

BOROONDARA

Bicycle Users Group

Newsletter March 2014

Boroondara BUG meetings are normally held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month except January. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 12th March. It will be held in the upstairs function room of the Elgin Inn, cnr Burwood Rd and Elgin St Hawthorn (Melway 45 B10). The meeting starts at 7.00pm. Some of us arrive around 6.30pm for a meal at the Elgin Inn before the meeting.

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

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

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

All articles in this newsletter are the views and opinions of the authors and do not necessarily represent the views of any other members of Boroondara BUG. All rides publicised in the Rides Supplement are embarked upon at your own risk.

Events

Walking Researchers Come to Town

A pair of renowned academics, Dr Rodney Tolley and Dr Jan Garrard, are coming to Boroondara to talk about walking, with a particular focus on the obstacles and opportunities for older residents.

When: Friday 14 March, 2pm to 4pm

Where: Park View Room (adjacent library), 8 Inglesby Road, Camberwell

While many take it for granted, walking is a vital practice for health, transport and to relax, especially for seniors as other forms of physical activity decline. This insightful seminar will give locals a rare opportunity to learn more on this important topic from these experts in the field.

The forum will include:

- Dr Jan Garrard presenting her study Senior Victorians and Walking: Obstacles and Opportunities.
- Dr Rodney Tolley presenting international initiatives on walking.
- A discussion panel taking questions from the audience.

For more information and to register your interest in attending the event, contact Hywel Rowlands, Strategic Transport Planner on 9278 4891 or hywel.rowlands@boroondara.vic.gov.au.

The Macedon Ranges Challenge

Sunday, 4th May 2014 from 7:00AM to 10:00AM (EST)
Tony Clarke Reserve – Macedon

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

The Rotary Club of Gisborne proudly announces the Macedon Ranges Challenge – a recreational cycling and running event that enables participants to either ride one of two cycling routes (68 km or 121km) or one of two running courses (7 km or 14km). And it's just on the doorstep of Melbourne... a great chance to challenge Mount Macedon and see picturesque Hanging Rock and the Macedon Ranges in Autumn.

Each course takes you through a scenic route of tree-lined winding roads and spectacular views. Cyclists can expect to be challenged by the climb up the Mount. Whilst runners are sure to delight in our challenging course through the foothills. The Macedon Ranges Challenge really does offer something for everyone.

Now in its 7th year the event just gets better each time. You can expect a well-conducted, professionally operated event that ticks all the boxes for on-course support, marshalling, route signage, catering at rest stops; topped off by plenty of great food at the finish line BBQ. All included in your entry fee.

Why you should enter

This is a community fundraiser and a not-for-profit event. Thanks to the generous support of our event partners and volunteers, most or all of your fee will get to where it's really needed – to MS Research, and other humanitarian and community programs.

Some of the programs that benefitted from the Macedon Ranges Challenge include Research into Brain Cell repair for Multiple Sclerosis (through our close collaboration with the MS Society locally and around the world), Global Polio Eradication, Australian Rotary Health Research, the local SES & CFA units, local schools, building community facilities and many others. To continue doing good in the world, we need your support.

For more information go to <http://www.macedonrangeschallenge.org/>

General News

National Petition Calling for Improved Cycling Safety:

Road rule for minimum overtaking distance when drivers pass bicycle riders

Launched at the 2014 Cycling Australia Road National Championships by Richie Porte and sponsored by Cycling Tasmania, the petition is calling upon the Australian Government to amend the Australian Road Rules to require that:

- drivers allow a minimum of one metre when overtaking bicycle riders in speed zones up to 60km/hr
- drivers allow a minimum of 1.5 metres when overtaking bicycle riders in speed zones over 60km/hr



Every signature counts. Make yours count for improved safety for bike riders.

Richie Porte: “The current laws in Australia offer inadequate protection to bicycle riders on the road, this has to change. We all know that space matters - a metre matters – when passing bike riders. This campaign is understood nationally, it's time to make it law.”

Richie's pledge: “I'm prepared to put my name to this, on behalf of the millions of Aussies who deserve to ride their bikes in a safer environment, whether for work, sport or play. This is an action that everyone can take. Signing the petition is your way of leading the charge for a safer cycling environment.”

How you can make your signature count

To fulfil the House of Representatives 'petition requirements', please follow these simple guidelines.

