

BOROONDARA

Bicycle Users Group

Newsletter September 2004

BBUG meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of each month, except January. Next meeting: 7.30pm Thursday 9th September at Swinburne, Hawthorn Campus, TD building (between Park and Wakefield Streets) room TD246. Bikes can be taken upstairs and safely parked near meeting room.

At the September meeting we welcome guest Duncan McGregor, chairman of the City of Whitehorse Bicycle Advisory Committee. We have lots in common – Mont Albert Road cycle route in particular.

The Boroondara Bicycle Users' Group (BBUG) is a voluntary group working to promote the adoption of a safe and practical environment for community 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.

BBUG has a web site www.vicnet.net.au/~bdarabug that contains interesting material related to cycling, links to other cycle groups and recent BBUG Newsletters.

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 BBUG. All rides publicised in this newsletter are embarked upon at your own risk.

Boroondara News

Boroondara Council votes to implement Principal Bicycle Network in Boroondara

On Monday 23 August 2004 Boroondara Council voted to support a plan for the development of the Principal bicycle Network (PBN) in the municipality. The vote was nine to one in favour with only Cr Denis Whelan voting against the proposal.

The vote allows council to start implementing the \$568,000 of VicRoads funding projects to provide bike lanes on main roads in Boroondara. This funding would have been lost if council voted against endorsing the PBN plan in Boroondara. People can now look forward to safer main roads in Boroondara, which will be easier for all road users to share with marked space for cyclists.

The projects include bike lanes on the following roads:

Greythorn Road from Doncaster Road to Belmore Road, Balwyn North (\$27,000). The new Greythorn Road bike lane will link cyclists to the bicycle path that runs along the Eastern Freeway.

Mont Albert Road from Burke Road to Elgar Road, Surrey Hills (\$84,000) - a key east west link and alternative to Canterbury Road.

Union Road from Guildford Road to Belmore Road, Surrey Hills, (\$33,000)

Burke Road from Doncaster Road to the Yarra River, Kew East (\$52,000)

Chandler Highway: \$260,000 to install a 500 metre on and off-road bicycle path on the Chandler Highway between Princess Street and the Yarra River at Kew. A key link to the Anniversary Trail.

Tooronga Road: \$49,000 to install a 2 kilometre on-road bicycle lane along Tooronga Road between Riversdale Road and the Monash Freeway; and

Glenferrie Road: \$32,000 to install a 1.7 kilometre on-road bicycle lane along Glenferrie Road between the Monash Freeway and Burwood Road.

Public consultation in November 2003 produced 182 submissions in favour of the PBN, 115 against and 2 undecided.

The plan provides a practical framework for providing a safer environment on Boroondara's main roads for cyclists. This must be complemented by good quality off-road paths and cycle friendly local streets to provide an integrated cycle network. The end result as the bike network is completed will be a healthier and more liveable community with:

- safer roads
- less traffic congestion
- a reduction in traffic speeds, and
- more people cycling more often.

Thanks to Bicycle Victoria's Campaigns Staff for this summary from the BV website:

General News

Good News On Federation Trail Start

Media release From the Minister for Transport, Tuesday, 24 August 2004

Work on the \$12.5 million Federation Trail is expected to commence early next year, with the State Government assuming long term maintenance responsibility for the facility, Transport Minister Peter Batchelor, announced today.

Mr Batchelor said the Federation Trail, a 24-kilometre shared path between Brooklyn and Werribee, would provide opportunities for Victorians to explore hidden areas of Melbourne's west on bike or foot.

"There has been a delay in progress on the Federation Trail while the responsibility for maintaining the trail was determined," Mr Batchelor said. "I am delighted to say this issue has been resolved, and the State Government recently agreed to assume maintenance responsibility for the facility. "We have listened to feedback from councils and communities and acted to resolve this issue, which means we can now get on with the job of delivering the trail.

"A whole of Government approach to managing the Federation Trail has been implemented, with future trail maintenance to be funded by the State Government through VicRoads. "This initiative is a common sense approach which will get the project moving, and will be welcomed by local councils and the cycling community."

Mr Batchelor said that VicRoads was currently negotiating with Melbourne Water regarding access and management of the reservation and associated decommissioned sewer assets along the Federation Trail route. "Work on the trail will commence once an agreement has been reached and a contract for the project awarded, which is likely to be early next year," he said.

Mr Batchelor said the Federation Trail would pass through the Cities of Brimbank, Hobsons Bay and Wyndham, along the reservation of the historic Main Outfall Sewer. "This sewer was decommissioned about 15 years ago having served Melbourne since the 1880s," he said.

"The Federation Trail will create new recreational opportunities for local communities, and provide a

safer and more direct link for cyclists travelling between Melbourne and Geelong. “The trail will start at Millers Road in Brooklyn, passing under the Western Ring Road and through Laverton, before continuing on through Hoppers Crossing and beyond to the Werribee River.”

Mr Batchelor said the Federation Trail would also link up existing bicycle routes including the Western Ring Road Path and the Werribee River Trail. “This will be an amazing trail, filled with historic reminders of our early industrial and engineering heritage, including the red brick arch aqueducts spanning Kororoit Creek and the Werribee River. “Tree planting will be undertaken within parts of the reservation, and security fencing provided for the abutting industrial estate at Laverton North.”

