

By now it was very hot. Sam was feeling quite ill and I waited with her for the sag wagon. We had a delicious Timboon fruit icecream. Also a koala came into the lunch area, strolling across to the icecream van causing much excitement. At this point I had no idea how hard the next section would be due to the hills and the heat! After I saw Sam onto the sag wagon I caught up with Sharon and Jan on one of the many hills. We stopped at a church hall for tea and biscuits at Cobden, very welcome. Didn't get into Camperdown until 6.30. Way too late. A very tough day. I am really annoyed with the route planner on this trip as the day was exhausting for the students. I am really concerned after 3 long, hard days they will hate it so much they won't ever consider another GVBR.

DAY 4 – Camperdown to Gellibrand, 30th November 2004

Today was thankfully an easy day of riding as we all needed a bit of a break. The 10km down hill into the campsite was fantastic and so much fun! When we got to the campsite it was pouring and we had to set up the tents in the rain. Everything was wet and smelt damp. The campsite was a mud heap and as we walked to and from the meal area we all nearly lost our shoes in the mud. In fact Hannah and Kaela actually were stuck in the mud, which was a pretty funny sight.

Gellibrand is the smallest town that we have been to with only one shop that was full of people wanting to buy food as the dinner that night was pretty bad. The movie that night was cancelled due to the rain so there wasn't much to do, so we all went to bed and talked to our room mate (tent mate). Zac forgot to put his tent up so he had to sleep in the foyer of Tom and Hayden Stewart's tent where he got soaked because of the rain. When we were riding Hayden Solar got pulled up the cops for speeding down the hills-speed freak!!

Teachers' Notes-Thankfully despite everything our students seem reasonably positive and in good spirits. They are bonding well and enjoying hanging out together which is great. No complaints which is really good. Jan and I have to rely on the faster students getting in to camp early enough to locate a camping area for the whole group, locating the luggage and then setting up enough tents and bikes to keep the area from being encroached upon. They are getting very good at this ably supported by the parents and Kate.

We were warned at the teachers' meeting that tomorrow will be a very difficult ride, 15km straight up and cool and wet conditions, possibly wild winds, so to discourage any students who feel it will be too much for them. Most of our students decided to take the sag wagon through to Apollo Bay given the weather and the steep gradient of the ride. Many of them have found it quite exhausting so far and don't want to push themselves to the point where they are really not enjoying it, which is sensible. We decided to give them the option of deciding for themselves how far they wanted to push themselves by giving them the facts rather than telling them what to do. The fast riders are keen to go early and arrive at Apollo Bay early as many of them are staying at Liam's holiday house and are keen to catch up with families and luxury!!

DAY 5- Gellibrand to Apollo Bay, 1st December 2004

As on every other day Kate got up and as she was packing up all her things she would sing and have a good time and always make the day worth getting up to. Most of us took the Sag Wagon today as the ride was supposed to be way too challenging, but those who did it said that it wasn't that bad. One of our students, Hayden Stewart got mild hypothermia and was made to take the Sag wagon. The 15km hill was a struggle for many. Those of us who took the Sag Wagon were able to look around town for the day or go to the beach. Apollo Bay was very, very windy which made it hard to set up our tents that were all bent over and warped in the wind. Prue, Linda and Tom were able to make a kite with Hayden's tent and ran around the paddock, and again with our sleeping bags to dry them out in the wind. Then Tom got Marelena's sleeping bag and dipped it in cow poo. Everybody had to dodge stepping on the cow poo as it was all over our campsite. We played cricket and on Prue's very first bowl, she managed to land the ball in the cow poo. We then had fun throwing the ball at people with the cow poo on it. Hannah was hit in the back and Lachlan was also hit.

It was very cold and it started to rain that night as we all decided to go to the movies rugged up in our sleeping bags which got wet and unfortunately made us colder than before. Many of the students were able to stay with their families in nice cosy houses while the rest of us camped in the wind and rain. When we got to our tents after the movie, we went into 'the Taj Mahal' and pranked people from school which kept us busy for a good half an hour.

