

BOROONDARA

Bicycle Users Group

Newsletter July 2006

Boroondara BUG meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, except January. Next meeting will be on Wednesday 12th July, at the Swinburne Hawthorn Campus in room TD244. The TD building is between Park and Wakefield Streets. Solway Ward Councillor Mary Halikias-Byrnes will be a guest at this meeting and the Gardiners Creek Trail Missing Link will be a key agenda item.

The Boroondara BUG is a voluntary group working to promote the adoption of a safe and practical environment for commuting and recreational cyclists in the City of Boroondara. We have close links with the City of Boroondara, Bicycle Victoria, Bicycle Federation of Australia and other local Bicycle Users' Groups.

Boroondara BUG has a web site at <http://www.boroondarabug.org> that contains interesting material related to cycling, links to other cycle groups, recent Boroondara BUG Newsletters and breaking news.

We also have two Yahoo Groups:

Send a blank e-mail to BoroondaraBug-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to receive this monthly newsletter and occasional important messages.

Send a blank e-mail to BoroondaraBugDiscussion-subscribe@yahoogroups.com to monitor or join in an ongoing discussion of bike related issues both local and general.

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

Features

Darebin BUG 5th Birthday Celebration

On Thursday 15 June David Leong attended Darebin BUG's birthday bash. Here is his report.

First a few impressive facts about the Darebin BUG

1. DBUG had over 80 new or renewed memberships processed that night
2. DBUG conducts rides on 5 days a week, including a beginners introductory course
3. DBUG has succession plans with each committee position also having an understudy

There were two guest speakers Hillary Harper from ABC 774 and Tony Barton, Manager - Bicycle Programs, Traffic and Transport Integration Department, VicRoads.

Hillary Harper from ABC 774 was the first guest presenter. Apart from presenting the traffic reports in the morning, she also produces the morning program. She has never owned a car and only had her first Melbourne Freeway experience in recent times. Unlike other media presenters, she is determined that her traffic report will not be car-centric.

Hillary mentioned that she had managed to convince Jon Faine to start commuting to work by bike, although he has taken a break for winter (in her words, 'baby steps to start with'). Hillary summarised her three main reasons for riding as follows: (1) Laziness - can't get motivated to do any other exercise, (2) Vanity - a good way to keep the weight off, (3) Tight - doesn't want to pay for public transport.

Tony opened his presentation by saying that it was good to be speaking to a group of friends, rather than the usual room full of engineers. He came across as a really enthusiastic cycling advocate. He said that he has undertaken his role as the Bicycle Programs Manager at VicRoads for six years. Although he admitted not riding to work, he said that he did walk to work for twelve years. He mentioned that he got into cycling because he was attracted to carbon fibre frames, and cycling is one of the few opportunities where men can get away with wearing lycra

Tony was very excited about the bike counting sensors now on the bike paths and said that the main commuter routes surveyed correlated with the freeways in terms of peak hour peaks. The sensors have shown that bike traffic doesn't drop off much during winter on the main commuter routes, whilst on the recreational routes it does. The engineers worked hard to ensure that the bike counting sensors had a 90% accuracy with recording bikes, including being able to detect carbon fibre frames. Bike counts have shown that of all the inner municipalities, the City of Maribyrnong has the lowest numbers of cyclists. As a result, VicRoads will be targeting this municipality for improvements in cycling infrastructure.

Tony commented on how the PBN in the regional areas was now 80% complete, whilst in Melbourne, it was only around 35% complete, this being due to the fact that on a per kilometre basis. PBN in Melbourne costs many times that of the regional counterpart.

Cycling is now definitely on the agenda at VicRoads and cycling is always considered on all major road projects. However there is a question mark over whether Eastlink will have a full bike path along it, or whether the developers are going to rely on some of the existing Dandenong Creek Trail. *(At a visit to the Southern and Eastern Integrated Transport Authority last week we were told that the new path will definitely terminate at the point where it meets the Dandenong Creek path just to the north of the Patterson River. So sadly there will still not be a continuous off-road route through to Frankston. Ed)*

Tony said that they are embarking on what they call second generation cycling treatments - this referring to the fact that many of the simpler projects had been completed and they were now starting to tackle the more difficult projects, which would require more radical treatments and in some cases, world first treatments. He envisaged the introduction of more treatments which would cross between being on and off road (Victoria and Hawthorn bridges could be suitable candidates!). He said that the current budget allocated for bikes looks relatively large, but most of that is for the Federation Trail.

Naturally, the DBUG members brought up the St Georges Rd roundabout. Tony said that he had rejected an earlier treatment because it was inadequate and would not have made enough of a difference to cyclists and therefore would have been a poor allocation of the already limited cycling budget. He praised BUGs and even mentioned that Boroondara BUG had been very helpful to BCC in conducting trail audits. It was great to see Darebin BUG presenting such an evening. Perhaps similar quality speakers could again be a feature of BV annual General Meetings.

