

BOROONDARA

Bicycle Users Group

Newsletter April 2014

Boroondara BUG meetings are normally held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month except January. Our next meeting is on Wednesday 9th April. 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

The Armstrong Lie

Here is an invite for Thursday 10th April 7pm Jam Factory, South Yarra.

Interested in seeing the movie, "The Armstrong Lie" – a documentary chronicling sports legend Lance Armstrong's improbable rise and ultimate fall from grace.?

By way of background, it was directed by well-known Alex Gibney, who in 2009 director set out to do a documentary film on cyclist Lance Armstrong's comeback year after a four-year retirement from the sport. Following a doping investigation that led to his lifetime ban from competition and the stripping of his seven Tour de France titles, Armstrong went back to Gibney to set the record straight about his career - but did he?

Apart from the opportunity to see this interesting film, you will also be helping through Chain Reaction raise money for sick children.

This link enables you to purchase your ticket which also entitles you to a popcorn, a drink and a choctop!

<http://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-armstrong-lie-tickets-11079451939>

Italian Bike Tours

We are a small bicycle tour company and a bike hotel in Varese (Italy). We organize and lead cycling holidays in Italy's Lake District. We would like to introduce our overall offering to your club members.

Please look at our overall offering: http://www.gpsvarese.it/i_vacanze_bicicletta.asp

- Northern Italy Lake Road Bike Tour (8 days) - average daily distance: approx. 80 km - 49 miles – with climbs;

- Northern Italy Lake Gentle Cycling Tour (8 days) - average daily distance: approx. 40 km - 25 miles – no climbs.

8 days / 7 nights / 6 days of cycling - guided tours based in one bike hotel – Euro 754.00

All meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner.

Scheduled dates:

26th April – 3rd May 2014;

24th – 31st May 2014;

14th – 21st June 2014;

5th - 12th July 2014;

23rd - 30th August 2014;

20th - 27th September 2014;

4th - 11th October 2014;

Other dates are possible and we'll create a departure especially for you if there is a minimum number of 4 guests and a maximum of 12 guests.

From Malpensa Milan Airport (22 miles – 35 km far from city of Varese) you can fly to many international destinations non stop. Please, select arrivals and departures: <http://www.milanomalpensa1.eu/en>

- Northern Italy Lake Road Bike Tour (5 days);

- Northern Italy Lake Gentle Cycling Tour (5 days).

5 days / 4 nights / 3 days of cycling - guided tours based in one bike hotel.

All meals included: breakfast, lunch, dinner - Euro 423.00

Scheduled dates:

19th – 26th April 2014;

17th – 24th May 2014;

21st - 28th June 2014;

12th - 19th July 2014;

16th - 23rd August 2014;

13th - 20th September 2014;

11th - 18th October 2014;

Other dates are possible and we'll create a departure especially for you if there is a minimum number of 4 guests and a maximum of 12 guests.

Stefano Argenti, GPSVarese & Eco Bike Hotel Ungheria Varese, Viale Borri 98 - 21100 Varese VA (Italy), Phone +39 0332 264 325

http://www.gpsvarese.it/i_vacanze_bicicletta.asp & <http://www.hotelungheria.it/en/bike-hotel-in-varese/>

Campaigns

Petition to Fix the Chicanes on the Bellarine Rail Trail

Any of our readers who have ridden the Bellarine Rail Trail will be aware of the problems posed by the numerous tight chicanes along the way. Bicycle Users Geelong are supporting this petition which reads as follows:

Dear Geelong Mayor and Councillors,

Please fix the unsafe chicanes on the Bellarine Rail Trail between Geelong and Drysdale - bring them up to Ausroads standards.

Why is this important?

The narrow chicanes on the Bellarine Rail Trail are the blight on an potentially great trail.

The chicanes:

- pose safety and access issues to all riders. inexperienced riders are particularly likely to collide with the heavy wooden chicanes.*
- reduces use by Tandems, bikes with trailers, loaded touring bikes, cargo bikes/trikes which typically cannot be ridden through the chicanes*
- don't stop dirt bikes (they can access the trail in other places and negotiate the existing chicanes)*
- provides a uncomfortable experience for tourists - who are less likely to return to the Bellarine Peninsula's fine wineries, beaches and landscapes.*

Renovating the chicanes will improve access to the trail, get more people riding, walking, running, skating. It will be safer for cyclists, leading to more locals and tourists enjoying the Bellarine Rail Trail. It's a great asset that needs to reach its potential.

How it will be delivered?

We'll submit this petition to the Councillors at a meeting.

To add your signature go to: <http://www.communityrun.org/petitions/fix-the-chicanes-on-the-bellarine-rail-trail>

Boroondara News

Super Tuesday Donations

Many thanks to the five Super Tuesday counters who nominated Boroondara BUG to receive their \$50 payment. A very welcome boost to our coffers!

