

# BOROONDARA

*Bicycle Users Group*

## Newsletter February 2005

Boroondara BUG meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month, except January. Next meeting: 8pm, Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, at Julia Blunden's place, 29 Elgin Street, Hawthorn. We expect to return to Swinburne for meetings from March.

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://home.vicnet.net.au/~bdarabug/boroondarabug.htm> 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](mailto:BoroondaraBug-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) to receive this monthly newsletter and occasional important messages.

Send a blank e-mail to [BoroondaraBugDiscussion-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto: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

#### Macleod Secondary College on the Great Victorian Bike Ride

Last Year Boroondara BUG sponsored the Macleod Secondary College Team participating in the Great Victorian Bike Ride to the tune of \$200. Below is a note from one of the teachers leading the group and the first instalment of the group's journal of the ride. Further instalments will be included in the next two newsletters.

*A huge thank you to your group for so generously sponsoring the Macleod College Bike Ride 2004. Along with our other sponsors your group enabled us to purchase cycling tops (pink for girls and blue for boys) with the sponsors' names on the back for all of our group. The benefits were enormous as firstly the students felt part of a team and proud of being 'special', it created interest in the bike ride from other students who weren't participating and it meant that we were easily identifiable on the ride. In fact when Jan had her fall and I was ahead the person who helped her found me a little later by spotting the pink shirt!!*

**Anne Moorhouse**

#### Arrival at Port Fairy, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2004

Today, we made the long trip up to Port Fairy. Everyone went on the bus apart from Joanna, Marelena and Melissa who went up with Linda (Melissa's mum). Kaela and Hannah also went up with Glen (Hannah's dad). It was a hot day and inside the bus was really hot and sticky and really hard to stay still. Everyone kept walking up and down the bus and swapping seats. It all paid off when we got to the campsite, where there was an indoor swimming pool. There was also a mini golf course, where most of us went to play. Unfortunately Linda got hit in the head with a golf ball. But apart from that, the night before we started the ride, was pretty good. We received a fantastic report from the proprietors for our polite and friendly manner and our excellent behaviour-our teachers were impressed!!!

*Teacher's Notes – Great to be on the road at last. Jan and I feel a little overwhelmed by the responsibility of looking after everyone's welfare as well as just a tad exhausted. It's been a real commitment in terms of organising training, sponsors, buses, trailers, bike shirts and printing as well as having to complete all our reports before we left and leave extras!! I got to bed at 1am this morning and was up at 5.30 to complete last minute preparations and the last of the reports. We are really lucky to have 3 supportive parents with us on the ride, Sharon Devlin, Barry Humphrey and Mark Rowe as well as my friend*

*Kate Brodrick who will meet us at Port Fairy. Having the extra support takes the pressure of Jan and I and means there are more adults riding with the students to support them. 17 students is a large number for only 2 teachers.*

*Hadn't anticipated that Jon, the teacher who drove the bus for us to the campsite 3km out of town would want to head back to Melbourne straight away and not spend the night camping with us. Jan and I had to figure out a way of getting all the luggage to the starting point in Port Fairy. Luckily one of the parents, Sharon Mc Mahon, offered to load it all on her trailer and take it to the luggage trucks before we left the camping ground. The proprietors were very complimentary re our students behaviour, friendliness and courtesy. A very good start.*

### **Day 1 – Port Fairy to Koroit, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2004**

Today we started the Great Victorian Bike Ride. It was the easiest day of them all, only a 46km ride. Some of us were really nervous about how we would cope. Have we trained hard enough? Would we embarrass ourselves by having a wobbly on the side of the road because we couldn't do it? Once we got started, we found it really easy; it wasn't as bad as we thought. We girls were easily identifiable by our pink jerseys – we became known as 'The Pink Ladies' or the 'Barbies'. At least we could pick each other out in a crowd!!