Mr Batchelor said the Federation Trail would be a catalyst for councils and local communities looking to develop links to nearby parks and recreational facilities. “The \$12.5 million for the Federation Trail has been provided as a *Linking Victoria* initiative, with the trail expected to be open in 2006.”

Thanks to David Leong for passing on this item.

City of Yarra Shows the Way with Planning Amendments

The City of Yarra proposes amendments to their planning scheme. These provide for undercover bike parking and storage facilities in new and renovated residential, commercial and retail developments, plus 'end of trip' facilities including showers, change rooms, etc, in commercial and industrial developments. Full details at www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/environment/planning/. BUG members may wish to write and congratulate them as Rosemary has already done.

Thanks to Rosemary West for this news item.

Cycle Notes – New Release – Wide Kerb Side Lanes - The Facts

VicRoads have just released the continuing series of Cycle Notes with No. 13 ‘Wide Kerbside Lane Markings’. The purpose of the notes is to provide updated information on design of bike facilities for engineers and planners. As we know the Wide Kerbside Lane markings have been around for quite a while as an interim measure ‘under trial’. Now the markings are a formal part of the bicycle planner’s kit. Spacing of markings may still be the issue that some have raised. However with the requirement that markings be 15m before and after each intersecting street the frequency and therefore awareness, will be better. Copies available at BBUG meeting or on VicRoads website.

Warrandyte State Park Plan

As contact person for the BBUG I receive a range of requests and information. It is nice to be asked! This time BBUG members have been sent the Draft Management Plan for Warrandyte State Park. Yes, cycling is addressed with the Park being a destination for touring cyclists and with some opportunities for ‘bush riding’ - on MVO tracks. If interested as a cyclist, walker or other I have a copy or visit www.parkweb.vic.gov.au.

From Graeme Stone

A Veloway is ??

In an email exchange recently the question arose – What is a Veloway?

Well in simple terms it is a bike freeway. However David Leong gave a more imaginative definition:

“In a perfect world, it's a high quality, high speed, dedicated commuting bike path, well signed, free of cars, pedestrians, dogs, broken glass, loose gravel, well illuminated, perhaps even sealed from the elements with climate control and a solar powered fan - so you only ever encounter a tail wind, with lots of on/of ramps, tunnels, and bridges connecting to other more standard bike paths and bike lanes.

As you pedal along on the veloway overpass, motorists stare in envy as cyclists crisscross effortlessly above the congested metropolis below.

May the force be with us Jason Skywalker!!!

Events

Third AustralianTracks and Trails conference

The Third Australian Tracks and Trails Conference: Connecting People and Places will be held in Hahndorf in the Adelaide Hills, 18-21 October 2004. It will bring together speakers involved in the areas of recreation, health, planning, environment, tourism and heritage. The program has been developed in consultation with the South Australian Trails Coordinating Committee which includes representation from each trail user group and government agency involved in trail development and management.

For further information contact the Office for Recreation and Sport, phone: 08 8416 667, email: ors.SouthAustralianTrails@saugov.au, website: www.southaustraliantrails.com

Shepparton Fruit Loop ride

Sunday 12th September, 100 or 200km, \$80 entry, more details at <http://fruitloop.shepparton.net.au>

Shepparton Heathcote Bike Ride

Ride for Multiple Sclerosis and Youth Challenge Australia. Saturday 2nd October and Sunday 3rd Oct. 110km each way. Accommodation at Heathcote. \$90 includes all meals and camp fees. Backup support and luggage transport. Pamphlet at BBUG meeting or from jpinner@gotafe.vic.edu.au

Volunteers Needed for Expo

On Friday September 10th through to Sunday 12th there is to be a Retirement Lifestyle Expo at Caulfield Racecourse, 10 am to 4.30pm.

A stand is being jointly set up by the Cycling Promotion Fund, Bicycle Victoria, The Electric Bicycle Company and the Bicycle Industries Association. Material to promote cycling in general will be handed out.

If you are able to staff the stall for a 2 or 3 hour stint with another keen cyclist then your help would be very much appreciated. Volunteers will of course gain FREE entry!

CONTACT: Max Sargeant at CPF, 9818 5400 asap so that your details can be processed for insurance etc.

In Box

A better deal for cyclists workshop

With local elections coming up in November for 25 councils, Bicycle Victoria is planning to campaign for more pro-cycling councillors and councils. We are looking at compile a list of priority projects for each council. We would then ask the wider cycling community to help prioritise the projects. For example if there were twelve potential projects in Yarra we would ask cyclists in the area to tell us which ones would provide the most impact in getting more people cycling. This survey might be done via online surveys on the Bicycle Victoria website.

The resulting prioritised list would form the basis of questions for candidates. We would like your help in drafting questions to ask candidates by telling us what you think the priorities are in your local area. If you have know of a high impact project in your council area such as a missing path line or missing section of on-road lanes, then please let us know.