Teachers' Notes-The day began with drizzle but the ascent of Lavers Hill wasn't as bad as had been made out. I waited for Zac at the first rest stop where a freezing wind and rain was making conditions quite miserable. Stood in the queue for 25 mins waiting for a grande latte. It was worth it especially as a fire had been lit by the time I got my coffee so I could stand with one side facing the warmth. The lunch stop at Laver's Hill was interesting. I knew only Zac was behind me so I waited for him, after buying some cheese at the store to replace the disgusting lunch - frozen frittatas (they were meant to be thawed). The plastic fork snapped when I tried to push it in! Some people were lucky, when they put their plastic forks in the partially thawed frittata, liquid oozed out. Little did I know that Kate was inside the General Store having hot soup and a dev tea!!!

Zac arrived a little chilled and thankful for his birthday present which I gave to him early as he needed it - a thermal long sleeved tee shirt as he had become very cold on yesterday's ride. We polished off the cheese and then I spied Hayden Stewart who by rights should have been ahead. It turned out that as he had been standing by the side of the road waiting for his mates he had become very cold and had been picked up by the sag wagon and diagnosed with mild hypothermia!! I attempted to find the sag wagon to make sure he was on it before I left but to no avail. None of the volunteers I spoke to knew anything nor did they care!! When I turned around Hayden had vanished! I spent over an hour looking for him. Very frustrating especially as the mobile number he had given me was not correct. Finally conscious of the time I sent Zac on his way and then followed, hoping Hayden and the other boy he was with had found the sag wagon and were on it.

The cross winds coming down from Laver's Hill were freaky and blew me right across to the other side of the road, a little hairy to say the least. At last Apollo Bay came into view. Stopped at a viewing point and an echidna was merrily proceeding across the road when a police car stopped to escort him so he wouldn't be cleaned up by cyclists or cars! Arrived at the

campsite quite late and was met by Jan and Kate with the news that our tents were up despite the gale force winds, that everyone including Hayden had arrived and that all those staying at Liam's had gone. Thank goodness tomorrow is a rest day!

Thanks to Anne Moorehouse and the students from Macleod Secondary College for these journal entries

Simple but Effective Cycle Advocacy

From time to time all cyclists encounter problems and hazards of various kinds on the routes they cycle, whether on roads or bike paths. If you notice something that you think needs improvement in Boroondara you can use the Hazard Report Form on the BBUG web site to report this to the Boroondara Council. But there is no need to restrict your quest for improvement to Boroondara.

Outside your own territory you may be unsure which authority is responsible for the area in question and indeed this can sometimes be difficult to ascertain. Responsibility for bike facilities is dispersed amongst various bodies including VicRoads, Parks Victoria and local councils. If in doubt it is probably simplest to contact the relevant local council and they will let you know if someone else is responsible.

You can check the name of the local council by looking up the location in question [in Melway](#). Municipal boundaries are marked by a thick yellow line and municipal names are shown in bold red italics. [The following web site](#) lists all Victorian local governments: <http://www.doi.vic.gov.au/doi/internet/localgov.nsf>. Why not list this in your [Favourites](#) for ease of reference? This site provides contact details for councils.

The simplest way to report a problem is to send an email to the general [email](#) address provided for the council, [outlining](#) the problem you have identified. Make sure you provide a clear, descriptive subject heading. Your email [will generally be redirected to the appropriate person. This is](#) usually quicker and [easier than ringing and trying to track that person down. If you don't get a response](#) to your email [then it may be necessary to try a different tactic like phoning](#).

Always cc your email to Bicycle Victoria as they like to know about problems cyclists encounter and may well be prepared to back you up if they see it as an important issue. They will probably ask you to keep them informed about the response to your email.

Next time you encounter a problem on a bike ride take the time to report it in this way and you may be pleasantly surprised by the speed and positive nature of the response. And as well as possibly playing a part in eliminating one particular problem you will be also be helping to raise the profile of cycling in the community.