When we got to Koroit we were relieved because it was 34.C, but then we couldn't find our bags. We were looking for about an hour and found them a kilometre away from our camp site; we had a lot of trouble bringing our bags back to our site and a lot of thanks to Tom for taking Marelena's bag back to the site, because it was heavy. We all bonded straight away and worked together to keep an area for camp and retrieve all the bags. Sharon did the greatest job possible, keeping out all of the Geelong Grammar School students out of our area. Excellent job Sharon! We also had a game of cricket where we met people from other schools as they joined in as well. That night everyone jumped in Marelena, Melissa and Joanna's tent, aka 'The Taj Mahal' and wanted to tell scary stories but nobody knew any.

*Teachers' Notes - Met Katie, a friend of mine who is coming along as a further support person. Wonderful to see all the students joining in for a game of cricket with students from other schools. This is what it's all about! The humidity made the ride a little tiring but we girls enjoyed the attention from other riders re our pink shirts, receiving many comments (usually flattering). The students all seemed to cope well with the ride and no complaints. The bun fight to hold our space for erecting tents was intense as Geelong Grammar, all 95 of them including over 30 parents and staff converged on our area and proceeded to encroach on our space. Sharon did a marvellous job of fighting them off while Jan and I attended to other matters.*

*The dinner queue was something else-2 kilometres long, stretching out of the gate into the showgrounds and down the road!! It took us 45 minutes to reach the head of the queue and get our tea. Only Tom has done the GVBR before and the students were suitably impressed by the sheer scale of the operation-the rows of porta loo and shower trucks, the massive dining room tent and seating area and the endless sea of tents.*

*Jan and I headed off for the showers later on when I discovered I had left my toilet bag behind. Headed back to the shower block with it, dived in to retrieve the toothpaste only to discover it was very hot and peppery. Checked the brand only to realise I had cleaned my teeth with Deep Heat!!! The lips and tongue remained very warm for quite some time afterwards. Just call me hot lips!! It provided some amusement for the group anyway. Next time I will check the label on the tube first.*

### **Day 2 – Koroit to Port Campbell, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2004**

Today was the big one. 103km from Koroit to Port Campbell. It wasn't as hard as we expected, the road was basically flat until the end when we were all tired and the hills started to show. The Great Ocean Road was beautiful and gave us all plenty to look at; The 12 Apostles, the arch, and the ocean. We were able to get our photo taken while we were riding as there were photographers on the side of the road ready to take our pictures which we could buy for \$15 if we wanted to. The campsite (when we finally got there) was near a beach which we all went to and had fun burying Hayden Solar in sand and taking pictures. The water was cold and the girls all stayed together because the boys were having sand fights. We were able to look at all the shops and there was entertainment in town that night. Shrek was on at the campsite 'theatre'. (Projector on the side of a budget truck). But we were all good boys and girls and in bed by curfew at 10:30pm. Ms Moorhouse had a puncture and both she and Sharon and Kate had fun asking a kind policeman called Dave to help change the tube. It turned out that she had 2 holes in her tyre and the WARBY man (also called Dave) put cardboard over the holes until she was able to buy a new tyre at lunch. Tom's bike also had problems so he had to take the sag wagon along with Mark Rowe.

*Teachers' Notes – A great ride, despite the puncture. Superb weather and glorious scenery. Had our photos taken against the backdrop of the Bay of Islands. Port Campbell is lovely. We even managed a swim. The campsite is interesting. The school camping area is down the hill from the dining tent so a bit of a walk. Jan has decided the crowds, the queues, the pressure to find a suitable space for the tents and maintain it against the onslaught from other groups and the primitive conditions are not for her. She remarked "It's only day 2 and I'm over it!"*

## Audax Alpine Delight

The story really starts after the Double Donna. It was wet, cold and quite a challenge to scale Donna Buang not once but twice. As we drove home, the subject of doing the Alpine Delight was raised. Matthew's commitments for the Head of the Yarra had fallen through and a window of opportunity presented itself. Ignoring the fact that I felt absolutely spent after the ride, I gave it 5 seconds thought, and said OK. My reasoning was that I had done the Delight before and I thought Hotham was comparable to Donna Buang because, although it is longer and higher, there are a number of recovery points which helps out the larger riders like myself. How wrong was I...

