

# Boroondara Bicycle Users Group

## March 2004 Newsletter

**Next meeting: 7.30pm Thursday 11 March at Swinburne, Hawthorn Campus, TD building (off Wakefield Street) room TD246**

**NOTE: BBUG meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month, except January.**

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, the Victorian Bicycle Coalition and other local Bicycle Users' Groups.

BBUG has a web site [www.vicnet.net.au/~bdarabug](http://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.

### **Inbox**

#### **Berwick Secondary College on the Great Vic**

*Boroondara BUG made a small financial contribution to Berwick Secondary College to help students participate in the Great Vic Bike Ride. The following message was received in thanks.*

On behalf of Dwayne, Jemma, Luke and myself, Peter I'd like to thank you all for making our experience of the great Vic - so enjoyable.

We had our regular racing bikes and a recumbent tricycle we borrowed from Trisled. We had a rough start with Luke forgetting to get his pedals out of his bag before the truck went on to camp the first day but he managed to borrow a pair and meet us at camp.

We meet up with many riders from all over the state and have made some great friends, some of the riders have even meet p with us on other rides over the Christmas break.

Highlights - there was so many. Omeo the people are great very friendly. Bairnsdale we ended up helping some riders who didn't know how to mend a chain but they could tell some great jokes. Cerberus was really cool there weren't any ships or boats in but everyone was real neat telling us about the base. The scenery was awesome especially as we came out of the national park the descent was a real rush.

Jemma wasn't too sure how she would go but she beat us every morning getting up around 5.30 so she get a shower she helped us get out of bed every morning. Dwayne and I clowned around a bit and put on a bit of a camp site show a few nights cracking jokes and spinning stories, a lot of riders from groups around us joined in and it was starting to be a regular thing but then it was over ..... till next year.

We have already got a bike to raffle off and booked 3 sausage sizzles. A lot of other kids from the HPV squad wanted to come this year but the year 10 and year11 exams where on at the same time so they couldn't get out of it this year we have already organised for early exams. It helps when one of the vice principals is a keen rider as well. So far 12 kids are going maybe a few more will join in by September.

Next week we are competing in a HPV 24 hour race at Wonthaggi if you're down that way call in on the Berwick tent and say hi we would like to thank you all in person.

Ps We didn't even get one puncture during the whole trip.

*Peter, Jemma, Dwayne and Luke*

## **Privacy Issue on Yahoo**

Yahoo is now using something called "Web Beacons" to track Yahoo Group users around the net and see what you're doing and where you are going - similar to cookies. Take a look at their updated privacy statement: <http://privacy.yahoo.com/privacy/us/pixels/details.html> About half-way down the page, in the section "Outside the Yahoo! Network", you'll see a little "click here" link that will let you "opt-out" of their new method of snooping. I strongly recommend that you do this. Once you have clicked that link, you are opted out. Notice the "Success" message the top the next page. Be careful because on that page there is a "Cancel Opt-out" button that, if clicked, will \*undo\* the opt-out. Feel free to forward this to other groups. Take care.

*Garnet Dupuis Yahoo! Groups Sponsor*

*Thanks to Trevor Larsen for forwarding this message. Ed*

## **Bike Lockers**

Finally, Dr. David Kemp announced the funding of \$2.4million over the next two years for secure bicycle lockers at bus and train stations in major urban centres. For the press release follow the link below <http://www.deh.gov.au/minister/env/2004/mr20feb04.html>

It is estimated that this project will enable an additional 3,000 lockers Australia wide (which would mean an average of \$800 per locker) and depending on the distribution between states about 300 to 400 lockers per state. The Government is looking for funding applications, applications for a minimum of 100 lockers over a number of sites will be preferred. In-kind and funding contributions will be sought for siting, safe access and other infrastructure such as ramps or lighting.