Thanks to David Leong for this report

Secrets of Craigieburn Link Revealed

Many thanks to Jacques Fievez and Les Deady both of whom responded to my request for suggestions for a safe route to connect the new path along the Craigieburn Bypass and the Broadmeadows Valley Park path. Not only do I now have a detailed route description, but I also know where to find open public toilets in Craigieburn and a bakery in Roxburg Park, both of which I am sure will come in very handy when I repeat this ride as I certainly intend to. I also have details of an alternative route to reach the start of the Craigieburn Bypass path from Reservoir Station. If anyone else needs this information I am very happy to share it.

Julia Blunden

New Products and Resources

Our New Bike Rack: the Thule EuroWay

For a long time we have been using an old style bike carrier. That is one that bolts onto the tow bar of our car and has a vertical shaft with a horizontal bar at the top which takes three bikes. A large shifting spanner is required to secure it to the tow bar. Three bikes have always been a tight fit and there is a lot of fiddling around with thumb screws to fix the bikes in place. It has been difficult to lift the bikes up and over the bicycle number plate, and with my wife's step through frame a converter bar had to be attached to enable it to sit on the carrier – more fiddling around with nuts and bolts. When the bikes had been placed successfully on this carrier there was the further work of immobilising them with ockie straps. The carrier was also prone to scratch the bikes.

So, when my wife bought a new bike with an even more awkward frame than the old one I looked for something that would reduce these difficulties and do less harm to the bike. At first I thought that a roof rack would be the way to go, but that would have required purchasing cross bars as well as the roof rack. Then there was the difficulty of lifting the bikes onto the carrier as well as the possibility of forgetting that they were there and driving under something where there wasn't enough clearance.

So it was with satisfaction that we found just what we needed at Roof Carrier Systems. They are at 469 Burke Road Camberwell near the corner of Burke and Toorak roads, phone 9822 9539. What we purchased was a two bike car rack that is fixed to the tow ball of the tow bar. No tools are needed to attach it as it has its own ratchet bar to tighten the frame onto the ball. There are two clamps that are manoeuvrable onto different bike frames and clamp in a way that does no damage to the bike which sits in a channel where it is held by a strap at both front and back wheels. Nothing else but the rack is needed to hold the bike securely.

The carrier has tail lights that are plugged into the car's power system via cables and the number plate sits between these. (Our car was fitted with a cable for use with a trailer.) A stunning feature of the carrier is that it easily can be dropped to an oblique angle allowing entry to the boot or, in our case, into the back of the station wagon. The current law is that bike carriers may not be left on the car with no bikes in them. We are still awaiting word from VicRoads as to whether an exception may be made for this rack which is in some ways more like a trailer.

The unit is designed in Sweden and is of a solid, clean, attractive and functional design. The brand name is Thule and the carrier is called EuroWay. It retails for \$365 for a two bike model and somewhat more for a three bike carrier. I found the three bike carrier just a little heavy to lift.

Ralph Blunden

Wheels of Justice

WoJ is an Australian grassroots cyclist organisation involved with changing negative attitudes and working towards positive outcomes for all road users. Our website has been developed with that focus in mind; to create access to information that can be easily utilised to educate yourself and create greater awareness about vitally important issues encountered by all cyclists who share the roads with vehicles. We warmly welcome any feedback and you may have, and also welcome any contributions you would like to see on the site. For more on our group please visit our website at: <http://www.woj.com.au/>

Events

Family Cycling Course

A Families of the Future cycling course, will be held in Thornbury during July and August. The course is about family cycling and encouraging parents and friends to feel confident about cycling with young children:

Part 1: cycling with children on board (0-4 years) – 5 and 12 July

Part 2: cycling with novice riders (5-10 years) – 2 and 9th August

For further information contact Rachel Carlisle, Sustainable Transport Projects Coordinator, Environment Victoria, phone: 9341 8107, fax: 03 9341 8199

Bicycling Australia Show

The Bicycling Australia Show is on again in Melbourne this year.

When: Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th October 2006

Opening Times: 10am - 5pm

Where: The Royal Exhibition Building, Carlton VIC

Cost: \$15 adults / \$10 concession (children under 10 free)

A number of BUGs are planning to share one or more stalls at the show to do a bit of self-promotion. For further details see their web site: <http://www.bicyclingaustralia.com/CyclecoverInsuranceBicyclingAustraliashow/tabid/338/Default.aspx>

Women's Event: Winter Cycling Blues, Sat 15 July

Arising from the successful launch of the womenscycling.com.au website, the Cycling Promotion Fund is organising the next women's event: Cycling Winter Blues! It will include tips on riding in winter, being seen, keeping warm and dry and experiences of Around the Bay in a Day. There will be time for questions and information sharing.

Where: St Kilda Bowling Club, 66 Fitzroy St, St Kilda

When: 9.30 - 11.30 am Saturday 15 July

Cost: \$10 to cover catering costs

RSVP by 10 July 2006

Go to <http://www.cyclingpromotion.com.au/content/view/170/9/> to see more information and download an invitation. Or contact Kathy Brunning: 9818 5400; office@cyclingpromotion.com.au

There'll be free valet bike parking and a bike mechanic doing basic maintenance (eg. pumping up tyres and checking brakes) provided by the Institute for Sensible Transport (see <http://www.sensibletransport.org.au/> to find out more about them).