We plan to host a local election campaign night after the public day of the Australian Cycling Show on Sat 23 October in the Royal Exhibition Building from 5-8pm. On the night we will further discuss local priorities and interview questions for candidates. The timing is good as nominations for councils close on 26 and 27 October. This is the chance for those who want to make a long lasting difference at the local level to get involved and make a real difference. We will also be looking for volunteers to help us run the campaign including interviewing candidates and publicising the results.

We'll be sending our more details later but mark the date in you diary. Details will be posted on our web - use the keyword: local elections in the search function. So until then, send in you priority projects and we'll start compiling a list of potential projects and questions for further discussion.

Bart Sbeghen, Campaigns Manager - Bicycle Victoria, Phone: 8636 8821

Chico, California Cycling

A letter from Chico, California, Central Californian Valley, 300km NE of San Francisco, Wednesday 7th of July, 2004

Dear Friends

We have had a great time cycling around Chico while visiting our son. Magnificent Bidwell Park is here, 18km long in total, running through East of the city and into the central business district. It follows the Chico Creek and the Big Chico Creek along its length and has magnificent tall, old trees shading the riding paths. It was the setting for the 1st Robin Hood movie made in the 1930s. We have ridden the trail into the city several times and ridden around the city itself, which has clearly marked bike lanes along all major roads. It is also very comfortable to ride around the development our son lives in as the roads here all have marked bike lanes, although the cars park over them as they do in urban Melbourne.

The weather has hotted up now, as it is full summer so last Thursday we rode in and stopped at 1 mile where the creek has been dammed for swimming. Alas the pool was empty. Thursday is cleaning day and the pool has to be emptied, scrubbed clean with what appears to be a ride on mower and then refilled. We could have joined the younger kids of the town in the creek itself but 50cm. of water wasn't inviting for Peter and I! So we rode to Bidwell Park and enjoyed a cup of coffee in the air-conditioned cafe in good COTA riding style.

University cities appear to be very good places to cycle in the USA. Chico is the home of Chico State University. While we were visiting the Redwood Forests on the West Coast last week we stayed a few days in Arcata, the home of Humboldt State University. They also have well marked bike lanes on all their major roads and a large community Redwood Park with many kilometers of bike trails. Unfortunately we didn't bring our Birdies over with us so we had to walk. In the 70s we cycled around Stanford University near San Francisco and there were extensive bike lanes and trails even then.

To get all the information needed when visiting American cities, to avoid empty swimming pools for example, it is wise to find the Visitors Centers run by the local chamber of Commerce when you arrive. They are in most cities in the USA.

Happy cycling wherever, Janet Bennett

Thanks to Janet for this letter, which was held over from last month

More Tips for Winter Cycling

Re cycling in winter (though our winter seems to have disappeared right now!), my 'secret weapon' is a wonderful very light thermal balaclava I bought at Aussie Disposals years ago. It fits under my helmet like a second skin, covers most of my face and in particular my ears and neck, and is remarkably warm. It has a few drawbacks eg the mouth and nose areas get extremely sordid with spit and snot - but it can be washed out and dries in a wink. And while on the same subject, has anyone invented a snot catcher for cyclists in cold weather? A drippy nose is a constant annoyance.

Regards, Rosemary West

Ride to Work Day: Calling all Angels and others

This year's Ride to Work Day is on Wednesday 6 October and there are four ways you might like to become involved. You could become a Cycle Angel along Melbourne's key cycling routes, a workplace coordinator or a volunteer at the Federation Square breakfast or get involved with your local Regional

Breakfast. I know that many of you have already put up your hand (or wing!) for one of these roles. For those of you who've been thinking about it, now is the time to sign up. You could be a real Angel!

To celebrate their new Bike Assist service, RACV is sponsoring a team of Cycle Angels on Ride to Work Day, 6 October. Forty Cycle Angel Volunteers will be stationed along Melbourne's key cycling routes on the day and we're keen for BUGs to be involved with this. The Angels will provide encouragement and lend a hand with bike set-up, punctures and directions. For Cycle Angel locations go to http://www.bv.com.au/Template.cfm?Section=Ride_to_Work_Day1&Template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=2421 where you will find the list and a downloadable map. If your web browser experiences difficulties in performing the download, then click your right mouse button over the link and using the 'Save Target As' option, store the file on your computer and open it from there.

If you live in Melbourne and you have some idea of basic maintenance (eg repairing a puncture) we'd love to hear from you about becoming an Angel. We're particularly short on female Angels and Angels in the eastern, western and southern suburbs. What does being an Angel involve?

- 1) Attend a briefing session in the city on Thursday 30 September (6pm) *Enjoy a pizza and meet other Angels *Chance to ask questions *Collect your free long-sleeved t-shirt, wings (optional) and flag *Run through what will happen on the day
- 2) Opportunity to be involved in pre-event media (if you wish) 3) On Wednesday 6 October, Ride to Work Day *Angels report to locations at 6.15am for 6.30am start . *Assist with minor repairs, directions, how to get to nearest railway station + general promotion and morale! *Staff manning phones at Bicycle Victoria office from 6.15am will provide on-line assistance or patch through callers to Angel mobiles. *Angels leave their post at 8.30am. *Angels invited to breakfast at Fed Square (food will be saved!). Group pic at Fed Square next to RACV tent (for Ride On and Royal Auto)

How to become an Angel: email rayb@b... or phone Ray Becher on 8636 8845. We'll need to know your contact details, home suburb and (if applicable) your work suburb.