The Government encourages state and local government to apply for funding as well as transport operators (and cycling organisations) Given the relative small number of lockers across all states and territories, it appears that this funding needs to complement and hopefully strengthen current locker programs which are in place in different states. For funding guidelines due on Friday 26. March, visit

<http://www.deh.gov.au/atmosphere/airquality/cycleconnect.html#download>

Funding criteria include: a thorough understanding of the issues associated with bicycle security and intermodal transport with evidence provided of unmet need for regular bicycle parking based on expert assessment of demand, including consultation with Bicycle User Groups and cycling organisations

I encourage Bicycle user groups and state cycling organisations to work with relevant bodies in their state, be it public transport companies, local government, state cycle units or other departments to take advantage of this opportunity and work jointly on a proposal to ensure the most effective way to take advantage of this opportunity and make it successful for bicycle riders. Sadly too many lockers (particularly in Victoria) are out there on stations in a terrible state and are not being used because there is no proper management strategy and or commitment to promote and encourage their use. Bicycle lockers are only a small piece in the puzzle to get more people riding bicycles. Safe routes to the stations, safe stations which are well lit and staffed, regular bus and trains which are reliable and safe are just some of the other ingredients required.

*Rosemarie Speidel, Program Director, Cycling Promotion Fund Tel./Fax 03 97553557  
[www.cyclingpromotion.com](http://www.cyclingpromotion.com) (message reproduced from BFA-Oz e-list)*

*It would be useful to get as many views from readers of this newsletter as possible on this issue. Two BUG members have already expressed negative views as to the value of bike lockers at stations in general and those in Boroondara in particular. On the other hand since I started looking just last week I have*

*seen four bicycles chained to railings at Camberwell Station on one occasion and two at Hawthorn Station on another. Bike parking rails inside Box Hill Station (City of Whitehorse) are almost always fully utilised when I pass through there as I do quite often. Ed.*

## **General News Items**

### **Walmer Street Footbridge closure**

Yarra City Council would like to advise that the Walmer Street Footbridge in Abbotsford will be under repair between Thursday 11 March 2004 and 2 April 2004. Users of the Footbridge are advised to seek an alternative route. Advisory signs were installed in strategic locations leading to the Footbridge on Tuesday 24 February 2004, indicating alternative routes. The southern section of the Footbridge will be replaced. This upgrade will not only improve the safety, feel and look of the Walmer Street Footbridge, but it will be consistent with the heritage characteristics of its main span.

For more information contact Council on 9205 5018 or Libby Collett, Public Relations Officer, City of Yarra, phone: 03 9205 5120, email: [collettl@yarracity.vic.gov.au](mailto:collettl@yarracity.vic.gov.au)

### **Bikes Travel Free in Peak Hour**

Many cyclists are unsure about the rules for taking bikes on Met trains. Bikes are allowed on Met trains at all times. In the past owners were required to buy a concession ticket for their bikes during peak hours only. This requirement, rarely enforced in the past, has now been dropped so bikes legitimately travel free at all times.

The bike and train combination can work very well, especially for recreational riders who may wish to start and finish their ride at different train stations. If you haven't tried it already why not take advantage of this golden opportunity to do so?

### **Free Bike Plan for City Centre**

Shoppers and workers may soon be able to cycle through Melbourne's CBD on free bikes. Under a council plan, people would pay a refundable coin deposit or use a smart card to borrow bikes from racks, scattered across town, for short city trips. Cyclists would get a refund when they dropped the bikes at special racks set up throughout the CBD, at the Docklands and Southgate.

The scheme has been inspired by a similar one operating successfully in Denmark. While Copenhagen's 2500 free bikes have radio transmitters and require special tools to take apart, other cities around the world with similar schemes have battled high theft rates and maintenance costs. Early trials in Amsterdam were scrapped after thieves stole the bikes and drunks dumped them in canals. Australia's compulsory helmet legislation could also be an obstacle.

Copenhagen authorities spend about \$280,000 a year on the scheme, and cyclists pay a deposit of about \$4 to use the bikes. Police fine cyclists \$220 for riding outside strict boundaries, and a dob-in phone line exists. Unemployed people collect and repair stray bikes, which carry advertisements from sponsors to help fund the scheme.

A 2001 Adelaide City Council analysis found a free city bike scheme could cost \$2000 per bike and about \$10,000 for each docking station. Cr So said he would approach the State Government and Bicycle Victoria to support the plan. Councillor David Risstrom will go to Copenhagen in May to study its successful program. He will also study strategies to reduce bike accidents, road signs to aid cyclists, and bike parking facilities

*Thanks to Jason den Hollander for passing on this news item from the Herald Sun.*

### **Travelsmart Project**

Some of you may have heard about Travelsmart already. Indeed some of you may have been involved in the project, which was piloted in Boroondara. The program involves State and local governments working with individuals, households and organisations to reduce car traffic and thereby lower pollution and greenhouse gases, create stronger local economies and improve community safety.