Julia Blunden

General News

Extended Radio Coverage for Cycling

Australia's only cycling and triathlon radio show, *first off the bike* on SEN, has moved to Sunday night at 8pm. The program has also been extended to 2 hours and will run all year round. A feature of the show is the 'conversation on wheels' segment, where the biggest names in the sport are interviewed. In the first season guests on the show included Robbie McEwen, Graeme Brown and Phil Liggett. The show looks at cycling and triathlon news and results from around Australia and the world. Listeners can also call in and ask the guests a question. It's not often that you get a chance to speak to some of the biggest names in cycling from the comfort of your own lounge room.

first off the bike Hosts: Matthew Keenan and Phil Wrochna

When: Sunday, 8-10pm

Station: SEN 1116 AM, Melbourne; Talk back: 1300 72 1116; Email: firstoffthebike@sen.com.au; Website: www.sen.com.au

For further information contact: Matthew Keenan, first off the bike, phone: 9641 1913, M: 0438 048 083

Thanks to David Leong for this item.

Product and book Reviews

New Sydney Riding Guide

Bike rides Around Sydney: Exploring Sydney by Bike, Ferry and Train. Authors: Ian Connellan and Neil Irvine. Publisher: Open Spaces Publishing. RRP: \$32.95

If you are thinking of heading up to Sydney with your bike be sure to get hold of a copy of this excellent new guide. Connellan and Irvine are experienced cyclists and authors; both have edited *Australian Cyclist* at different times and both have written for Lonely Planet. Open Spaces Publishing has already set a new standard for ride guides with detailed and accurate maps, innovative design, and high quality photographs.

This guide contains thirty detailed ride descriptions with thirty-six coloured maps. A new feature is the inclusion of twenty-one elevation profiles, some of which will make your hair stand on end! There's also a four-page section on 'Kids on Bikes', a list of bike shops keyed to the maps, and information about Sydney's trains and ferries, as well as lots of useful advice on almost every aspect of cycling.

You may need to climb a few big hills and tackle some busy roads but the authors of this book certainly make it sound like a worthwhile exercise to cycle scenic Sydney. They've even found more off-road bike paths than this Melburnian dreamed Sydney possessed!

Julia Blunden

Events

BV's Bike Path Discovery Day

Sunday 20 March marks the first time day will be held in Melbourne so mark this in your diary now!

[Register free online](#) to have a free Parkways Guide waiting for you at one of six Park starts and be eligible to win some great prizes. There are many fantastic paths that lead into the heart of Melbourne.

Bike Path Discovery Day invites you to discover parks and trails into the city, enjoying a fantastic cycling experience all the way! Start from the Park near you, or choose a Park you haven't been to and discover a new way into town as you make your way to Federation Square for the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival.

The best thing about this event is that it is absolutely FREE! Why not make it a family day out - pack a picnic lunch and soak up the live music on the river terrace. Invite some friends who want to get into bike riding and show them how much fun it is!

Six sensational starts

Pick your Park start from any one of these locations:

1. Bay Trail - from National Water Sports Centre (Melway 97 J2)
2. Gardiners Creek/Scotchmans Creek Trail - from Jells Park (Melway 71 J7)
3. Main Yarra Trail - from Westerfolds Park (Melway 33 G1)
4. Moonee Ponds Creek Trail - from Woodlands Park (Melway 178 B6)
5. Maribyrnong River Trail - from Pipemakers Park (Melway 28 B10)
6. Western Bay Trail - from Truganina Park - 100 Steps to Federation (Melway 208 K3)

Choose your start time between 9am and 12 noon. Or begin at one of the intermediate points for a shorter ride. If you choose to start from one of the Park Starts, most of the trails will begin at the Parks Victoria Visitor Information Centres inside the Park. One or two trails will begin from a temporary Information Centre set-up.

Volunteers

If riding the trails isn't for you, we'd love to see you on the day as one of our much loved Vollies! [Click here](#) for information on Volunteering on Bike Path Discovery Day!

Great Guide and fabulous prizes

Register free online to give yourself a chance to win some fantastic [prizes](#), including one of two fabulous Learsport Cruiser 770 hybrid bike, six books by Julia Blunden 'Bike Rides Around Melbourne', 50 Parks Victoria books 'Victoria's National Parks Explorer's Guide' and many more great prizes and reserve your free Guide! The Guide folds out to show all the main paths on the network as well as useful information such as the many attractions along the way and rules and etiquette on our shared paths.