We skipped work early on the Friday and were on the road to Bright at about 3. We got to the Milawa turn off after almost 3 hours of driving when Matt's phone started mooring. It was Matt's wife who gave him the good news that he had left his cycling shoes back at home in Elwood. A couple of quick calls and he discovered Dean Woods Direct in Wangaratta, 10 minutes away, had some shoes that should be able to do the trick. We rocked up just before 6:00, and I'm not sure what happened but the number of shoes to choose from seemed to dwindle down to one option. They were a lovely silver Triathlete shoe with a carbon sole. Having confirmed that they could fit his spd-r pedals, Matt shelled out \$400, and we were back on track. The guy even chucked in a couple pairs of Dean Woods cycling socks. Things were looking up.

After a feed at the pub, Matt started putting the cleats onto the shoes. Not sure what happened here either, but the spd-r compatible shoes he walked out of the shop with, transformed themselves into a spd-sl system. Quotes from Apollo 13 about failure not being an option prompted us to consider drilling a couple of extra holes, riding in a pair of sandals, or maybe taping the shoes to the pedals. No drill, the pedals sticking through the sandals and no tape, meant we were running out of options. The plan now was for Matt to go back to Wangaratta first thing in the morning and either buy a new pair of pedals or get the \$400 refunded. If there were not any spd-sl pedals, he would opt for normal pedals with toe clips and opt for the sandal approach.

Ride start was 6:30. All up there were 61 riders, with some doing the 100km to Dinner Plain and the rest of us going to Omeo. The morning was cool and it was a nice quiet roll to Harrietville. It didn't take long for the sun to peek out and start warming us up. The Hotham climb was steady with quite a few bends, a steep section called the Meg and another near the ticket booth. There is a relatively flat section in the middle, but somewhat shorter than what I remembered. At CRB station there is a hairy down hill section where you cross a ridge with the wind blowing you then a long straight slog up to the top. The views were magnificent with packs of the white stuff still on the side of the road and neighbouring peaks. Head down I counted the orange poles which mark the side of the road, taking the advice to stay on the right side of them. Passed through the Hotham village at the summit and then down to Dinner Plain for the first brevet point. A cuppa, banana and refill the water bottles and then it was on to Omeo.

I caught up with some of the Middle distance guys and we rode pretty much as a group to Omeo, mainly downhill with one of the guys saying he maxed out at 91km. I also noted that we had to ride back up this monster. Stopped at the Omeo bakery, got the brevet signed again, had a quick feed and then decided to head back.

The 40km back to Dinner Plain was really tough. The sun was still out and a head wind was picking up and I was just trying to keep it going. Felt I was blowing up, so I stopped and had a bit of a stretch and try to cool down a bit. Feet were sore, back was sore and I was wondering why I was doing this. I was also wondering what had happened to Matt. Was he climbing Hotham or was he reading the paper and sipping coffee. Saw a sign saying Dinner Plain 6km; at the rate I was moving, I estimated I would be there in an hour.... Well it was not quite that bad, but it sure was a relief to roll into Dinner Plain.

Matt welcomed me at the village entrance. He had a nice pair of mountain bike pedals with toe clips and the sandals gave him the European touring look. He said the toe clips were OK and reminded me that it wasn't that long ago they were still being used by guys doing the tour de France. The bastard looked pretty fresh anyway... He had been at the village for an hour and did sample coffee and cakes from a variety of the shops there.

Dinner Plain back to the summit is about 14km. A sports drink and someone to chat to made it go by a bit easier. Had thoughts of going for KOM which is marked at the tunnel to the village, but thought I'd better conserve as there was still some climbing after that. Up over the top, we survived those last couple of down and ups and were on our way. The ride officially finishes back at Harrietville pub. We got in at 4:30 and had a couple of well deserved beers.