According to the Minister for Transport, Mr Batchelor nearly 4,000 Boroondara households have adopted smarter alternatives to car travel due to the 2003 TravelSmart program, choosing to walk, cycle, catch public transport, car-pool or even roller-blade to their destinations.

The next area to be targeted for this program is Darebin. For more information have a look at the Travelsmart Victoria web site at [www.travelsmart.vic.gov.au](http://www.travelsmart.vic.gov.au)

*Thanks to David Leong for submitting this news item*

## **Events**

### **Opening of High Country Rail Trail**

Victoria's newest rail trail is due to open on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May. The High Country Rail Trail will eventually run from Wodonga to Cudgewa, a distance of 112km. Two sections of the trail totalling 33km are now complete. The official opening ceremony will take place at the Tallangatta Goods Shed followed by a fun walk, run, cycle or horse ride. Registrations open at 10am.

For more information phone: Mike Hamlin, 02 6071 2421, or e-mail [railtrail@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au](mailto:railtrail@parklands-alburywodonga.org.au) or check the website: [www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au](http://www.parklands-alburywodonga.org.au)

### **Outbike - organised by Wayward Bus - Alice Springs to Coober Pedy**

Supported small group MTB remote desert dirt roads ride

Ralph Jackson who runs the Wayward Bus has been involved in cycling for years. Some might remember him as the expert chess playing volunteer on earlier Bicycle Victoria rides. He's running a series of these rides with 5 different departure times from May through to Aug. All details on the website.

<http://www.waywardbus.com.au/outbike1.htm>

*Thanks to Charlie Farren for this news item.*

### **Deadly Treadly Tours – Easter Ride 9-12 April**

Four day supported tour. Day 1 Bus to Moe, Moe to Mirboo North (35km) Day 2 Mirboo North to Tarwin Lower (Long 82km, short 65km), Day 3 Tarwin Lower to Poowong (Long 82km, short 64km), Day 4 Poowong to Melbourne (Long 100km , option of train from Frankston)

For further information contact Deadly Treadly Tours phone: 0407 943 817 or (03) 9596 0460

## **Boroondara News**

### **Boroondara BUG Wins Cycling Promotion Fund Award**

Last year saw the launch of an exciting new initiative to get more positive news stories about cycling into the media. The Cycling Promotion Fund developed a campaign that included the development of a media kit for cycling clubs and BUG's, training in Victoria and NSW and an ongoing newsletter and access to feedback and advice by an experienced journalist. As an incentive a competition was established which provided an opportunity to enter each published story or radio interview into a draw. Wow, what a great response, every week we looked forward to read the great inspirational stories which landed in our post office box. Given people's perception about issues is increasingly shaped by the media, the articles made a wonderful contribution in shaping communities views and in raising awareness of the many joys and benefits of cycling. At the Fund committee meeting the lucky winners were drawn.

**Winner:** Pedal Power Canberra

**Second Prize:** Bathurst and District Bicycle User Group NSW

**Third Prize:** Boroondara BUG, Victoria

We would like to express our greatest appreciation to all people and organisations who entered the competition and invested time and effort to put pen to paper and took time out from cycling to share their passion with other people in the community.

Please keep it up and send copies of your articles to the Fund, we love to collate them and put them together into a book as inspiration to others.

*Item reproduced from the Cycling Promotion fund Website at [www.cyclingpromotion.com/newsandevents.htm](http://www.cyclingpromotion.com/newsandevents.htm)*

## **Principal Bicycle Network Consultation**

Those of us who made submissions to Council on the PBN have been informed by letter that 'It is proposed to incorporate community feedback into a report which would then be presented before the Councillors at a future Council meeting. Details of this meeting will be placed in the local paper and on the Boroondara web site.' It is important that the BUG is well represented at this meeting when it occurs.

## **Integrated Transport Strategy**

To date one stakeholders' meeting and two community consultations have been held as part of the process of preparing an Integrated Transport Strategy for the City of Boroondara. Arup is the firm of consultants commissioned by Council to carry out this task and Kerry McConnell, Transport Planner, is the staff member in charge.