Minutes of Boroondara BUG Meeting, Wednesday 12th March 2014

Elgin Inn, Hawthorn

Attendance and Apologies

Present: Alister Huth, David Leong, Gordon Macmillan, John Parker, David Farrow, Julia Blunden, Glennys Jones, Peter Campbell (Chair), David Hall, John Piesse

Apologies: Ken Parker, Jill Young, Peter Carter

Correspondence:

In

- Numerous emails re timetable for LMA East-West Link hearings
- Email re Council's Integrated Water Management Strategy (individual members may like to have input to this)

Out

Matters Arising:

1. **Hawthorn to Box Hill Trail:** Peter Campbell has written to all state MPs regarding his recent collision with a car while riding in Burwood Rd. He has had 20 responses, mostly referring him to his local member Robert Clark. Julia B reported that Hedley Finger recently narrowly escaped a similar collision in Harold St. There were various suggestions as to additional people who should be pressured to act on a safer bike route.
2. **Golfers Choice and Urban Bush Path:** Nil to report.
3. **Darebin-Yarra Link:** David H has been invited to join the stakeholder group set up by VicRoads. The next meeting was to be on 17/3 to consider flooding issues. Glennys J recommended the use of fiberglass grid on board walks, as better for flooding and also quieter than timber. The latter could be an issue for the golf club. John Piesse suggested that separate paths could be provided for pedestrians and cyclists in Willsmere Park, but the general view was that this is something to look at once we have the link in place.
4. **Belford Rd Underpass:** Nil to report. This is an item on the BAC agenda.
5. **Dights Falls Trail:** The BBUG presentation to the LMA panel is now being prepared. This needs to be rehearsed. It was agreed that the working group would meet at Peter Campbell's place on Wednesday 19/3, and the rehearsal would take place on Wednesday 26/3, in one of the Boroondara Library meeting rooms. Julia B agreed to book this and request a data projector and screen. Presenters will be Peter Campbell, John P, Peter Carter and David F. An audience is needed for the rehearsal.

A briefing note is also being prepared for interested stakeholders and the original submission is being revised. Productive meetings have been held with Bicycle Network, Tom Melican from Banyule, and City of Boroondara (not sure who this means?). John Parker is seeking a meeting with Yarra Council, and Alister H is seeking one with Darebin Council and with Labor and Greens politicians. David H intends contacting the Minister for Transport.

6. **Stonnington Matters:** Glennys J reported that a link from the Scotchmans Creek Path to the Phoenix Park precinct, which she has been advocating for some time, has finally been constructed and is of a very good standard with a wombat crossing.
7. **Domestic Animals Management Plan:** Nil to report.
8. **Outer Circle Trail at Harp Junction:** There was general outrage at the leasing of part of this site to the Harp Hotel for car parking. This is an item on the BAC agenda. It was agreed that this issue should be raised with Tim Smith. **Alister H** offered to write letters to the *Progress Leader* and to the ward councillor (?).
9. **Jacka Trail/North Balwyn Leisure Trail:** **Julia B** reported that Lou Will is still collecting signatures for the petition.
10. **Invitations to Councillors to Attend BBUG Meetings:** Jill Y has been pursuing this. No councillors were available to attend this month's meeting.
11. **Bicycle Wayfinding Group:** Nil to report. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda, However **Julia B** should query the working group regarding planned future activity.
12. **Walmer St Bridge:** **Glennys J** has not yet drafted a letter of support but will do so soon.
13. **Mont Albert Rd between Rochester Rd and Balwyn Rd:** Nil to report.
14. **Victorian BUGs Meeting Tuesday 18th March:** It was agreed that, given the clash with the MCC Bike Forum, the best course was to postpone this.
15. **Treasurer's Report:** Mal Faul was not present and had not sent a report.

New Business

1. **Bicycle Advisory Committee Meeting, Friday 14th March:** **John P and Julia B** indicated that they would be representing BBUG. Glennys J indicated that she would not be able to attend as an observer due to a Bike Ed commitment.
2. **Meeting with Tim Smith, Endorsed Liberal Candidate for Kew:** It was agreed that BBUG members should meet with Tim soon to brief him about various cycling issues including: the North Eastern Bicycle Corridor, the Darebin-Yarra link, Harp Junction, the need for lighting on the Kew Boulevard, the Belford Rd underpass and other issues on the Yarra Trail. **David F and Julia B** agree to liaise on a meeting with Tim.

Other Business:

1. **Evan Bolutis:** It was noted that Evan is retiring from his position as Manager, Traffic and Transport. It was agreed that **Julia B** would send him a note of thanks for his contribution to improving cycling infrastructure in Boroondara.
2. **Gardiners Creek Detour:** It was agreed that this is of an excellent standard and a huge improvement on the previous on-road detour. It was agreed that **Julia B** would write to both Coles and Melbourne Water thanking them for their respective contributions to securing this good outcome, and to the *Progress Leader*.
3. **Laneways:** Glennys J noted that Council has developed a Discussion Paper, [*Camberwell Junction: bringing our laneways to life*](#), which investigates the various possibilities of these laneways and a questionnaire which must be completed by 11 April 2014.
4. **Masters Bike Pump:** Gordon M noted that the Masters Store adjacent to the Gardiners Creek Trail now has a bike pump attached to the vending machine stocked with goodies for cyclists.

Next meeting: Wednesday 9th April

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