Speakers are yet to be fully confirmed. Please be in touch if you'd like to know who is speaking beforehand. Feel free to pass this on. Hope to see lots of you there.

Kathy Brunning, Executive Assistant, Cycling Promotion Fund, PO Box 3052 Auburn Victoria 3123, Phone: 03-9818-5400; Fax 03-9818-4535; www.cyclingpromotion.com.au; PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: office@cyclingpromotion.com.au

Cycling Hints and Tips

Keep a few disposable examination gloves in your pannier bag. They can be used for working on the bike where grease is involved or even when the chain comes off. When finished, peel the gloves off and store inside out for reuse. This will safely contain the grease. The glove can be turned the right way out for reuse.

Thanks to Graham Ellis for this tip

Beyond Boroondara

Dim-Witted Cyclists Risking Lives

Presenter interviews Harry Barber, Bicycle Victoria, about a survey regarding lighting on bicycles. Presenter says that the survey has indicated that a quarter of bicyclists ride at night without adequate lighting. Barber says it is upsetting and disappointing. Barber says traffic regulations require that cyclists have lights that are visible from 200 metres and this has been tested by the Victorian Police and VicRoads.

774 ABC MELBOURNE Jon Faine, 9:24AM Monday, 19 June 2006

More than a quarter of Melbourne cyclists are breaking the law by riding at night without adequate lighting. A survey of city cyclists by Bicycle Victoria has found 15 per cent had no lights at all, with a further 12 per cent sporting inadequate lighting when riding at night.

MX Melbourne, Wednesday 21 June 2006; p.2

Note that the fine for riding without the required front and rear lights is \$50, the same as the estimated cost of buying the lights.

Trail Link a Reality

A pedestrian bridge will be built across the Maroondah Highway at Lilydale, ensuring safer crossing for users of the Warburton Rail Trail. The bridge will be funded under an allocation from last month's State budget but will also include contributions from VicRoads, the Shire of Yarra Ranges, and the Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail Committee.

Lilydale Yarra Valley Leader, Monday 19 June 2006; p.9

Road Safety Petition

A petition signed by about 45 cyclists has prompted Campaspe Shire to assess the intersections along Simmie Rd between the Murray Valley Hwy and Bangerang Rd, east of Echuca.

Riverine Herald, Monday 19 June 2006; p.3

Thanks to Graeme Stone for these items

Monash Draft Budget

The City of Monash has allocated \$120,000 for bicycle works in the next financial year. The money will be used to continue work on the Holmesglen-Glen Waverley Rail Trail and for maintenance of the existing network. Monash has 56km of bicycle lanes half of which are shared pedestrian/bike paths and half on-road routes.

Thanks to Tim Connors for passing on this news

Campaign to Get Cycling onto the TAC Road Safety Site

The Victorian TAC Road Safety site has sections relating to Parents, Schools, Older Drivers, Motorcyclists and Fleet. Virtually all the bicycle relevant information on this site relates to parents instructing their children riding bikes. Now cyclists are legally road traffic. Cyclists (unfortunately) have their own category on the daily Road stats. The simple point that needs to be made is that cyclists do require their own section on the TAC Road Safety site. This would be a one-stop shop for all of TAC's cycling information and clear a lot of misinformation and confusion people encounter when dealing with road incidents. This campaign is literally just asking for cycling information to be collated more efficiently by Federal and State organisations, and could potentially have a positive effect on other states to also effectively take cycling more seriously than the current fragmented approach. If you believe this initiative is required, please refer to the points made in our draft letter and feel free to pass on this information to your cycling contacts. Please address your letters/emails of support to:

* TAC Chairman: James MacKenzie and TAC CEO: Paul O'Connor, c/o: Transport Accident Authority, GPO Box 2751, Melbourne VIC 3001

* TAC Road Safety Contact page: Email: info@tac.vic.gov.au

* John Lenders MLC: (Minister with Workcover and TAC portfolio) Email: john.lenders@parliament.vic.gov.au

For further details and a draft letter refer to the Wheels of Justice **Get Cycling on the Agenda: TAC Road Safety Site**
<http://www.woj.com.au/2006/06/07/get-cycling-on-the-agenda-tac-road-safety-site/>

Thanks to Yarra Bicycle Users Group for this item.

Boroondara News

Tooronga Village Re-Development

Planning Panel hearings regarding this development will take place over the period Monday 10th July to Tuesday 8th August. Most of the hearings will take place at the Planning Panels Victoria premises in East Melbourne. However on the days set aside for presentations by the Tooronga Action Group and other local individuals the hearings will take place at the City of Boroondara Council Chambers in Camberwell. These days are Tuesday 1st August to Friday 4th August. Graeme Stone and Julia Blunden will be making brief presentations regarding the possible impact of the development on cycling infrastructure on Friday 4th August.