Graeme Stone and I received last minute invitations to attend the stakeholders' meeting on Monday 9/2 to represent the Boroondara BUG. Fortunately I was free to attend though Graeme was not. A number of BBUG members have also attended one or both of the two community consultations on Tuesday 10/2 and Wednesday 18/2. We have all tried to raise the profile of cycling as a transport option but discussions have tended to be dominated by public transport issues. The second stakeholder meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 10/3. Hopefully Graeme and I will both attend. The BUG has also made a written submission after detailed discussion at our last meeting.

As a result of Arup's investigations and the consultation process a draft report will be prepared and there will be further opportunity for comment prior to presentation of the final report to Council. We need to ensure that bicycle issues receive due attention in the final report and that they are accurately recorded.

*Julia Blunden*

## **Boroondara BUG Meeting February 2004**

The February BBUG meeting was preceded by a barbecue at Phil Crohn's place. Phil, David, Graeme, Marion, Janet and I were joined by Janet's husband Peter, Phil's neighbour John, and Jason and David both of whom had been present at the Integrated Transport Strategy community consultation to represent the interests of cyclists. After a most enjoyable meal in Phil's very pleasant courtyard on a rare mild summer evening we adjourned inside for a meeting which was mainly given over to fine tuning the BUG submission to the ITS. If anyone interested to see the final submission has not already done so please contact me and I can e-mail it to you.

*Julia Blunden*

## **Product and Book Reviews**

### **Giant Revive**

Recently I was in my local bike shop and spotted a 'Giant Revive' bicycle. I have ridden virtually every form of bike except for a recumbent. Whilst the Revive isn't a recumbent it does have that 'love-it-or-hate-it' look about it.

Sitting on it is immediately very reassuring. It's comfy. It's fully adjustable so you could almost get differing members of a family to ride it (this may not extend to smaller children, mind). It's not meant for high speed - the gearing and relaxed position governs that. It's a perfect cruiser or 'down-to-the-shops' bike. It has a built in rack at the rear.

Gripshift (on both the derailleurs 'Revive' and the 7speed hub-gear 'DX' models) makes for easy gear changing. Braking is also firm but without the weight transfer of a more conventional bike towards the

front. Putting your foot down is very easy as you are in an 'armchair' position. Visibility is excellent also and you will find many people looking back at you too. Everyone wants to know what it is and one older gentleman I met in the few blocks of riding said he was off to get one!

There is obviously a specific target audience in mind. Those who want comfort and those who are 'getting back into biking'. Doug at Cycleworks, Box Hill says he is selling quite a few, mainly to people 'rediscovering' cycling. They have both models in the shop to test ride.

The price (as per the [australiancyclist.com.au](http://australiancyclist.com.au) review) Revive \$899. Revive DX \$1299) may put the Revive out of some people's range but then again ask a keen cyclist how much money they have spent changing their saddle to find a comfortable one...

For a more in depth review see <http://www.australiancyclist.com.au/showarticle.php?s=4&a=284>

*Jason den Hollander*

## **Past and Forthcoming Rides**

### **Camberwell Downhill Gourmet Bike Riders**

#### **The Best of the Trails Ride Report**

A very pleasant ride was had by 19 cyclists on the February ride organised by Geoff and Anne along the Yarra, Gardiners and Anniversary Trails. Perfect cycling weather was topped by a pleasant lunch stop in O'Connell Reserve and a great coffee stop in a Glen Iris nursery and café. (We also confirmed some of the weaknesses of the trails as recorded in Boroondara's audits of the Anniversary and Yarra Trails. The crossing of the Freeway along Chandler Highway leaves a bit to be desired.) Thanks to Geoff and Anne for the organisation and keeping us on track.