Lots going on in town

[Coffee and chocolate](#) are great rewards for a cycling adventure! Park your bike at a designated parking area and discover the treats at the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival. Sunday highlights include caffeine-fuelled jazz and Latin rhythms on the main stage, chocolate indulgence at Zinc, kids activities at Art Play and the final of the Australia Barista Championship! In addition, Moomba's WaterFest will be on and the Dragon Boats will be racing on the ride.

From the BV web site

Monthly Hawthorn Cycling Club Meetings

A regular informal 'club-chat' meeting has been arranged for club members and interested parties to get together on a regular basis and discuss matters relating to Hawthorn Cycling Club and cycling in general. The monthly meetings are informal, social and used by club volunteers to plan and support club events and workshop ideas about improving the club for members.

The meeting is held on the third Thursday of each month starting at 7pm.

The venue for the meeting is at present, the Tower Hotel, 686 Burwood Road, Hawthorn however, it is important that participants check the Hawthorn Cycling Club website at www.hawthorncycling.org prior to attending as the venue may change. The next meeting date is 17th March 2005.

Contact: Peter Cayley phone: 9819 5599, e-mail: peter.cayley@hawthorncycling.org

Thanks to David Leong for forwarding this item.

In Box

Bike Blackspots

I'd like to kick off a discussion on what others have found to be dangerous times and dangerous places to cycle. After this morning's events where in the space of 2km I nearly got hit by 2 right hand turning cars, 2 cars turned left in front of me, and a bus that came VERY close, I felt that it may help to get the collected wisdom of commuters. For instance, is 8am (or 3pm) on a school day too dangerous especially near the Kew schools? Is any road without a bike lane to be avoided? Should you slow down before all side streets in case a car should appear?

Best regards, Peter Read

[Bike Lanes and Training Rides – Try this one](#)

[I live in Surrey Hills, have a road bike, and one Saturday morning in December, not a lot of time to do a Beach Road Bash. I was tired of the Kew Boulevard loop, so I racked the brain \(one only\). Thought output was: there are new marked bike lanes in Boroondara, I've previously ridden up and down and up and down Balwyn Road marked lanes, let's do the others as well. So head north up Union Rd \(marked north of Mt Albert Rd\) and down Belmore Rd \(no lanes\) to almost Elgar Rd, where-upon do a U turn and retrace pedalling to Mont Albert Rd. Headed East, no marked lanes so headed back from Elgar and further west. At Balwyn Rd, turned north on marked lanes to Maud St, turning west. Maud St was pleasant and quiet, so followed this to Burke Rd before turning back to Balwyn Rd. South down Balwyn Rd to Mt Albert Rd and west to Burke Rd. Breakfast was calling by this time, so the hunger pangs drew me back along Mt Albert Rd on the marked lane to Union Rd, and south to home. I think I recorded 23 km and took a bit over an hour for this ride, with all the U-turns. By doing more laps, time and distance can be increased. Not bad for a local ride.](#)

[Andrew Walker – VicRoads commuter and sport cyclist.](#)

Bike Counters Needed

How many people ride into the CBD? To help improve conditions for all cyclists and get More People Cycling More Often, it's important we know. And we need your help to find out.

Help us count riders at a designated city location between 7:30-9am on any weekday morning of your choice between Monday 28 February and Friday 18 March 2005. Afterwards we will provide you with a caffeine fix and muffin.

If you can help, contact Graeme Cameron at Bicycle Victoria: graemec@bv.com.au <<mailto:graemec@bv.com.au>> or (03) 8636 8841. We want as many helpers as possible to count the number of riders in Melbourne.

Regards, Graeme Cameron, Bicycle Victoria, Campaigns Assistant

Calling All Bicycle Lovers

Dear BUG or club,

Ride On® Love BUG (and club) award. Staff on the Ride On® magazine team at Bicycle Victoria are currently working on the June/July issue, which, because we are all so fond of our bicycles, is going to be loosely themed with Love.