Fencing of Dorothy Laver Reserve

Boroondara Council is planning fencing in the Dorothy Laver Reserve through which the Gardiners Creek Trail goes. Council appears to be planning to separate vehicles from grassed areas as well as sporting types and spectators from the Trail. Notices and maps are on site.

Thanks to Graham Ellis for this information item

History Corner: July 1996 Boroondara BUG Newsletter Topics of the day:

Gardiners Creek Path – South Eastern Arterial Widening

Two BBUG members attended a meeting with VicRoads and Leighton re shared path – concrete or asphalt? Landscaping: Looks good, thousands of trees to be planted, the roots of which theoretically will not affect the path. Completion date: 31st December 1996.

Boroondara Budget

Good news. The council budget for 96/97 allocates \$105,000 for bicycle strategy / new paths / path repairs. A step or pedal stroke in the right direction but not enough yet!

That Bridge (Yarra Trail/ Darebin / Willsmere Park Bridge)

Melbourne Parks and Waterways applied to Boroondara Council for a planning permit to build a ramp up to the proposed bridge... The permit application was refused despite a 'high level and extremely competent presentation by some noble members' of the BBUG... however we were lifted in spirits by Councillors Nigel Kirby and Paula Davey who came and expressed support to us for the aim of the BBUG – the improvement of cycling facilities in Boroondara. Was much appreciated by your reps – Neale, Adrian and Graeme... There have since been phone calls and on-site meetings with all parties. The good news is that it seems likely that the bridge will be built at that site.

Editor Neale Binnion.

Minutes of Boroondara BUG Meeting 7.30pm Wednesday 14th June 2006

Held at Swinburne, Hawthorn Campus, Room TD 244

Present: Graeme Stone, Tim Connors, Julia Blunden, Jason den Hollander, Graham Ellis, Phil Crohn, David Leong, Alister Huth, Malcolm Faul, Councillor Dick Menting

Tooronga Village: JB reported that she and GS had attended the public meeting on the re-development plans on 11th May. The issues of the Tooronga Rd bike lanes and the Gardiners Creek path were raised but did not receive much attention from the meeting organisers. However the Tooronga Action Group which has been formed to fight the current Stockland plans has shown more interest. JB agreed to email others present details about the group and how to make submissions.

Gardiners Creek Trail Gap: JD reported on this. A meeting has been held to which BV was invited but BBUG wasn't. Stonnington Council has used the \$30,000 grant from the Community Fund to come up with a plan to route the link via the Anniversary Trail and Markham Reserve, meaning that cyclists following the Gardiners Creek Trail will need to ride two sides of a triangle. Their plan is also for a pedestrian crossing at Warrigal Road. The route preferred by BV and by BBUG keeps close to the creek. From Solway Bridge it continues on the south side of the creek beside the golf course for a few hundred metres before crossing to the north side and following the creek to Warrigal Road. It includes an underpass under Warrigal Rd. It was decided that a letter should be written to the Mayor of Stonnington putting the case for our preferred route, and querying why a golf club member was chosen to head their investigation.

Integrated Transport Strategy: JB and GE have both written submissions regarding the draft report. JB's submission pointed out the existence of the Travelsmart map, and the failure to mention our recommendations for a Bicycle Advisory Committee and a system for hazard reporting.

Leonda: JB reported that she had emailed Jim Hondrakis regarding the BBUG preferred solution but had received no reply.

Bike Parking Rails in Glenferrie: JB reported that there had been no further progress with this and that she would follow it up again with Adam Hall. Suggestions to advance the cause included taking digital photos of bikes chained to posts etc and making contact with the Glenferrie Traders Association. TC agreed to look at possible locations for additional rails.

Burwood Rd/Church St Intersection: GS reported that he had conveyed our suggestions to VR. The bulk of the work on the intersection has now been completed although there are still a few minor works continuing. MF reported that there is now less of a squeeze point at Church Street for cyclists.

Dogs on Leads: JD learned from Carol Skinner, a Yarra BUG member, that she had successfully sued the owner of a dog with which she collided. The ruling was that if a dog injures a person the dog's owner is responsible. While this is pleasing, those present agreed that there is an ongoing problem with the failure of many dog owners to control their dogs near shared paths. A state-wide campaign is needed to alert dog owners to their responsibilities. This was flagged as a possible BV campaign.

Grace Park/Glenferrie Oval: JB reported that she would be meeting with Mark Brennan at Glenferrie Oval at 9am on Friday 16th to discuss the Master Plan for this area. Don Glasson had emailed some suggestions regarding this meeting but no-one else had expressed interest.

BFA Membership: DL proposed that as BV is not currently a member of the BFA BBUG should follow the lead of other Victorian BUGs and join in its own right. Those present voted in favour of this. GS to send \$55 to BFA for 2006/07.

Priority List: GS, JB and TC met to discuss this and GS has done some reformatting, added further details and emailed out copies in two different sort orders. A little more work remains to make the document as user friendly as possible. A version of the document will be posted on the BUG web site as soon as possible.