Becoming a Workplace Coordinator If you'd like to promote Ride to Work Day in your workplace or even organise a breakfast for your workmates, just let us know and we'll organise to send you a kit complete with a free t-shirt, posters, postcards and registration forms.

For more information check-out the Ride to Work Day Coordinator section on our web site

http://www.bv.com.au/Template.cfm?Section=Ride_to_Work_Day1&Template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=2500Volunteering at Federation Square

If you'd like to help out at the breakfast in Federation Square, simply complete the volunteer form and fax it back on 8638 8800 or post it to GPO Box 1961R Melbourne 3001. For more information about volunteering on Ride to Work Day and the Volunteers Application forms check-out http://www.bv.com.au/Content/NavigationMenu/Volunteers/Ride_to_Work_Day/Default444.htm>Regional Breakfasts

If you live in Regional Victoria, check-out

http://www.bv.com.au/Template.cfm?Section=Ride_to_Work_Day1&Template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=2782 for a list of locations and contacts for Ride to Work Breakfasts in Regional Victoria, and maybe get involved.

However you chose to be involved, everybody is invited to be part of this great celebration of commuter cycling, so spread the word and have a great Ride to Work Day

Regards Alan Tonkin BUG Liaison - Bicycle Victoria Ph 03 8636 8833

Update on Fairfield Park

David

I am the Capital Works Officer at the City of Yarra, having replaced Daimon Jenkins with whom you have had previous communications. I thought I could update you on the plans for the section of the Fairfield Park car park/bike path you have identified in earlier e-mails with Richard Smithers and Daimon.

The project has been identified as part of the capital works program for 2004/05 and is currently being designed and documented. Following this, quotations will be sought for the works and construction will begin. At the moment, I would suggest that works will be completed before the end of 2004. The entire series of paths through Fairfield Park is being reviewed, however as the most urgent works on in the area, we are attempting to get the car park section completed as a priority. I hope this helps. If you have any further questions, feel free to e-mail me or give me a call on the number below.

Regards Justin Hanrahan, Capital Works Project Officer, Environmental and Recreation Services, City of Yarra, Ph: 9205 5106, Fax: 8417 6666, Mob: 0418 397 430

Thanks to David Leong for passing on this letter

Rotary Club of Bellbridge Lake Hume Leisure Ride, Sunday, 7 Nov 2004

This is a choice of 4 rides, all fully supported by the Rotary Club members from Albury Wodonga, Tallangatta and Lake Hume Bellbridge. In total, we will have approx 85 marshals around the courses, sag wagons, lead cars and food and drink stations.

I am sending this invite to all BUG groups I can find email addresses for, plus some to be mailed out, I think this could be a great weekend away and an opportunity to meet other BUG riders from other areas (maybe a good opportunity to promote the BUGs as well!) We are also seeking corporate entries, if you are involved in such a group, could you kindly pass the details on?

For details, check our website at <http://home.iprimus.com.au/peejayau/lake.htm>

Good cycling, Phil Smailes

News from Neighbouring BUGs

Yarra BUG

Next YarraBUG Meeting, next Tuesday 7th September, 7.30pm, Ninos Restaurant, 359 Brunswick Street. We have much to discuss & plan this meeting.

If you have read this weeks rather disappointing article in the *Yarra-Melbourne Leader* about the PTUA's attitude towards cycling planning in Yarra, please come along and make your opinions known. Council elections are being held in November & transport issues are very high on the agenda of residents in Yarra.

Yarra Social Ride Saturday 4th September, 9.30am, meet up at the Victoria Lounge, 68 Victoria Street, Abbotsford for a caffeine shot or two, and an easy leisureed ride around the inner suburbs. Finishing in Clifton Hill with fish 'n' chips for a well-deserved lunch. Or a beer. Phone: Chris on 0407 825 467

On Sunday 5.9.04 The Wattle Festival is being held in Hurstbridge. We will be enjoying a leisurely Sunday ride, where upon arrival we will hand out fliers and stickers to the festival goers. The wilderness society are having a stall at the Festival so we can hook up with them. Meet Friends of the Earth, 312 Smith St, Collingwood @8am. This ride should take about 2 hours or so.. it is an easy ride so all levels of fitness welcome!! If you ain't up for the ride you can catch the train directly to Hurstbridge and meet us there!

On Friday 3/9/04 the election letter writing campaign is being launched at Federation Square from midday. Any keen cyclists can head down and chat to the city punters and also do some Cycle for Old Growth Forest promoting and try and get people involved!

I THINK THAT JUST ABOUT COVERS IT ALL FOR NOW!! Stay tuned for future COGF dates!! There is plenty more to come!! Oh. what to bring: at least 2 litres of water, smiles, wet weather gear, puncture kit, scroggin', lunch, snacks. and of course, ya bike!