As you probably know, we are now running our BUGs and clubs list twice a year and are featuring articles on individual groups in other issues. For June we would like to have a story on the BUG or club with the best, most romantic story of love in the saddle. So please give this some thought: is there a couple in your group who have met over the casual fixing of a puncture and fallen head over handlebars in love? Is there a tale of two good riders who have, against all odds on an uphill ride, tumbled into each other's arms and cycled happily ever after?

Let us know - give us a bit of their story so that we can write an article - and you could be the featured group for the winter issue as the winner of the eminent and amorous Ride On® Love BUG (and club) award.

Please drop us a line or send us an email within the next couple of weeks.

Regards, Gavin Wright.

Email reply: gavinw@bv.com.au

Postal reply: Attn Ride On team, GPO 1961R, Melbourne 3001

News from Neighbouring BUGs

Capital City Trail – Missing Link

Cub Brewery Path and Gipps Street Steps

The Main Yarra Trail between the Walmer St Bridge in Richmond (Melway map 2H F2) and Collins Bridge at Gipps St in Abbotsford is of poor quality and requires a long hill climb in Yarra Bend Park and dangerous entry points to bridges (a cyclist suffered paraplegia as a result of hitting a bollard). At Gipps Street a flight of steps takes trail users down to river level but restricts access to the trail for families with trailers or child seats on the bike, tandems, recumbents and anyone unable to carry their bike up or down the steps. Frail walkers and wheelchairs users are also prevented from using the trail.

The City of Yarra is investigating an alternative alignment of the trail, which would involve continuing the trail on the Abbotsford side around the back of the CUB brewery (see Melway map 2D C12). This would not only eliminate the steep steps but also the steep climb on the Boroondara side of the river.

From the Bicycle Victoria website

YarraBUG supports this development, and we strongly advise cyclists and pedestrians to write letter to both John Thwaites and City of Yarra, including *YOUR* personal reasons such as,

- Reduction of commuting time
- Improvement of access and safety issues to Collin Bridge/Gipps Street via the re-development of the approaches for both cyclists and pedestrians
- Greater access for all trail users, see above
- Significant benefits for the local community – building a vital missing link on the Capital City Trail

John Thwaites, Ministerial Office, Level 3, 1 Treasury Place, East Melbourne Vic 3000; Tel: 9651 1222; Fax: 9651 1188; email: john.thwaites@parliament.vic.gov.au

City of Yarra, PO Box 168 Richmond Vic 3121; Tel: 9205 5555; Fax: 8417 6666; email: info@yarracity.vic.gov.au

Additional Help Needed by Yarra BUG

On March 20, BV are holding a Bike Trails Discovery Day instead of the Great Melbourne Bike Ride. One of the paths listed will be the Main Yarra Trail, from Westerfolds Park (Melway 33 G1). Now, depending upon numbers, many of these cyclists may have to deal with the Gipps Street Steps when they get to Abbotsford.

YarraBUG started a campaign on these steps back at the Bicycling Australia Show last October. We have been thinking about having a stall/campaign at the actual steps soon, and the Bike Trails Discovery Day looks like a great opportunity.

Carol has written letter drafts, and we could have a stall there, with more information, plans for the area, stamps & envelopes by donation etc.

During the day, I was also thinking of having an Easter Egg Hunt over in the Picnic area on the Boroondara side of the bridge, for both kids & grownups. Anyway, these concrete steps are a great annoyance for all cyclists who travel through the area, would your BUG be interested in helping out & having some fun as well? Any ideas or suggestions would be great.

Chris Star, *Yarra Bicycle Users Group*

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/yarrabug>

New website - coming soon! www.yarrabug.org

This will be an agenda item at our next BUG meeting but I'm sure Chris would be grateful for help or suggestions from any individuals as well, ed.

Boroondara News

Kooyong Car Park

At the last BBUG meeting concern was expressed about Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club plans to formalise car parking under the Monash Freeway and the impact this may have on cyclists using the Gardiners Creek bike path. BV was contacted and the following response was received.