#### **Down the Drain with Camberwell Bike Riders March 14th**

**When:** Sunday March 14<sup>th</sup> 2004

**Where:** Starting at Croydon Railway Station (South side in the car park area).

**Start Time:** 10.30 am for 10.45 am departure.

**Description:** This was called 'Down the Croydon Main Drain' but Melways now shows it as Tarralla Creek – much more respectable! A circuit ride on shared pathways with good surfaces. From Croydon Railway station we will ride south via the bike path to cross Eastfield Rd, Bayswater Rd to Canterbury Rd and then via Dandenong Creek path. Via Stud Rd path we cycle to Knox City, turn left and head east generally up Blind Creek path to the railway line, turn left on the path and return via Boronia and Bayswater Railway Stations to Croydon and the end of the ride. All up the distance to be covered should be about 30 kilometres.

**Contact** Elva on 9836 6392

**Weather:** If the forecast temperature is 30 deg or over the ride will be cancelled.

AND there's more:

**When:** Sunday March 21<sup>st</sup> 2004

**What: The Great Melbourne Bike Ride.** CDGBR riders will be there too. Enrol with BV via web site or 8636 888. \$35 includes T shirt. West Gate bridge, Williamstown, Flemington Racecourse and the Albert Park Grand Prix circuit – no speeding or burnouts!

## Boroondara Bushwalkers

Boroondara Bushwalkers have occasional bike rides as part of their program. The next ride, scheduled for Sunday 4/4, is a Bayside ride, mostly but not all on shared paths.

**Meeting Place:** Southbank, near the footbridge

**Meeting Time:** 9.15am for 9.30am start

**Ride Distance:** 57km or can be shortened

### Ride Description

We will ride along the bike path to Beacon Cove then follow the Bayside Path south to Ricketts Point, where we will stop for lunch. BYO or buy lunch at the teahouse, whichever you prefer. Between Ricketts Point and Mordialloc there is a short section on road but most of the way is on beachside path. At Mordialloc we turn inland and follow the path through the Edithvale wetlands to Carrum. We ride, mainly off-road, through Patterson Lakes then continue through the wetlands for some distance. A short stretch on roads then takes us to a sandy track close to the shore at Seaford. The last stretch to Frankston is along a quiet street. We will catch the train from Frankston back to Flinders Street Station. There are plenty of opportunities to bail out on this ride as we pass many stations. If the weather is hot bring your bathers and we may stop for a swim.

Please contact Julia Blunden on 9853 5095 after 17/3 if you are interested in coming.

## YHA Cycling Summer Program March - April 2004

DATE	RIDE	GRADE	CONTACT	TELEPHONE
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Mar	The Alternate Yarra Trail - mountain bike and bike path	Easy mountain	Jason	9499 4591
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Yabbies family ride	Easy	Jane	9525 6462
EASTER 9-12 April	Rail Trail Extended ride	Medium	Belinda & Maria	9534 1646
Sun 18 <sup>th</sup> April	Blackburn Loop	Easy	Jeff	9847 0846

The next program will be out April 2004. Any questions? Please do not hesitate to contact us via:

- our website: [www.vicnet.net.au/~yhacycle](http://www.vicnet.net.au/~yhacycle)
- e-mail: [yhacycling@yahoo.com.au](mailto:yhacycling@yahoo.com.au)
- telephone: Call Claire 9726 5421 or Jane 9525 6462
- mail: YHA Cycling, GPO Box 25A Melbourne Victoria 3001.
- Also visit Clubnight on the Monday before each weekend ride except public holidays (check first that the leader will be there). Clubnight venue is the YWCA building 489 Elizabeth Street Melbourne 8pm.

## 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, 9815 0988. Website: [www.geocities.com/perften/Hct.html](http://www.geocities.com/perften/Hct.html) or Email: [lexbishop@bikerider.com](mailto:lexbishop@bikerider.com)

## Council on the Ageing (COTA) Cycling Group - Rides Program March – July 2004

We will ride every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in the month. We will meet at 10 am at the place specified. If the weather forecast given for the day is above 30°C 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 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 ride details follow- abbreviations are #easy \*medium !hard ^hills.