For further details contact Kerin Fogarty: phone: 9482 3181 or email: cyclesistak@yahoo.com.au or Karina Doughty, phone: 9639 5455

Yarra Bicycle Users Group: Abbotsford, Alphington, Burnley, Carlton North, Clifton Hill, Cremorne, Collingwood, Fairfield, Fitzroy, Fitzroy North, Princes Hill, Richmond

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

YarraBUG meets 7.30pm, on the first Tuesday of the month, at Ninos Restaurant, 359 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy

Melbourne BUG

Greetings cycle advocates

Melbourne BUG has at last settled on a new venue for meetings and is ready to restart regular gatherings to discuss campaigning on cycling issues in the City of Melbourne municipality. We hope to be focussed on campaigns/advocacy and educational activities such as workshops, but we're happy for anyone to get involved who might wish to help the BUG run social activities or host any other cycling-related events. The keys to MBUG's success will be to aim to achieve realistic goals and practical outcomes to our lobbying efforts. The first campaign off the rank will draw attention to the shared paths of Southbank and the Carlton Gardens.

Cyclists often traverse the Carlton Gardens as a natural extension of Canning St and Queensberry St cycling routes, but bikes using the park is a touchy subject with some other park users. There are shared paths around the edge of the Gardens but these are less than adequate as they cross many driveways, and often pedestrians are not aware that the footpaths are shared paths. Melbourne BUG made a submission to the Carlton Gardens master plan in March this year asking for allowances for cyclists but more attention needs to be drawn to this busy cycling crossroads.

At Southbank, Melbourne City Council are asking police to enforce "Cyclists Dismount" signs, due to the behaviour of a minority of cyclists who ride along the promenade at excessive speed. Russell Lindsay of the Melbourne Bicycle Police has asked Melbourne BUG to help inform cyclists that unsafe riding along Southbank could cause the thoroughfare to be closed to bikes. While we're at it we can suggest to Southbank pedestrians that bikes can safely share the space. We're planning to produce flyers and signs, and to do shifts handing out this information and speaking to people at these locations about the need to share these spaces. Other ideas include encouraging cyclists to ring their bells in shared zones with pedestrians, a letter writing campaign and a media release.

What do you think of these issues? Would you like to get involved? What other cycling issues do you want to address in the City of Melbourne? Our new meetings venue, the cafe/bar Prudence on Victoria St, North Melbourne, offers drinks and coffee (but you don't have to buy anything if you don't want to) and a relaxed atmosphere. They expect that the upstairs room will be ours alone for most meetings.

The next meeting is at 6.30pm on Wednesday 8 September. RSVP to this address or just turn up. Prudence 368 Victoria St (near corner with Howard St) North Melbourne Phone: 9329 9267. Meetings will continue at Prudence at 6.30pm on the second Wednesday of every month. Reminders will be posted before meetings. See you there. Please let us know if you don't want to be on this mailout list. Alternatively feel free to bring a friend along to meetings - it's a great place to hang out. Melbourne Bicycle User Group

Co-Convenors: Simon Vincett & Justin Mansfield

Email: info@melbournebug.org

Postal Mail: GPO Box 986, Melbourne VIC 3001

Telephone: 0439 88 00 93

BBUG News

Re-vamped Website Imminent

A great deal of work has been done on a new BBUG website over the last few months and we expect it to go online shortly after our next meeting. Many thanks to Jason den Hollander and Brett Robson for their work on the site including the design of our new logo which now graces this newsletter.

Editor Returns

After five weeks in Scandinavia I am back at my desk. Thanks to Graeme Stone for editing the August newsletter and for doing much of the work on this September newsletter as well. In the next issue I plan to tell you a little about my experience of cycling in Denmark, possibly the world's most bicycle friendly country.

Minutes of Boroondara BUG Meeting Thursday 12th August 2004

Present: Graeme Stone, David Leong, Jason den Hollander and Sian. Warm welcome to visitor /member Sian, who is a keen commuter cyclist from Ashwood.

Apologies: Phil Crohn, Graham Ellis, Julia Blunden, Ann- Marie Malesic.