1. Download petition
2. Print petition
3. On one line, write your name clearly and sign your name in the boxes (your address is optional)
4. Post by: 30 April 2014
5. Post to: Andrew Nikolic MP, Federal Member for Bass, 100 St John Street, Launceston, Tas 7250

Notes:

- You must be an Australian Citizen
- You can be any age

- The petition form doesn't have to be filled before posting, e.g. one name and signature can be on a single petition form
- Do not sign a blank piece of paper, or sign on the back of the petition form
- Online, emailed or scanned petitions will not be accepted

More signatures count

Thanks for taking action today! Encourage all your friends, family and colleagues to take action too, it's easy:

✂ Post a tweet:

- I've signed the petition to make it safer for cycling in Oz. It's your turn
<http://www.amygillett.org.au/ametrematterspetition/> @amygillettfdn @andrewnikolic #ametrematters
- I want the Australian Govt to improve safety for bicycle riders
<http://www.amygillett.org.au/ametrematterspetition/> @amygillettfdn @andrewnikolic #ametrematters

✂ Email them this link <http://www.amygillett.org.au/ametrematterspetition/>

✂ Post on FaceBook

✂ Take a photo/Instagram of your signing ceremony and email it to us at advocacy@amygillett.org.au, or include in your tweet or FaceBook post.

Want to know more?

If you would like to know more about the Amy Gillett Foundation's '*a metre matters*' campaign and advocacy for minimum overtaking distance legislation, check out our website www.amygillett.org.au.

Creek Trailblazers Inc

Creek Trailblazers Inc is a volunteer, not-for profit, independent community association (incorporated in Victoria, October 2013) run by an elected committee, set with the task of representing the community's desire to construct a creek side recreational trail, linking Diamond Creek to Hurstbridge, extending Nillumbik's trail network.

Aim of the Creek Trailblazers Association: To ensure the much awaited creek side Recreational Trail linking Diamond Creek, Wattle Glen and Hurstbridge remains a top priority for the Nillumbik Shire Council and that it is completed by December 2018". (As at September 2013.)

For more information and to sign their petition go to <http://creektrailblazers.org/>

International Cycling Luminaries Awards

Nomination closing date extended

Due to significant interest in the Cycling Luminaries Awards, the closing date for nominations has been extended for an extra week. The new closing date is now Friday, 21st of March.

The Cycling Promotion Fund with Velo City 2014 have announced that due to significant interest in the Awards, both from Australia and internationally, they have decided to allow more time for individuals, groups and organisations to submit their nominations.

The Cycling Luminaries Awards will showcase achievements to a global audience and international category winners will be recognised here in Australia during the Velo-City Global conference in Adelaide in May.

These are the premier awards for cycling promotion and advocacy in 2014.

NOMINATIONS

The award nominations are open to any Individual, group, business, event, organization, government or school that has achievement significant change and inspired or influenced others.

Short listed nominees will receive a complimentary single day attendance pass to Velo-City Global 2014.

We know there are many more innovative projects and stories to tell and we look forward to receiving your nominations for the Cycling Luminaries Awards.

Go to www.cyclingawards.com.au

Cycling Luminaries Award categories

Leadership – First Nations – Pimp my Ride – Bike Culture – Cycling for next generation – Built environment

- Closing date: NOW Extended to 5pm, Friday 21st March 2014 - the application form and entry must be lodged by the closing date.
- Online Entry form: [click here](#).
- Judging: Judging of the finalists will be completed by the panel appointed by the Cycling Promotion Fund and Velo-City Global 2014.

Cycling Promotion Fund | e: office@cyclingpromotion.com.au | www.cyclingpromotion.com.au

Cycling Promotion Fund is an initiative of Bicycle Industries Australia

Public Transport not Traffic Campaign

Public transport is top of the state election agenda, the opinion polls are clearly against the East-West toll road and we've got MPs of all political colours listening to us...not to mention a Premier who gets more unpopular each day.

We need to keep the pressure on our decision-makers, which is why we have a packed agenda for the weeks ahead. So which event takes your fancy?

Our calendar is packed with events happening every week in communities across Melbourne. Community groups are hosting street stalls, organising rallies, door-knocking their neighbours and holding forums with politicians – all in the name of world-class public transport.

[Click here to see what's happening in your area.](#)

So get involved in this powerful campaign. You'll be joining an ever-growing team of amazing volunteers from across Melbourne.