Date	Place to meet	Description	Grade
March 10 <sup>th</sup>	Yarra Boulevard, junction of Main Yarra trail and Gardiner Creek trail, MEL 59 B1	We will ride the Capital City Trail, approx. 30km. Suggested coffee stop at Eureka Cafe, 332 St. Georges Rd., Nth Fitzroy.  Possible extension to the beach, 10km return.	#
March 24 <sup>th</sup>	Westgate Park, MEL 56 F1	We will ride the bayside trail to Ricketts Point and return, approx 50km. Coffee stop at St. Kilda Marina.	*
April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Yarra Boulevard, junction of Main Yarra trail and Gardiner Creek trail, MEL 59 B1	We will ride the Anniversary Trail circuit, about 35km. We can take an extension along Scotchman's Creek trail if we decide. Coffee stop at the Nursery in Whitehorse Rd.	#
April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Dight Falls carpark off Trenerry Cres, MEL 44 F3	We will ride to and through Westerfolds Park to Monkton Rd. and return, approx. 50km.	* optiona l hills!
May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Delhi Crt on Delhi Reserve, MEL 29 B11	We will ride the Moonee Ponds trail to near the airport and return, approx. 45km. Coffee stop at the bakery in Westmeadows just near the trail.	*
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	Stoney Point MEL 195 F5  The ferry leaves at 8.30am and returns at 4.30pm.	We will ride from the ferry terminal at Tankerton on the island to the McLeod Eco Farm, approx 40km, and return. Early coffee at the general store, just 2km away! NB -rough roads unsuitable for road bikes.	!
June 9 <sup>th</sup>	Park near the Woori Yallock primary school MEL 286 F10	We will ride the Warbuton Trail to Warbuton East, finishing at Riverside Dr., approx 45km. No coffee stops until lunch at the Warbuton pub!	#
June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Dight Falls carpark off Trenerry Cres, MEL 44 F3	We will ride the Merri Creek trail to Reservoir and then cross on small local roads to Darebin Creek trail, approx 45km. Coffee at the Preston Market and lunch at Bundoora Park.	#
July 14 <sup>th</sup>	Park near the Woori Yallock primary school MEL 286 F10	We will ride the Warbuton Trail to Lilydale and return, approx 45km. No coffee stops until Lilydale.	!^



July 28 <sup>th</sup>	Dight Falls carpark off Trenerry Cres, MEL 44 F3	We will ride the Main Yarra trail, the Koonung Creek trail and the Gardiners Creek trail via Blackburn lake, approx 50km.	*
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Contact Janet Bennett, e-mail: [janpeter@vic.bigpond.net.au](mailto:janpeter@vic.bigpond.net.au) or COTA on 9654 4443.

### Darebin BUG

For information about Monday rides, contact Kathy Brunning, on 9489 4275

### Tuesday & Thursday Rides

These rides leave from **Jika Jika Community Centre**, corner of Plant and Union Streets, Northcote, at 9.30ish (sometimes a bit later). They vary in length from about 30 to 60 km. Just turn up on the day, as the decision of where to ride depends on weather and other variables.

### Saturday Market Rides

**1st Saturday of the month**, 10am-2pm: Bundoora Farm/Coopers Settlement Market, 30km return along the Darebin Creek Trail. \$2 entry also includes entry to the farm and the historic Coopers Settlement (a huge saving on the usual entry fee).

**2nd Saturday of the month**, 10am-12.30pm Collingwood Children's Farm/CERES, Brunswick, 7-10km Rides alternate between these destinations. \$2 entry is required for the Collingwood Children's Farm which includes entry into the operating farm, a huge saving on the usual entry fee.

### Sunday Rides - Varying Distances & Locations

#### March 21 - Bicycle Victoria Great Melbourne Bike Ride 2004 - Grade: Medium

Meet at Jika Jika at 9.00 am for a 9.15 start. We can ride to the ride start together.

Darebin BUG will be joining in on Australia's biggest and brightest bike ride - The Great Melbourne Bike Ride 2004. Bicycle Victoria is promising a day for everyone to experience the best that Melbourne has to offer, all from the seat of your bike. After which they are throwing a massive party for 4000 people.

Please note: you will need to enter this ride prior to the day. For details of entry contact Bicycle Victoria on 8636 8888 or check out their website at <http://www.bv.com.au>

#### April 3 & 4 - Weekend ride to Daylesford and Woodend - Grade: Difficult

Please note that the ride does involve riding up and down hills on narrow roads and with overtaking traffic. Also, we will be carrying all our gear on our bikes.