Bollards in the Outer Circle Path: There are problem bollards in the section of the path east of Harp Junction, and near Princess St. It was agreed that this should be an agenda item when we next meet with Jim Hondrakis.

Meeting with Jim Hondrakis: It was decided that our next meeting with Jim Hondrakis should be arranged for early July. Someone from Parks and Gardens should be present at this meeting if possible. Fridays 7/7 and 14/7 were identified as possible dates. DM said he would like to attend and prefers an afternoon meeting. JB agreed to arrange this.

Guest for next meeting: It was agreed that JB will invite the Solway ward councillor, Mary Halikias-Byrnes to our next meeting.

Contacts for Rides

There are many BUGs, clubs and other organisations, several of them local, which organise rides. Below are some of their contact details. At the end of this newsletter is a separate section with details of many of their forthcoming rides.

Camberwell Downhill Gourmet Bike Riders: contact Elva Parker, phone: 9836 6392

Boroondara Bushwalkers: contact Julia Blunden, phone: 9853 5095, e-mail: jblunden@bigpond.com; web site: www.keypoint.com.au/~bbwinc

Hawthorn Cycle Tours: contact Hawthorn Aquatic and Leisure Centre, phone: 9815 0988; e-mail: lexbishop@bikerider.com; website: <http://www.geocities.com/perften/Hct.html>

Council on the Ageing (COTA) Cycling Group: contact Janet Bennett, e-mail: janpeter@bigpond.net.au or COTA, phone: 9654 4443.

Knox Bicycle Touring Club Incorporated, email: Email: Mikeaatleisure@aol.com Web site: home.vicnet.net.au/~knoxbike

Manningham BUG: e-mail: seball@netlink.com.au, H.Edwards@bom.gov.au; web site: www.vicnet.net.au/~mannbug

Maroondah Bushwalking Club: to obtain details of how to book on a walk and a copy of the current walks and activities program Contact **information officers:** Sandra, phone: 9728 3833; Aileen, phone: 9876 1104; web site: home.vicnet.net.au/~mbush/

Whitehorse Cyclists: e-mail: ejhopper@vicnet.net.au; web site: <http://www.whitehorsecyclists.org.au/>

Banyule BUG: email: banyuleBug@yahoo.com.au; web site: <http://home.vicnet.net.au/~banylbug/>; contacts: Richard phone: 9459 8648, or Les phone: 9459 2701

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 (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:

Membership Secretary & Treasurer:

Graeme Stone, 16 Jervis Street, Camberwell VIC 3124.
e-mail: graeme_stone@optusnet.com.au

Newsletter Editor & Minutes Secretary:

Julia Blunden, phone: 9853 5095
e-mail: jblunden@bigpond.com

Additional Contact:

David Leong: leongd@anz.com

Media Contact & Webmaster:

Jason den Hollander, phone: 0407 11 88 91
email: fdutch@gmail.com

Meeting Chair:

Phil Crohn: philcrohn@ozemail.com.au

Boroondara Bicycle Users Group

Membership Application 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

Queen's Birthday Weekend, June 10th – 12th, Queenscliff

Ten cyclists participated in the annual CDGBR cycling weekend at Queenscliff: Geraldine and David, Val and Joe, Karen and James, Bruce and Yvonne, Elva and Julia. Most of us stayed at the very pleasant Big4 Beacon Resort, but Bruce and Yvonne were based at a B&B right in the main street.

Saturday afternoon's leisurely ride followed the Bellarine Rail Trail out of town, then a delightful new path right beside the water to Point Lonsdale where we checked out the lookouts before heading back to the town centre for coffee and cakes and returning by the same route.

Sunday was the big ride – up the rail trail to Drysdale for lunch then return. Some of our group opted for various reasons to return by the 12.15 tourist train expecting to lunch back at Queenscliff. Much to our surprise those of us who had enjoyed a leisurely lunch in Drysdale found them still waiting on the station platform as we headed back. In fact due to ongoing train troubles we almost beat them back to Queenscliff but not quite. Some of us managed to squeeze in a very enjoyable jazz concert between our ride and dinner at the excellent Bowls Club.

Monday morning's ride was virtually a repeat of Saturday afternoon's, partly for the benefit of Elva who had been a late arrival. The weather was certainly not perfect; we experienced cold, wind, and rain, but were lucky enough to avoid complete drenching or really difficult head winds. 'Bracing' is the word that comes to mind. Many thanks to David and Geraldine for organising a very enjoyable weekend of cycling.

Julia Blunden

CDGBR Ride for Sunday 16th July: Werribee Circuit

Explore the many sides of Werribee taking in the old town, market gardens and grazing country south of the rail line, and the new suburbs mushrooming to its north. Attractive section along the Werribee River. Refer to Ride 9 in Julia's book 'Bike Rides Around Melbourne' p54.

The Ride: 30km, no hills, mixture of on and off-road sections, mostly quiet.

Start and finish: Werribee Station for a 10.45 start. There is a bail-out point at Hoppers Crossing on the Werribee line.