Public Transport Not Traffic

<http://www.publictransportnottraffic.org/>

Boroondara News

Minutes of Boroondara BUG Meeting, Wednesday 12th February 2014

Elgin Inn, Hawthorn

Attendance and Apologies

Present: Alister Huth, David Leong, Gordon Macmillan, John Parker, David Farrow, Julia Blunden, Glennys Jones (Chair), Graham Ellis, Jill Young, David Hall, Peter Carter

Apologies: Hank van Apeldoorn, Mal Faul, Peter Campbell

Correspondence:

In

- Email from Melbourne Water re Gardiners Creek detour
- *The Squeaky Wheel* 18/12
- Newsletter from Graham Watt MP
- Christmas card from Cr Philip Mallis
- Sundry commercial offers
- Email from Chris Hui re Council's plans for Walmer St bridge
- Brochure 'World Cycle Journeys' from World Expeditions
- 'A Metre Matters' Petition from Amy Gillett Foundation (It was agreed that **Julia B** should forward this to all BBUG members and that it should be offered to local bike shops.)

Out

- Submission to Linking Melbourne Authority prepared by David F

Matters Arising:

1. **Hawthorn to Box Hill Trail:** Peter Campbell was not present due to being hit by a car on this very route. There was some discussion as to whether green paint across the intersection would help prevent this type of collision – a car turned right across Peter's path. It was agreed that this should be an agenda item for the next BAC meeting.
2. **Golfers Choice and Urban Bush Path:** Nil to report.
3. **Darebin-Yarra Link:** Julia B reported that the Community Coalition has been informed of a number of petitions to the State Government against the link through Willsmere Park. No date had been set for the next meeting with VicRoads. (An email from Graeme Martin that same evening informed CC members that he has been invited to join a Stakeholder Reference Group, on behalf of the Coalition, which will meet in two weeks.)
4. **Belford Rd Underpass:** Nil to report.
5. **Dights Falls Trail:** David F attended the Linking Melbourne Authority panel hearings but felt that our submission hadn't made any impression in gaining acceptance for the DFT but had been successful in securing a commitment from the Premier to secure the funding of an off-road path in the median of Alexandra Parade after the east west tunnels have been constructed. However Boroondara BUG has been allocated 30 minutes to present to the panel on Thursday 3/4, 10.30-11am. Alister H and Peter Campbell who made individual submissions have 10 minutes each on different days.

There was extended discussion of how best to progress this project, which has become very urgent given the plans for the East West Link. Suggestions included further approaches to the cities of Yarra and Melbourne, lining up a meeting between VicRoads and Jim Hondrakis, and the formation of an action group/subcommittee to work with David on the presentation to the LMA panel amongst other things. It was agreed that the following people would comprise the action group: David F, Alister H, Peter Campbell (if he is willing and able), Peter Carter, John P, and David H. It was agreed that **David F** would be the convenor and that the first meeting should take place before 9th March.

6. **Stonnington Matters:** John P reported that there seems to have been some improvement in Council's attitude to cycling and that a large number of bike parking rails have been installed.
7. **Domestic Animals Management Plan:** Nil to report.
8. **Outer Circle Trail at Harp Junction:** Alister H reported that Mick N has still had no response from MLA Andrew Macintosh on this, and it is still unclear who owns the other half of the property. Alister noted that this matter is shown as closed in the minutes of the December BAC meeting, item 24. **Julia B** agreed to contact Chris Hui to ask that this be corrected, and to query why the gate to Harp Rd is open and cars are parking on the site.
9. **Jacka Trail/North Balwyn Leisure Trail:** **Julia B** agreed to email Lou to check on the closing date for the petition and ask about their plans for following this up.
10. **Invitations to Councilors to Attend BBUG Meetings:** Jill Y reported that she had invited all councilors to 'like' the BBUG Facebook page. The only response was from Cr Coral Ross who said she doesn't use Facebook but is happy to use her Twitter account to promote events. Given Cr Steve Hurd's failure to respond to previous invitations **Jill** agreed to invite Jane Addis to attend a BBUG meeting. It was suggested that local bike shops could be contacted about our Facebook page.
11. **Biycle Wayfinding Group:** Nil to report.
12. **East-West Link:** During the discussion on the Dights Falls Trail it was suggested that those who are presenting to the LMA panel could begin with a statement disclaiming any support for the East West Link.
13. **Lennox St between Elgin and Power Sts:** Julia B reported that nothing has changed as yet.
14. **Treasurer's Report:** Mal F was not present. However he emailed a statement as follows:
'Cash at Bank \$1666.72
Term Deposit \$3203.92 (including accrued interest)
The Term deposit matures 13/2/14. Unless otherwise advised, I will reinvest for 6 months at 3.65%, as interest rates are predicted to remain static for the next few months.'