Yes, we provided comment to council after the planning dept at Boroondara sent us a copy of the plans. This came about in response to an objection by a bike rider who saw the planning permit sign on the trail and requested in his submission that BV be consulted.

According to council the gravel trail along the fence line is a vehicle access track (even though trail users consider it to be the main trail) and the path to the north of the vegetated area is the official trail. We suggested they formalise the vehicle access track as the official trail as it is most direct and it is unreasonable to expect people (especially walkers) to divert further north.

We opposed full time use of the car park but conceded that occasional use of the car park was acceptable provided the entrance was monitored by car parking controllers. We also recommended a redesign of the entry point - relocate the vehicle access track further north and design it so it crosses the shared path at a right angle and priority is given to trail users (with give way signs for motorists, as outlined in Austroads Part 14 Figure 6-30). Sightlines to be fully maintained at this location (ie don't plant bushes there).

We will probably need to pursue the upgrade of the trail at this location.

Regards, Mary McParland, Trails Development Officer, Campaigns - Bicycle Victoria

Cyclists who use this route should be vigilant for further developments and keep both the BBUG and BV informed if there are problems.

Boroondara BUG News

Extraordinary Meeting Wednesday 2nd February, held at 16 Jervis Street, Burwood

Graeme Stone, Graham Ellis, David Leong, Jason den Hollander and Julia Blunden met at Graeme Stone's place to examine and provide feedback on VicRoads' proposed PBN treatments for the Chandler Highway and Tooronga, Riverdale and Glenferrie roads. The group was generally satisfied with the proposed treatments but after detailed examination was able to provide a number of suggestions for improvements on all but Glenferrie Road. As this was less urgent it was left for the next general meeting.

Minutes of Boroondara BUG Meeting 6.30pm Wednesday 9th February 2005, held at 29 Elgin Street, Hawthorn

Present: Graeme Stone, David Leong, Phil Crohn, Tim Connors, Julia Blunden

Apologies: Jason den Hollander, Graham Ellis

New Members and visitors welcome : A welcome was extended to Tim Connors, a Swinburne student, who was attending his first BBUG meeting.

BV letter to Boroondara Council There was broad agreement with the letter prepared by Bart Sbeghen but a few suggestions for changes. JB undertook to edit the letter and circulate the revised version to the group before passing it on to Bart. GS was to let Bart what was happening.

Submissions on PBN treatments on Chandler, Tooronga and Riversdale roads GS reported that the submissions prepared by BBUG members at the previous week's extraordinary meeting had generally been favourably received by Alex Brigo at VicRoads. A few further details were discussed and GS was to report back to Alex with these. GS also agreed to send out an email to the Discussion Group with all the details of the BBUG submission.

Submission on PBN Treatment on Glenferrie Road There was general approval for what was proposed in the VicRoads plan tabled by GS, provided that an SBPL rather than a WKL is used north of Callantina Road. A WKS on the final section of the east side approaching the freeway was also recommended. GS to report back to Alex at VicRoads.

Car Park Under Monash Freeway Kooyong Lawn Tennis Club has received the go-ahead for a car park under the freeway. Concerns were raised about the impact on cyclists using the Gardiners Creek Path. JB agreed to alert BV to this issue.

Boroondara Bulletin Article It was noted that the Jan-Feb issue of the Bulletin carried a piece about the responsibilities and rights of motorists in regard to on-road bike lanes as requested by BBUG. However there was at least one major omission. JB agreed to write a follow-up letter.

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 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

February Ride

Was a beautiful day for the Moonee Ponds Creek ride from Upfield Railway Station. 14 riders headed west along Barry Road mixing it with only light traffic. With Julia's book (but no Julia – she was off hiking – for a change) we cruised down Broadmeadows Valley Park then up Moonee Ponds Creek to within sight of Tullamarine. A local cyclist alerted us to an entry to Woodlands historic park – for next time. After a leisurely lunch at Westmeadows we coasted downstream past North Melbourne Station (most wanted to keep going) to Docklands and Flinders Street for the train home. A good day of 48km riding – with only one significant uphill.