Transport: From the east catch the Belgrave train that reaches Flinders Street at 9.26am (stops Camberwell 9.11am) then the 9.45am Werribee train (Met Zone 2) arriving at Werribee at 9.36am.

Enquiries: Julia Blunden phone: 9853 5095

The next CDGBR dinner will be at Riversdale Hotel, corner Riversdale Rd and Auburn Rd, at 7pm on Friday July 14th 2006. Elva is cruising the coast of Broome so please advise Yvonne Dite if you are attending so numbers can be notified. Please contact Yvonne by July 10th at yandb@vtown.com.au or ph 9852 1921.

REMAINING 2006 RIDES: August 20th ?; September 17th Val & Joe; October 15th Lee & Alan; November 12th Geraldine & David

DINNER: November 17th

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 7:30am to ensure departure at 7:30am sharp. Arrives in Sassafras around 9:00am and leaves Sassafras by 9:30am Arrives back in Hawthorn around 10:45am.

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 a cycling group for people who want to ride more and learn more about their bikes and riding, as well as for people just getting started.

Plans for Seniors Bike rides in 2006

We will ride on Wednesdays, generally 2 short rides and 2 long rides each month. However please note there will be only 2 rides in July, August and September because our leaders will be away at various times.

We will meet at 10 am at the place specified. If the weather forecast for the day is 31°C or above the ride will start at 8am and conclude by 12midday. A coffee stop midmorning is included! We usually take our own lunch and picnic together. Some rides start earlier and this will be specified in the program. 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.

All riders are encouraged to join Council on the Aging (COTA). We also recommend that riders consider joining Bicycle Victoria for the insurance and service they offer.

Abbreviations for the ride grades are # easy * medium ! hard ^ hills.

Date	Place to meet	Description	Grade
July 12 th	East Malvern RSL Bowls club, MEL 60 A12 or train to East Malvern or Darling Station.	We will ride the Scotchman's Creek trail to Jell's Park and then a circuit of Oppy's trails to return via Waverley rail trail ~ 60km.	*
July 26 th	As above	We will ride the Gardiners Creek trail to Blackburn lake, the Koonung Creek trail including the new section and then the Main Yarra trail to return ~ 55km.	*
Aug 9 th	Jct. of Main Yarra and Gardiner Creek trail MEL 59 B1 (St. Kevin's boatshed) or ride from Flinders St. station.	Ride to Flinders St. station, train to Werribee and ride back to the starting point via Werribee South, Sanctuary lakes, Altona and Williamstown ~ 60km. Ps there are many train stations along the way to bail out.	#
Aug 23 rd	As above	A circuit of the Main Yarra trail, Port Melbourne rail trail, Bay trail, South Rd., East Boundary Rd., Murrumbeena Rd. and return via the Gardiner Creek trail ~ 50km.	#
Sept 13 th	Melbourne Zoo carpark, MEL 29 E11 or train to Royal Park stn.	Ride the Moonee Ponds Trail to Woodlands Park and return, approx 50km.	! ^
Sept 27 th	As above	Moonee Ponds trail, the Western Ring path, Maribyrnong river trail and return, ~ 60km.	! ^
Oct. 4 th	See below	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Oct.11 th	Collingwood Children's Farm carpark, St. Heliers St., MEL 44 G5 or ride from Victoria Park stn.	Main Yarra trail to the Merri creek trail, Northern Ring trail, to return via the Plenty river trail ~ 55km.	!
Oct. 18 th	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Oct. 25 th	As above	Main Yarra trail to Westerfolds park, Diamond Creek trail, along Diamond Creek Rd. to Plenty river trail and return via the MY trail again ~ 60km.	*
Nov. 1 st	Melbourne Zoo carpark,	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#

	MEL 29 E11 or train to Royal Park stn.		
Nov. 8 th	Organ Pipes National Park carpark MEL 3 C4 or ride from Diggers Rest stn. (from Southern Cross stn., on Vline).	After exploring the Organ Pipes National Park, we will ride to Melton via Toolern Vale and the Toolern creek. We will return to the start along back roads ~ 55km. People may want to return from Melton stn. along the way ~ 40km.	# obs. part on roads.
Nov. 15 th	Melbourne Zoo carpark, MEL 29 E11 or train to Royal Park stn.	We will choose a 30 km circuit to ride on the day. (This week some of us will be riding around Dunolly in Central Victoria from the 16 th to the 19 th . Rides will vary in length from 30 to 60km. Costs and details, please ring Janet Bennett, see above.)	#
Nov. 22 nd	COTA AGM	This begins at 10am at the YMCA centre in Elizabeth St. All riders welcome.	
Nov. 29 th	Melbourne Zoo carpark, near Royal Park railway stn , MEL 29 E11	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Dec. 6 th	Collingwood Children's Farm carpark, St. Heliers St., MEL 44 G5 or ride from Victoria Park stn.	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Dec. 13 th	Southern Cross stn at approx. 8.40am	We will take the train to Bendigo and ride around the Bushland trail in the town and out the O'Keefe Rail trail to Axedale ~ 60km. We will return to Melbourne about 6pm. Please check with Janet before the ride re times for the train. Drivers can meet the group at Bendigo station at Mitchell St./ Railway place.	#
Dec. 20 th	Collingwood Children's Farm carpark, St. Heliers St., MEL 44 G5 or ride from Victoria Park stn.	This is the Christmas lunch ride. We will ride from the carpark to Port Melbourne to lunch at Campari restaurant.	#

For further details later in the year, see the COTA website, www.cotavic.org.au/events/cycle_group.htm

Darebin BUG

Social Rides

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.