On Saturday April 3 2004 we will be catching the train to Ballan and riding about 40 km to Daylesford and Hepburn Springs. Arriving at about 3.00 pm will give us plenty of time to enjoy the sights around town. We will be staying at the Wildwood Youth Hostel in Hepburn Springs where we can enjoy an evening meal together. The next day we head off for another 40 km ride to Woodend and catch the train back to Melbourne.

#### April 18 - TBA

#### May 16 - Woodlands Historic Park

More details soon.

#### 20th June - Maribyrnong River- Grade: Medium

Get warm on wheels! Celebrate the Maribyrnong on this scenic winter ride from Ginifer to SouthBank. Meet at Flinders St Station under the clocks at 9:45 am to catch the 10:16 Sydenham line train to Ginifer. We start along the railway path from Ginifer Railway Station (going south) to Western Ring Rd (going east). Then we cross St.Albans Rd and follow a path parallel to Western Ring Rd. Heading across EJ Whitten Bridge takes us onto the Maribyrnong River path. At Footscray Rd we leave the river trail and

head east along the bike path to Southbank. Some steep, short hills, distance: 30km. Rest Spot: Canning Reserve. Lunch Spot: Aberfeldie Park. Returns to the city at 3:00pm. BYO Lunch, Water. MET: 2-hour zone 1+2.

### July 18 - Outer Circle Rail Trail

More details soon.

### August 15 - Lysterfield Lake

More details soon.

### 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

### 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.

		GRADE	CONTACT	MEET AT
<b>March</b>				
Sun 7th or Sun 15th Feb.	<b>Zoo Jazz Ride (Zoo Twilights)</b> <i>On The Prowl Rock &amp; Roll with Frankie J Holden, Wilbur Wilde &amp; Rockwell T James singing Ol 55 Rock &amp; Roll see 15th February for ride details</i>			
Sun 13th	<b>The Warby Ride</b> Starting at Mt Evelyn we ride the picturesque rail-trail for lunch at Warburton and return	70 km Medium	Joa n 985 9- 718 8	9am Mt Evelyn car park Mel 118 B12
Sun 21st	<b>2004 Orange Great Melbourne Bike Ride</b> 20,000 cyclists in the streets & a Westgate Bridge crossing	Medium	BV 863 6 888 8	

Sat 27th	<b>Mullum Mullum short self-guided ride</b> We are providing a short self-guided ride to the Yarra end of the Mullum Mullum as part of the Mullum Mullum Festival. We will hand out information sheets to follow guide cyclists along the route. Two volunteers required to hand out the info sheets at 10am - any takers? ring Harv 9890-8006	Easy	Harv 9890-8006	10am Beasley's Nursery Carpark Heidelberg- Warrandyte Rd., Warrandyte Mel 34F3
Sun 28th	<b>Mullum Mullum short self-guided ride</b> Whitehorse cyclists do their part for the upper reaches of the creek like ours - see Sat 27th Information sheets supplied will provide an easy to follow guide to the many points of interest.	Easy	John Beanne 9878-4179	10am Pratt St Carpark off Whitehorse Rd., Ringwood Mel 49H7

### Up-Coming Rides:

also dates are yet to be set for;

**The Nagambie wineries ride**

**The Nothing Petty about this Ride**

**Ride to Horseshoe Bend Farm Open Day**

E-mail [harvey@edwards.net](mailto:harvey@edwards.net) with more suggestions please.

**14th Ballarat Autumn Day Ride - Sun 2nd May 2004**

**March, April, May 2004** Gary is looking at approx 6 weeks Melb-Surfers Paradise. Come for some, come for all. He admits that it's not entirely planned yet, but interested parties may care to call on 9439-5016.

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

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

### **Whitehorse Cyclists: Rides Program March - April**

Check the rides calendar on [home.vicnet.net.au/~wcycle/calendar.htm](http://home.vicnet.net.au/~wcycle/calendar.htm) Note: All rides are subject to change. Phone the named contact person to confirm details. You do not need to be a member to ride with us! We ride every Thursday and on the weekend, usually on the Sunday. Contact: contact Alec or Barbara 9890 8954.