Next Ride Sunday, 13th March OR Monday 14th March 2005

(As you can see I'm still working on the ride date. Once regular riders have been consulted the date will be confirmed; please ring or email me if you aren't on the CDGBR list and would like more information. Graeme Stone).

THE RIDE: A leisurely tour of about 25km taking in the Whitehorse Heritage Trail through Mont Albert and Surrey Hills.

WHERE: Meet at East Camberwell Railway Station (north side) at 10.30 for 10.45 am departure.

DESCRIPTION: Historic journey through Mont Albert and Surrey Hills taking in 10 sites described in pamphlet compiled by historical Societies and Whitehorse Council. Leafy streets, elegant architecture, a village atmosphere AND a space age musical loo! One short steep hill to walk up then cruise down Mont Albert Rd in your very own bike lane to the Anniversary Trail and hence to Kew, the Yarra and billabongs.

REFRESHMENTS: Several opportunities to buy these along the route or BYO. Coffee shops? Not a problem.

CDGBR Program for 2005

Ride and other Dates for 2005 : Sundays: 20/3 (BV Bike Trails Discovery Day), 17/4, 15/5, 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
Mar 9 th	Westgate Park Mel 56 F1 or ride from Flinders St. station.	Ride the Capital City Trail circuit with an extension down St. Georges Rd., 50km.	#
Mar 16 th	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Mar 23 rd	As above	Ride to Brimbank Park and return, 70km.	!^
Mar 30 th	No ride this week		
Apr 6 th	Collingwood Children's Farm carpark, St. Heliers St., MEL 44 G5 or ride from Victoria Park station.	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Apr 13 th	As above	Ride the Yarra Trail/ Anniversary Trail/ Gardiners Creek Trail via Hayes Paddock, approx 45km.	*
Apr 20 th	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Apr 27 th	Somerville (carpark behind the hotel), MEL 107 E12 or train to the Somerville station.	Tour through Hastings, the Bittern Coastal Wetlands to Stoney Point and Somers and return, approx 40km.	# if no wind!
May 4 th	Melbourne Zoo carpark, MEL 29 E11 or train to Royal Park	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
May 11 th	As above	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:

March 12-14 joining the Wangaratta BUG for their annual Labor Day Weekend ride (contact: Alan 5721 5073 / Jim 5721 5193 to book in)

Other 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

Weekend Rides Calendar

		GRADE	CONTACT	MEET AT...
March				

Sat 5th	Women on Wheels -Women's Health Week A FREE public ride with a coffee stop. Limited numbers of public allowed. <i>Non members - Bookings essential</i>	Easy 5km to 25km	Harv 9890-8006	9.30am Porter St Car Pk Westerfolds Park Mel: 33 F3
Sat 5th	Zoo Jazz Ride (Zoo Twilights) <i>Elvis, JOK & the Big O with the Allstars</i> Picnic on the lawns around the Bandstand. - see entry for Sat 26th Feb. Adult entry fee \$20.00	Very Easy 10km	Steve 9894-7975	4pm(lights needed)Yarra Bend Rd (Mel. 2D F1)optional - start @ Blackburn

Up-Coming Rides:

[Email me](mailto:) with suggestions please.

Very Advance Notice:

8-10 April 2005. Neville & Cheryl's famous **SANDY POINT RIDE**

Complete with Spit Roast or something similar on the Sat night. Beds for about 12 people and plus tent space for more. As usual there will be an approx 55km ride Sat and say 30km approx on Sunday. Further details closer to the event. MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW

If you like to think about riding to an event try looking up

<http://www.eventwatch.com.au/>

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

Whitehorse Cyclists Inc

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
Thurs 3 Mar	Meander to Malvern	50	Easy-Med	Bruce, 9848 4804
Sun 6 Mar	Box Hill to Black Rock	75	Med	Graeme S, 0425 750 773
Sun 6 Mar	Our New Zealand riders return home			
Tuesday 8 March at Note new time:7.45 pm : Club Night: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Bruce 9848 4804				
Thur 10 Mar	You Yangs	60	Med	Mike, 9859 3667
March 12-14 Labour Weekend	Nagambie and surrounds	Various	Varies	Darby, 9878 3589
Tues 15 Mar	Third Tuesday easy ride	30	Easy	Ken, 9801 7157
Thurs 17 Mar	Westgarthtown	60	Med	Barrie, 9435 2429
Sun 20 Mar	Le Page homestead	60	Med	Keith, 9857 5805
Thur 24 Mar	Point Cook Coastal Park		Med	Ken, 9801 7157
25-28 March	Easter at Geelong	Varies	Varies	Darby, 9878 3589
Thur 31 Mar	Sea Breeze:	55	Easy	Bob, 9874 5078