The **DBUG Rides Planning Committee** is looking for people who are interested in arranging and leading a ride, or in gaining leadership experience by co-leading a ride. Ride dates, suggestions and leaders should be coordinated through the Rides Coordinator. Please contact Doug on 9499 7325 / 0409 956 913 with your ideas.

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 AH 9499 7325
dougmorf@alphalink.com.au

Download the [Darebin BUG rides flyer](#), with details of these rides. (Word doc)

Please note all rides are free to anyone who would like to participate. After the third ride you take part in, we will invite you to join the BUG. 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. In the case of an emergency, ride leaders will call an ambulance if required. The ambulance will charge the injured person, not the BUG. This can be very expensive, so it is wise to consider taking out ambulance membership.

[Beginners Rides](#) - [Tuesday & Thursday rides](#) - [Saturday & Sunday rides](#) - [Weekend Rides](#) - [Around the Bay in a Day Ride Reports](#) - [Ride Photos](#)

Rides for Beginners

Monday Rides

Regular Monday rides for those looking for short easy rides. Travel local bike paths around 10-20km. For more information, call 9481 8853.

"Time to Ride" Beginners Rides

Details TBA

Market Rides

Collingwood Children's Farm Market ride - Second Saturday of each month - 9:30am

Meeting Place: Jika Jika Community Centre

Ride Leader: Vivienne 9482.3147

Ride Distance: 12km

Ride Grading: Easy

Ride Route: Merri Creek path then Yarra River Path to Collingwood Children's Farm

Notes: Time to ride event

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 & Sunday Rides - Varying Distances & Locations

Sunday Morning Rides, For experienced riders.

Every Sunday, 2-3 hours riding, various distances, training for ATB.

Meet at **Jika Jika Community Centre**, corner of Plant and Union sts, Northcote, at 9am.

Contact Yannick on 0438 785 450

Saturday & Sunday Social Rides, Some for beginners, others for experienced cyclists.

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

Manningham BUG

Rides are subject to change so **ALWAYS** phone the ride contact close to the date of the ride to confirm details.

For general enquiries ring Harvey (03)9890-8006 or Garry (03)9439-5016

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

		GRADE	CONTACT	MEET AT?
July				
Sun 16th	Terry's Tour As always?? our dear friend Terry finds another excuse to sample the food and drink at Beasley's nursery! We expect the ride to be worthwhile too.	30 km with hills	Terry 9848 6027	9.30am, start and finish at Beasley's Nursery

Up-Coming rides & some to mark in your diary				
T.B.A.	The next alphabet ride - G.H.I. Gary is planning to take us on another of his alphabet rides along the paths and byways of Melb.	Easy	Gary 9439-5016	
Sat 9th Sun 10th Sept	11th Anniversary Progressive Dinner Ride Medium thru to serious! Car backup and drive options available	40+50 / 230km	Kevin 9842 3323	Bookings essential- fills up fast
A Sunday in Sept	Rotary River Ride Charity fun ride is mostly along the Yarra Trail www.rotaryriverride.com.au	15km, 30km and 50km		Hays Paddock, Kew

Interested?

[Email us to find out more about the BUG - seball@netlink.com.au](mailto:seball@netlink.com.au)

Whitehorse Cyclists Inc

Rides Program

Last updated 23 May 2006

Cycling opportunities in our area: [Graeme's message board](#)

Do you need to be a member to join in a ride? No! Try out some rides first. Just phone the nominated leader for more details. .

Note: Tuesday rides are designed to enable new, inexperienced or recovering riders build up their abilities.

More cycling opportunities in our area: Ron of Rotary Forest Hill leads an easy ride every Sunday at 8am: Contact Ron on 0413 042 043

Date	Event	Distance	Grade	Contact
Thurs 6 July	Thursday ride Willy Warmer	50	Med	Barry Mc 9848 1154
Sun 9 July	NSW Tour training ride Craigieburn	100	Hard	Jacques 9497 2306
Tues July 11	2nd Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Tuesday 11 July 7.45 pm: Club Night: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Mike Taylor 9859 3647				
Thurs 13 July	Thursday ride	50	Med	tba
Sun 16 July	Williamstown and back	50	Hard	Mike McK 9816 3386
Tues 18 July	3rd Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Thurs 20 July	Thursday ride	50	Med	tba
Sat 22 July	NSW Tour training ride Yarra valley loop	85	Hard	Jacques 9849 0552
Tues 25 July	4th Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Thurs 27 July	Thursday ride	50	Med	tba
Sun 30 July	Jells Park			Bruce 9848 4804
Tues 1 August	1st Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Thurs 3 August	Thursday ride	50	Med	tba
Sat 5 August	Hastings loop			tba
Tues 8 August	2nd Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Tuesday 8 August 7.45 pm: Club Night: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Mike Taylor				