1. **GVBR Sponsorship:** No developments. David to ring Boroondara Youth worker on the outside chance that there may be a potential candidate known.
2. **Shared Footways on Bridges/ Barkers Road Cutting:** Discussed. Decided that a joint approach on these projects be taken. Need to contact Richard, Yarra City; Julia has had most recent contact. Can wait till her return.
3. **Possible Survey of BCC Candidates:** JB has proposed surveying BCC candidates prior to the next council election due 27/11/04. Suggestions received from Bart who is keen to be involved. Important agenda item in Sept.
4. **Logo:** Thanks very much to Brett and Jason for the new logo which graced the August newsletter.
5. **Web Site:** Jason presented an appealing mock up colour version of how the BBUG web site might look. With new logo too. All agreed it looked very good – simple and effective. JD awaits final content input from certain tardy BBUG members.
6. **Bicycle Advisory Committees:** Excellent letter by Julia in Progress Leader on the Yarra BAC and its application to Boroondara. Look forward to discussing this at September meeting with guest Duncan McGregor, chairman of the Whitehorse BAC.
7. **Chandler Highway - Main Yarra Trail Connections:** Proposals for a new path to join the MYT and ramps on Boulevard. JD to follow up with Patrick Reed (BCC).
8. **Principle Bicycle Network:** Presentations made at Council meeting by Alex (?), Graham Ellis, Ann-Marie, Bart Sbeghen, Graeme, Chris Adams (VicRoads) and one objector. Jason and Sian also attended. As an observer Sian considered the presentations went quite well and the councillors did vote unanimously to accept the report. The report goes before the full council on Monday, August 23rd. Discussion followed re best tactics for BBUG before next Monday.
 - ♣ Still opportunity to contact own councillors urging them to support the roll out of the PBN.
 - ♣ JD to check Travel Smart results. Could be useful to supply councillors with supportive statistics before meeting.
 - ♣ GS to investigate any statistics re change in cyclist numbers in neighbouring municipalities after cycle lanes installed. [BV, BUGs, Council?]
 - ♣ GS to review council PBN plan and ring Evan re clarification of proposed treatments, eg. Glenferrie Rd and opportunities for support.
 - ♣ Discussion re Glenferrie Rd facility past Scotch – on road or shared path? Greythorn Rd – will EBL be appropriate given not clearway situation and so will be parked over? WKL option or SBPL, as per Union Rd north of Whitehorse, (if width allowed)?

Notes by Graeme Stone

Contacts for Rides

Boroondara BUG does not currently organise rides. However there are many BUGs, clubs and other organisations that do. 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: home.vicnet.net.au/~wcycle

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

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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

Next Ride 12th September 2004

(Yes its back to the originally listed date – hope you can still come!)

THE RIDE: Plenty River ride from Epping to Heidelberg via upper Darebin Creek, Metropolitan Ring Road and the Plenty River. An easy ride of approx 30kms, mostly on tracks with some road links.

MAPS: Refer Julia Blunden's *Bike Rides Around Melbourne* Ride No. 16, page 96. Julia and friends have reported that there have been more improvements to the paths since the book was written. Melways 182, 9, 10, 20, 32, 33.

WHERE: Meet at Flinders Street Station (At the concourse level, near the exit from platforms 2 & 3)

TIME: Meet at Flinders St at 8.55am to catch the 9.10 train for Epping from platform No. 1 (trains are only every 40 minutes). Train passes Clifton Hill at 9.28 am and arrives at Epping at 9.57am. (A connecting train to Flinders St leaves Camberwell at 8.41am arriving Flinders St at 8.56am). We return by train from Heidelberg Station; trains are every 20 minutes for Flinders St which is 22 minutes away.

DESCRIPTION: This ride provides the opportunity to explore some of Melbourne's north- eastern suburbs. Maybe not as scenic as the Main Yarra Trail but the upper reaches of the Darebin Creek and the Plenty River have items of interest too and are relatively little known. From Epping Railway Station we ride briefly north to join the Darebin Creek path at Findon Rd; follow the creek path to the path alongside the Metropolitan Ring Road which is surprisingly pleasant and is of an excellent standard with extensive views to the north. At the Greensborough bypass we pick up the Plenty River and pass Greensborough Rail Station following the path south. Greensborough offers a bail-out point halfway. There is no sustained climbing on this ride.

REFRESHMENTS: Available at Epping at the start and the Greensborough Shopping Centre which is only a short distance from the track at the halfway mark. Best to take a picnic lunch.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES: These are located at a number of parks along the way and Greensborough.

TRAIN TRAVEL TIPS: Travelling by train is pretty easy particularly on a Sunday morning (except for the infrequency of trains perhaps). Best to board at the end of the train. Carry elastic luggage straps to give option of securing your bike. Avoid obstructing doorways and other passengers. The east / rear end of a non-loop train will result in you arriving close to the lifts at Flinders St Station. The lifts are signed and are located under / behind the escalators. There is a lift for each platform. If running late don't look for us at the concourse level just go straight to the Epping train on platform **No. 1**.

Alternatively if timetables are too inconvenient on your line you may wish to drive to Clifton Hill Railway Station which is common to the Epping and Heidelberg lines.

Fares: Epping is Zone 1 + 2 = \$5.40 / 2.60 conc.; Heidelberg to City: Zone 1: \$3.00/ \$1.70.

Enquiries at VicTrip 131 638 or www.victrip.com.au

ENQUIRIES: Contact Graeme Stone on 9889 5426.

Last Month' s Ride:

David and Geraldine managed to take time off from packing and sorting prior to moving house to lead us on the Glen Waverley Railway Station to Carrum ride. We rode via Jells Park on a pleasant, mild morning which was a pleasant surprise given the heavy rain on the Saturday. The heavy rain made the ride so much more interesting with the Dandenong Creek in full flood. We had to take to the high ground at some normal creek underpasses adding to the interest. After lunching in the sun at Dandenong, Bruce, Yvonne and I took the train to Oakleigh for a short cut ride back to Glen Waverley. My excuse was the wet shoes and socks from a test ride at the freeway underpass. Oh, well someone has to do it! I hope the others enjoyed their downhill run to Carrum on the levee bank. Thanks to David and Geraldine for organising a pleasant ride for us on a lovely day.