I was glad to have got through it, but I must admit this was the first time I have ever questioned my self as to what was the point of it all. No doubt it will all fade into a distant memory until the next one. By the way, with toe clips and sandals, Matt climbed Hotham in 1:45 which would rank him at 6 on cycle2max.

*David Anderson*

## General News

### Formation of Maribyrnong BUG

For cyclists who LIVE or WORK in Yarraville, Seddon, Footscray, Maribyrnong, Maidstone, Tottenham, Kingsville, West Footscray and Braybrook.

- Campaign for Better Cycling Facilities
- Organise Rides and Events
- Meet Other Local Cyclists
- Share Information
- Have FUN!!!

Phone: **Suzanne on 9688 0395 / 0438 046 470** or e-mail: [mazzabug@hotmail.com](mailto:mazzabug@hotmail.com)

*Thanks to Frank Kinnersley for forwarding this news item*

### Brighton Gap to be Closed at Last!

Bayside City Council recently approved tenders from Australian Project Solutions and MBH Constructions for the construction of the shared path at Middle Brighton. Construction of the "missing link" is expected to begin in February 2005 and be completed by mid 2005. This will finalise the Bay Trail from Altona to Beaumaris.

Work includes 'on ground' and elevated components that will run from Middle Brighton Baths to Bay Street, Brighton. It will provide safe "off-road" access for use by everyone including pedestrians, disabled people, skaters, people with prams and cyclists. Funding from Council and the State Government will enable Australian Project Solutions to construct viewing decks, seating, lighting along the path and some landscaping. It will also allow MBH Constructions to renourish the beach with more sand following the creation of artificial reefs just north of the Middle Brighton Baths. The Bay Trail is one of the most popular shared paths of the entire metropolitan network. Some preliminary establishment works may commence on the site in mid-January 2005.

*Thanks to Phil Crohn for forwarding this information*

### Darebin Link

In December I got a call from Bart Sbeghen, the Facilities Development Officer with Bicycle Victoria. He, Mary McParland and a BV volunteer (Adrian?) met me at the Heidelberg Rd Bridge in Fairfield. We walked the intended course of the path (up to the Latrobe Golf course) and Bart explained what bits of works and related engineering was proposed at various Darebin Creek crossings. There is a new section of bike path that has just been completed through the Darebin Parklands and stops at the railway bridge (Melways 31-10,D).

We also met the parklands management officer there (a keen mtb'er) whom also showed us maps etc of intended works relating to the path. The latest section has auto-closing gates installed in case of flooding (common along many parts of the Yarra trail as many would have witnessed in December!). He told us the next section of path is being built in the next financial year (05-06). This section is from the railway bridge, heading south to and across the creek (bridge included), adjacent to Willowbank Grove. It would seem that the path is only budgeted to be done as meagre funds allow. At this rate the link to the Yarra Trail will be years away! BV are in negotiations with Parks Vic and meeting with John Thwaites regarding this to try and expedite matters.

*Jason den Hollander*

## Events

### Pedal With Confidence

Starting or getting back into cycling? Manningham BUG - known as Manningham Cyclists, with the support of Manningham Council, is currently running its *Pedal with Confidence* program. Maybe you or someone you know would like to take advantage of this opportunity.

This program will help you improve or regain your cycling skills. It is being run by The Manningham Cyclists on seven Saturday mornings commencing in late January at Westerfolds Park. The session, from 9:30am, will include basic safety, responsible trail use, fundamental riding and bike care skills. This is an opportunity to develop your confidence on a bike with members of the local bicycle user group.

It is a requirement that your bike is in good working order to attend this program. Limited places only for each session

Cost \$15 For bookings phone 9842-3323

## **Kathmandu Sprint Race**

Ever get bored of the same old training routine? Why not try something different and enter a Kathmandu Sprint race. It is an action packed event that will keep you on your toes right until the end. Imagine an off-road triathlon with simple navigation and short multiple stages with a few obstacles to add a little spice. Having fun with a friend and exercising at the same time.