9859 3647				
Thurs 10 August	Thursday ride	50	Med	tba
12 -27 August	NSW North Coast	Booked out		Jacques
Sun 13 August	tba			Mike McK 9816 3386
Tues 15 August	3rd Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Thurs 17 August	Thursday ride	50	Med	tba
Sun 20 August	Warby Trail Working Bee			Sandra/John
Tues 22 August	4th Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Thurs 24 August	Thursday ride	50	Med	tba
Tues 29 August	5th Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Thurs 31 August	Thursday ride	50	Med	tba

Banyule Bicycle User Group—Rides Program

Rides start **9am** from Heidelberg Park (Melway ref 32 B4) except where indicated. A reasonable level of riding fitness is assumed, but novice riders will be looked after on shorter versions of scheduled rides. Members BYO morning tea. We welcome visiting riders.

July 2006

Sun 9 Riders' Choice

Tue 11 Wattle Park 35 km. Out by Koonung & Bushy Creek Trails, Box Hill streets (H2) and Gardiner's Creek Trail. H1 into Park. Return by streets, path, streets (short H2-3) to Ann. Trail at Hartwell.

Wed 12 General Meeting. 8 pm Watsonia Library. All welcome.

Sun 16 Valley Reserve 50 km. Anniversary Trail (H1 and H2), then follow rail to Mt. Waverley (long H1) and Reserve for break. Return by Scotchmans Creek Trail back to Ann. Trail.

Tue 18 Westmeadows 65 km. Start **9.30 am**. Mid-winter lunch at Westmeadows Tavern. Out by Cheddar Rd and Ring Road Trails. Return by Moonee Ponds Creek Trail, streets east, Merri Creek Trail.

Sun 23 St Kilda Beach 50 km. Out through Port Melbourne. Return through Albert Park.

Tue 25 Riders' Choice

Sun 30 Blackburn Lake 43 km. Out by Koonung Trail and streets. Return by Mitcham pipe track and streets to Koonung Trail.

For further information contact Richard (9459 8648) or Les (9459 2701)

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

Rides Program

Date	Ride	Rating	Leader
2006 July			
Thurs 6	<i>Photos from the Easter ride. Bairnsdale to Wodonga</i>		<i>Gail</i>
Sat 8	Fed Square & suburbs to Ricketts Point & return	50km easy/med	Peter
Sun 9	Scenic ramble in parkland and wetlands - Mordialloc, Dandenong, Jells Park, Heathmont	57km medium	John

Thurs 13	<i>Trip Planning and social night</i>		<i>Gael</i>
Sat 15	Mt Macedon Winery MTB ride	mystery	Peter
Sun 16	Kooyong to CERES via Gardiners Ck, Yarra and Merri Ck	45km easy/med	Jane
Tues 18	Club lunch in Camberwell		Fred
Thurs 20	<i>Winter cycling - how to make it easy</i>		<i>Alister</i>
Sat 22	Maribyrnong River and Brimbank Park +/- lunch Keilor Pub. Train based	45km medium	Gerry & Robyn
Sun 23	Hobsons Bay Coastal Trail: Docklands start/finish	50km easy/med	Clive
W/E 22 & 23	Daylesford ride from? to? o/night at Michael's	120km	Michael
Thurs 27	<i>Stories from the Club's past</i>		<i>Fred</i>
Sat 29	Books to Boathouse	25km easy	John
Sun 30	Wombat Wander: not the MAD ride	60km medium	Elizabeth
2006 August			
Tues 1 Aug	Club lunch in the City		Jon
Thurs 3 Aug	<i>Great WA ride photos</i>		<i>Jon</i>
Sat 5 Aug	Brunch in Brighton with a ride along Beach Road	40km easy	Judy
Sun 6 Aug	Westgate Park MTB ride - suit beginner MTBers	45km medium	Gael

For further information on any event, contact the Touring Secretary Gael Reid on (03) 9495 0538, after hours. Or at rides@mbtc.org.au

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.

Rides Program

Date	Description	Grade	Contact
Sun 9 July	Collingwood - Whittlesea		Mark / Nevi
Sun 16 July	NO RIDE		Contact yhacycling@yahoo.com.au to lead a ride on this date
Sun 23 July	NO RIDE		Contact yhacycling@yahoo.com.au to lead a ride on this date
Sun 30 July	NO RIDE		Contact yhacycling@yahoo.com.au to lead a ride on this date

Last updated on 1st May, 2006.

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.

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

How to join our mailing list

Send a blank e-mail to [YHA Cycling](#) with 'subscribe' in the subject line.

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

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