Tues 9 Mar	Club Night 8.00 pm Box Hill Community Arts Centre			Mike 0407 509 048
Sun 14 Mar	Glen Waverley to Fed Square	50	Easy/Med	Helga 9873 2961
Sun 18 April	Glenburn to Strath Creek	70	Med/Hard	Helga 9873 2961

### **Melbourne Bicycle Touring Club - Events Program: March – April 2004**

	<b>March</b>		
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Tue 2nd	<b>Club Lunch</b> Immigration Museum, Flinders st (cnr William) 12:30pm	Eaters Digest	Gael
Wed 3rd	<i>From France to Melbourne with Alain and Isabelle</i>		Bente
Fri 5th	<b>MTB Full Moon Ride</b> A night ramble around Lysterfield Park by mountain bike. Car Based	30km Medium	Tony K
Weeke nd 6th- 7th-8th	<b>Mt Kosciusko to Tathra</b> A downhill ride from the highest point in Australia to sea level at Tathra.	200km Medium/Hard	Geoff K
Weeke nd 6th- 7th-8th	<b>Mt Eccles National Park</b> Loop Ride from Port Fairy to this geological curiosity. Base camping for 2 nights at Mt Eccles. Car based	140km Medium/Hard	Jim
Weeke nd 6th- 7th-8th	<b>Gisborne Base Camp</b> A base camp at Roger's place with day rides around Gisborne.	TBA	Roger
Sun 7th	<b>Woodend MTB Loop</b> A mountain bike tour on the tracks around Woodend.	35km Medium	Peter C
Wed 10th	<i>The Crooked River Goldfields Christmas Trip</i>		Geoff
Sat 13th	<b>Bayside Ride with the Bobs</b> City to Mordialloc on bike paths.	35-40km Easy	Anna
Sun 14th	<b>Hughes Creek Loop</b> An old favourite with bush tracks and scenic creek valleys.	70km Medium	Peter S
Tue 16th	<b>Club Lunch</b> Starpark Café at Camberwell Junction.	Tasty	Fred
Wed 17th	<i>Trip Planning and social night</i>		David
Weeke nd 20th- 22nd	<b>Wilson's Promontory Walk</b> Explore the quiet bays and secluded bush of this beautiful part of the world on foot.		Christine
Sat 20th	<b>Gippsland Loop</b> A tour around Pakenham, Drouin and Warragul with a choice of distances. Choose your distance and ride.	50/90/100km Hard	Kerry
Sat 20th	<b>Dry Diggings Track Fundraising Ride</b> Do a ride and raise some money for the trail maintenance and development.		Tony K
Sun 21st	<b>"Books to Boat House"</b> A monthly ride from Eltham to Fairfield Boat House via the Yarra bike path. Ideal for new riders and a favourite amongst old friends. Plenty of stops along the way for food, coffee or just a rest.	30km Easy	David
Wed	<i>Grand Tour of NSW Christmas Trip</i>		Jim

24th			
Sun 28th	<b>M.A.D. Ride</b> The annual Club fundraiser. All hands on deck to put on a great day for the riders		Leon
Wed 31st	<i>History of the MTB in Oz - Dave Cooper, Cannondale</i>		Fred
	<b>April</b>		
Weekend 3rd-4th	<b>Lilydale to Moe via Noojee</b> A weekend tour through remote places and tall forests.	130km Medium/Hard	Peter B
Sat 3rd	<b>Warragul to Lilydale</b> A hilly ride through country though scenic forested country.	110km Hard	Bente
Sun 4th	<b>Lang Lang to Drouin</b> A loop around Gippsland.	80km Hard	Rob

*For information on the above rides, please contact the Touring Secretary, Dave Cash, on (03) 9817 3269, or at [rides@mbtc.org.au](mailto:rides@mbtc.org.au) . Please note that this e-mail address doesn't get checked every day - so don't expect an immediate response!*

### **Boroondara BUG Contacts:**

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David Leong: [leongd@anz.com](mailto:leongd@anz.com)

<b>Boroondara Bicycle Users Group</b>	<b>Membership Form</b>
Name: _____	
Address: _____	
Postcode: _____ Member of Bicycle Victoria? Y / N	
Phone: (H): _____ (W): _____	
e-mail: _____	
<p>Membership costs \$10 per household for a two-year subscription (or \$5.00 per annum if necessary). Please send cheque (made out to <i>Graeme Stone</i>) along with this form to: Graeme Stone, 16 Jervis St , CAMBERWELL, VIC 3124</p>	