Graeme Stone

Boroondara Bushwalkers

Boroondara Bushwalkers have occasional bike rides as part of their program. The next ride, scheduled for Sunday 26/9, is from Werribee to Altona via Point Cook Coastal Park.

Meeting Place: Concourse, Flinders Street Station
Meeting Time: 8.50am to catch the 9.05am train to Werribee
Ride Distance: 50km

Ride Description

From Werribee Station we will head down to Werribee South via Werribee Park. We will follow the road around the coast then through market gardening and grazing country to Point Cook Coastal Park where we will have a picnic lunch. Then we will wend our way via Sanctuary Lakes and Altona Meadows to connect up with the bike path to Altona foreshore, calling in at the 1000 Steps of Federation along the way. We'll catch a train from Altona back to Flinders Street. Note that much of this ride is on roads but they are fairly quiet and very flat with good visibility. Note also that this is **not** a circuit ride but is designed to use trains rather than cars for access. If the weather is very wet or windy we can do a shorter Werribee circuit ride instead with the option of lunch in a pub.

Please contact Julia Blunden, phone: 9853 5095, email: jblunden@bigpond.com after 15 September if you are interested in coming.

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.

The group rides each 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.

Meet at 10am at the location specified to begin the ride. If the weather forecast for the day is for a temperature over 30 degrees, the ride will start at 8am and conclude by midday. Bring your own lunch for a picnic together.

Most rides are on bike trails and are designed with beginner to intermediate in mind. Riders are welcome to join the ride along the way if it is closer to home.

Rides Calendar

Day/Date:	Wednesday 8 September 2004
Location:	We will ride the Anniversary trail with a tour to Hay's Paddock for lunch, approximately 45kms.
Start:	10am, meet at the Yarra Boulevard junction of Main Yarra trail & Gardiner Creek trail MEL 59 B1, or ride from Flinders Street station
Type of ride:	An easy ride with one hill.
Day/Date:	Wednesday 22 September 2004
Location:	We will ride the Merri Creek trail, the track along the Western Ring Road, and return along the Plenty River and the Main Yarra trail, approximately 60kms.
Start:	10am, meet at Collingwood Children's Farm car park off St Heliers Street MEL 44 G5, or ride from Victoria Park station
Type of ride:	Easy
Day/Date:	Wednesday 13 October 2004
Location:	We will ride the Upper Dandenong Creek and Blind Creek circuit, with an extension to the end of Dandenong Creek, approximately 50kms.
Start:	10am, meet at Jell's Park East, carpark 5 MEL 72 A6, or possibly ride there from Glen Waverley station
Type of ride:	Easy
Day/Date:	Wednesday 27 October 2004
Location:	We will ride the Main Yarra trail and the Plenty River trail to lunch in Greensborough, approximately 45kms.
Start:	10am, meet at Collingwood Children's Farm car park off St Heliers Street MEL 44 G5, or ride from Victoria Park station

Type of ride:	Easy
Day/Date:	Wednesday 10 November 2004
Location:	We will ride the Lower Dandenong Creek trail to Carrum and return, approximately 60kms.
Start:	10am, meet at Jell's Park East, carpark 5 MEL 72 A6, or possibly ride there from Glen Waverley station.
Type of ride:	Easy, with some gravel.
Contact:	Janet Bennett or COTA on 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: dougmorff@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 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 Market Rides

Beginners and families welcome.

Meet 10am at Jika Jika Community Centre, corner Plant & Union Streets, Northcote, near Westgarth train station.

Sunday Rides - Varying Distances & Locations

Some for beginners, others for experienced cyclists.

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

September 19th - Darebin to Alamein

Grade: Medium

Meet at Darebin Station 10:00am. We will ride via the Eastern Freeway, Blackburn Lake and Gardiners Creek, catching the train home from Alamein. About 60km. BYO Lunch, Water. MET: 2-hour Zone 1+2.

October 17 - Dandenong Creek Ride

More details soon.

November 20-21 - Weekend Ride to Brisbane Ranges

More details soon.

December 12 - Yarra Ride to Bell Bird Park - evening B-B-Q

More details soon.

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

DATE	RIDE/ACTIVITY	GRADE	CONTACT	MEET AT...
September				
Sat 4th Sun 5th	Progressive Dinner Ride Medium thru to serious! Car backup and drive options available	40+50 / 230km	Kevin 9842 3323	Bookings essential- fills up fast
Sun 19th	Lanes, Lorrikeets & Lattés The ever popular family ride. Mostly on paths and quiet roads. An ideal introductory ride.	Easy 20km	Tracey & Steve 9894-7975	10:30 am Blackburn Station (south side of the track) Mel 47 K10

Mon 20th	BUG Monthly Meeting The Manningham Club , 1 Thompson's Rd Bulleen		Harv 9890-8006	8pm Mel 32 D10
October				
Sat 2nd	Mitcham to Jell's Park Jacinta heads downhill for a change! ring for details	Medium	Jacinta 9842 3323	9:00 am Mitcham station Mel 48 J9
November				
Sat 6th	Nagambie wineries Start at Nagambie, take in Chateau Tahbilk & Mitchelton wineries, picturesque country riding, some unsealed roads. This ride is as per BV news June 2003	40km Easy	Gary 9439-5016	10.30am town center
Sat 13th OR Sun 14th	Manningham Men's Health Week Ride we are proposing to run a ride for Manningham Council on one of these two days - stay tuned...		Harv 9890-8006	
<u>Up-Coming Rides:</u>				
Warburton - by request Port Melbourne to Williamstown using the Punt				
Rides wanted for October Sun 17th, November Sun 21st Email me with suggestions please.				