	Box Hill to Brighton			
Sat 2 April	RAAF TwilightSpectacular		Easy	Darby, 9878 3589
Sun 3 April	Great Divide Ride (non-club ride)	Varies	Varies	Daniel Zgalin, 8508 9845
Tues 5 April	First Tuesday easy ride	30	Easy	Ken, 9801 7157 or Len, 9898 2660
Thur 7 April	Reverse Warburton Trail	75	Med	Ken, 9801 7157
Tuesday 12 April at Note new time: 7.45 pm : Club Night: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Bruce 9848 4804				
Thur 14 April	Box Hill to Pier 35	55	Easy	Mike, 9859 3667
Sun 17 April	MAD ride (not a club ride)	40 or 95 or 190	Various	<u>MBTC</u> web site
Tues 19 April	Third Tuesday easy ride	30	Easy	Ken, 9801 7157
Thursday rides continue all year as do Easy Tuesday rides on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday				

[Last updated 23 February 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

	MARCH		
Thur 3rd	Social Night		Gail
Sat 5th	Books to Boathouse. Our regular beginners' and social ride. All on trails.	30km MED	Durelle
Sun 6th	Toilet walking tour of the city.		Durelle and Lou
Thur 10th	Richard Smithers, Yarra Council. Come armed with question about inner city cycling.		Margo
Labor Day W/E 11/14th	East Gippsland Lakes Explorer. Train to Bairnsdale on Friday 11th at 6:28pm.	170km MED/HARD	Jim
Sat 12th	Gardens, common and Royal.	25km EASY	Max
Sun 13th	Poowong and West Gippsland. Road	80km MED/HARD	Kerry
Thur 17th	StPatrick's Day ride. Irish Pubs before and after club. Inner city.	10km EASY	Kirsty
Thur 17th	Trip Planning.		Alan
Sat 19th	Launching Place loop via Healesville. Some gravel.	45km MED/HARD	Geoff
Sun 20th	Box Hill - Warrandyte - Blackburn	35km MED	Sean
Sun 20th	Mornington Peninsula. Bittern - Redhill - Sorrento - Blairgowrie - Frankston.	100km HARD	Peter
Thur 24th	Cooking for cyclists.		Alister
Easter Fri 25th - Tue	Bendigo - Castlemaine. "Wineries and Goldfields" camping/caravan parks Five days with four day option.	50km/day MED	Glenn

29th			
Thur 31st	T-shirt printing. Bring your clean t-shirts and create new fashions.		Glenn
	APRIL		
Sat 2nd	Nagambie wineries tour.	60km MED	Jon
Sun 3rd	Belgrave - Cockatoo - Officer Puffing Billy back roads, Autumn Colour, MTB options, winery, scenic hills, fern gullies and aqueducts. 80% dirt, fat tyres only. Sunday saver train ticket.	50km HARD	Tony

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.

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.

Summer Calendar

Date	Ride	Bike	Grade	Contact
3 rd - 6 th Mar	(Weekend Ride) Eureka – Ballarat – Home Ride	Any	Medium	Jason
Sunday 12 th - 14 th Mar	(Labour Day weekend) – NO RIDE			
Sunday 20 th Mar	Bayside ride and picnic at the St Kilda Global GardenParty	Any	Easy	Jane
25 th - 28 th Mar	(Easter) – NO RIDE			

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](mailto:yhacycling@yahoo.com.au) with 'subscribe' in the subject line.

Soon after, you will receive an e-mail asking you to confirm your subscription.

Reply to this e-mail and you're in. E-mail addresses are kept private and are NOT broadcast to the masses.