New Business

1. **Walmer St Bridge:** Council's plans to rebuild the land bridge and ramp on the Boroondara side of this bridge were explained at the December BAC meeting. Representatives and observers have since received detailed plans of the proposed feasibility study and BBUG has been requested to send a letter of support to VicRoads. **Glennys J** agreed to draft a letter of support including reservations about the proposed stairs accessing the land bridge and the information board to be erected at their head. A landing would be needed here to avoid potential conflict but it might be better to cut costs by omitting it altogether.
2. **Mont Albert Rd between Rochester Rd and Balwyn Rd:** Alan Tonkin was not present to explain his concerns or suggest actions though he had outlined these in an email.
3. **Victorian BUGs meeting Tuesday 18th March:** Julia B reported that Helen Millicer has arranged for the new BN CEO Craig Richards to attend this meeting. One issue for Craig Richards to address is ways for BN to work better with BUGs to make greater use of their local knowledge and contacts. Another is how to avoid having BN publicly undermine campaigns such as 'A Metre Matters' that have widespread support amongst BN members.

Other Business:

1. **Small Projects for Council:** **David F** agreed to email Chris Hui about a proposed pram ramp needed from Derby St to the Kew Recreation Centre.
2. **Hoddle St Options on Facebook:** David F suggested that the Facebook page might be used to determine how cyclists feel about alternative treatments to link the Yarra Trail and DFT with the City of Yarra on-road network in the Hoddle Street area to assist with our advocacy efforts. It was resolved that the ideas should be sorted out by email at a future time.

Next meeting: Wednesday 12th March 2014

Notes by Julia Blunden

Contacts for Rides

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

Ashburton Riders Club

Contacts:

Tony Landsell - email: tony@diacher.com

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

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

Banyule BUG

BanyuleBUG

email: banyuleBug@yahoo.com.au

website: www.banyulebug.org.au

contacts: Maurie phone: 9439 1619, or Leigh phone: 9432 9720

Boroondara Bushwalkers

contact Julia Blunden

phone: 9853 5095

email: jblunden@bigpond.com

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

Kew Neighbourhood Learning Centre Bike Riding Group

Contact: Robin Kendrick, phone: 9853 3126

Council on the Ageing (COTA) Cycling Group

contact Janet Bennett

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

phone: 9654 4443

website:

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

Darebin BUG

Rides and Events Coordinator

Doug Morffew, phone: 9499 7325 (AH)

email: dougmorf@alphalink.com.au

website: www.darebinbug.org.au

Surrey Hills Neighbourhood Centre

Phone: 9890 2467

Email: info@surreyhillsnc.org.au

Website: www.surreyhillsnc.org.au

Knox Bicycle Touring Club Incorporated

email: Mikeaatleisure@aol.com

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

Manningham BUG

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

website: www.vicnet.net.au/~mannbug

Maroondah Bushwalking Club

To obtain details of how to book on a walk and a copy of the current walks and activities program Contact information officers:

Sandra, phone: 9728 3833, Aileen, phone: 9876 1104

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

Melbourne Bicycle Touring Club

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

Whitehorse Cyclists

email: ejhopper@vicnet.net.au

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

Finbar Neighbourhood House Rides

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

YHA

contacts: Ride Co-Ordinator Kathy

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

or Secretary Voula on secretary@yhacycling.org.au

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

Boroondara BUG Contacts

Membership Secretary & Treasurer:
Malcolm Faul
Phone: 9853 1369
Email: malfaul@alphalink.com.au
Address: 38 Grove Rd, Hawthorn, 3122

Media Contact: Peter Campbell
Phone: 0409 417 504
Email: <http://greenlivingpedia.org>

Newsletter Editor & Secretary:
Julia Blunden
phone: 9853 5095
email: jblunden@bigpond.com

Boroondara Bicycle Users Group

Membership Application Form

Name _____

Address & Postcode _____

Phone (H) _____

Phone (M) _____

Phone (W) _____

Email _____

Member of Bicycle Victoria? Please circle: Yes / No

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

Malcolm Faul
Phone: 9853 1369
Email: malfaul@alphalink.com.au
Address: 38 Grove Rd, Hawthorn, 3122