Whitehorse Cyclists Inc

Calendar of Events Spring- 2004

Thurs 2 Sept	Kensington Loop	55	Medium	Ken 9801 7157
Sat 4 Sept	Mystery ride	40 - 50	Easy	Elsa 9849 0131
Thur 9 Sept	Hoppers Crossing to city	50	Medium	Ken 9801 7157
Sat 11 Sept	Belgrave Bash		Med to hard	Lee-Anne 0418 505 873
Sun 12 Sept	Shepparton Fruit Loop ride http://fruitloop.shepparton.net.au \$80 entry	100 or 200	Med	Trevor 5821 3378 (BH) or Greg 0417 340 236
Tuesday 14 September at 8 pm: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Mike 0407 509 048				
Thurs 16 Sept	Westerfolds, the new bridge and	45	Med	Ken

	Eltham			9801 7157
Sat 18 Sept	To market to market	40	Easy	Mike 0407 509 048
Wkend 18-19 Sept	Rawson & Walhalla Weekend			Darby 9878 3589
Tues 21 Sept	Third Tues Easy Ride	30 max	Easy	Ken 9801 7157
Thurs 23 Sept	Brimbank - Box Hill	50 approx	Med	Ken 9801 7157
Sun 26 Sept	Dandenongs	60-80	Hard	Simon 0417 325 726
Thurs 30 Sept	Carrum - Box Hill	60	Med	Ken 9801 7157
Sun 3 Oct	Yarra Saunter	54	Easy/Med	Keith 9857 5805
Thurs 7 Oct	Thurs ride	50	Med	Ken 9801 7157
Sat 10 Oct	Mitcham-Warrandyte	540	Med/Hard	Bob & Mike 9874 5078
Tuesday 12 October at 8 pm: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Mike 0407 509 048				
Thurs 14 Oct	Thurs ride	50	Med	Ken 9801 7157
Fri 22 October Annual Club Dinner Mitcham Hotel Mike 0407 509 048				
Sat 23-24 Oct	Kurth Kiln		M	Darby 9878 3589
Thurs 21 Oct	Thurs ride	50	Med	Ken 9801 7157
Sun 24 Oct	Rally ride		Med	Christine 9890 6958
Thurs 28 Oct	Thurs ride	50	Med	Ken 9801 7157
Thurs 4 Nov	Thurs ride	50	Med	Ken 9801 7157
Sun 7 Nov	Brunch ride		Easy	Lesley 0418 509 043
Thurs 11 Nov	Thurs ride	50	Med	Ken 9801 7157

Sun 14 Nov	Lock stock and barrel at Sth Gippsland market		Med	Mike 0407 509 048
Thurs 18 Nov	Thurs ride	50	Med	Ken 9801 7157
Thurs 25 Nov	Thurs ride	50	Med	Ken 9801 7157

[Last updated 30 August 2004]

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 Program: September 2004

SEPTEMBER			
Thur 2nd	Stories from Tour de France		Margo
Weekend 4th & 5th	Tree planting w/e no. 3 at Benalla. Last chance this year to do your bit for the environment and the regent honeyeater	Green	Lou
Sat 4th	Books to Boathouse	30 km Easy	Peter
Sun 5th	Druin Loop	90 km Hard	Judy
Thur 9th	The Orkneys to Cornwall by tandem - Alan Hutchison		Glenn
Sat 11th	Melbourne - Frankston via Sorrento	160 km Hard	Jon
Sun 12th	Hurstbridge - Kinglake - Hurstbridge via Mt Everard Track - train based, mainly gravel incl. 4WD track	50 km Medium	Gerry
Thur 16th	Trip planning		Alan
Sat 18th	Pakenham - Lilydale via Gembrook	75 km Med/Hard	Peter
Sat 18th - Sat 25th	Kangaroo Island		Glenn
Sun 19th	Yarra Glen Loop - MTB ride - exploring a new route for the M.A.D. ride MTB course.	65 km	David
Tue 21st	Club Lunch Star Park Café at Camberwell Junction	Social	Fred
Thur 23rd	Broken Hill Ride		Liz
Weekend 25th 26th 27th	Traralgon - Walhalla - Moe	180 km Med/Hard	Gail
Thur 30th	Club Auction		Jon
OCTOBER			

Sun 3rd	Progressive Lunch	Social	Gail
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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.

Spring Calendar unavailable at time of newsletter compilation.

YHA contacts: Claire, phone: 9726 5142 or Jane, phone: 9525 6462; e-mail: yhacycling@yahoo.com.au; website: <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~yhacycle>