So grab a team mate and race together undertaking simple navigation [you can read a street directory?], mountain biking 20km [mostly fire trail nothing too technical], kayaking 5km [we provide boats, paddles and lifejackets] and trail running 10km. Team categories are male, female and mixed teams of two. Adventure racing is a thinking sport requiring teams to work together to complete the secret course in the shortest time possible.

For further details look at the website: <http://www.maxadventure.com.au>

or contact Gary Farebrother, Maximum Adventure Pty Limited,

email: [gary@maxadventure.com.au](mailto:gary@maxadventure.com.au); phone:0403 820282

## **Great Divide Ride Update**

### **Enjoy Riding with our Olympic Gold Medallist Scott McGrory**

Great Cycling Events is delighted to announce Sydney Olympic gold medallist Scott McGrory as the lead rider in the Great Divide Ride. Scott would like to cycle with a large group of riders and anticipates averaging 28-30 km/hr around the circuit, enabling strong cyclists to join him. He will also spend time at Trentham and the Old Keilor Hotel for those wishing to chat with him on the world of cycling. Scott is still racing professionally and has won both a Madison gold and Team Pursuit bronze at the Sydney and Seoul Olympics respectively and a silver medal in the Madison at the World Championships in 1996. Scott is keen to support the Starlight Children's Foundation so join him in a memorable ride and a test of your cycling skills.

### **Free Promotional Jerseys: Extended Offer on Lady's Jersey**

Given the tremendous response to the initial promotional offer, Great Cycling Events has released a further (and final) batch of free jerseys to reward those that register early. The jerseys commemorate the Great Divide Ride™ and have a genuine retail price of \$99.

### **Detailed Course Review**

A detailed review of the course has been compiled from a recreational cyclist's viewpoint. An excerpt has been provided below. For the full review please visit [www.greatcycling.com.au](http://www.greatcycling.com.au)

**Keilor Village to Trentham [80kms]** We began in Keilor Village, starting on the Old Calder Highway opposite the Old Keilor Hotel at 08:30 on a calm and sunny day (good fortune rather than good planning). The tree-lined stretch along the Old Calder Highway (3.5kms) has some impressive real estate which makes for interesting viewing and the ride starts with a slight climb then flattens out. Turn right at the roundabout on Sunshine Ave and continue through the next roundabout (Melton Highway) and enter the Calder Freeway (4.5kms). Cycling two abreast on the left shoulder of the Calder Freeway is comfortable and the immediate feeling is one of having left suburbia behind, especially with the panoramic views to the right side. The next 12 km feels like cycling on the flat, even though there is a gradual climb. The gradient along the Calder averages 10m / km which is no more than a gentle climb. After 17km the Freeway is exited on the C706 (Diggers Rest) off ramp and once through the roundabout returns straight onto the Calder again via the on ramp. This is a slight detour and is necessary for safety reasons. There are 6 such detours along the Calder. At 22km the first real climb awaits and half way up the hill the Calder is exited using the C707 (Gap Hill) off ramp. On returning to the Freeway the final part of the climb is completed. The incline is not severe but it is a kilometre long and there were times when we resorted to our lowest gear. The terrain is undulating for the next 5km and thereafter it is an easy ride to the 1st rest area at 31km with water and toilet facilities available. The next 3km are downhill and the Calder Freeway is left behind at the C322 (Macedon) exit at 39.5km. Turn right at the T intersection at the end of the exit and after 50m turn left into Black Forest Drive. This is a magnificent, winding 13-km stretch on a new 4 lane road, carrying only minimal traffic. Cycle in the left lane and enjoy a variety of bird sounds, forest scented air and views of Mt Macedon to the right. Overall it is a gentle climb, however the last few kilometres are all downhill into Woodend and filled with the rich smell of timber passing the Black Forest mill on the right. 52.5km of the ride has now been completed and 500m already climbed. Woodend is a pretty town with cafes and convenience stores on both sides of the street and toilets available on the 1st right after the clock tower. A great place for a coffee in the knowledge that lunch is only 25km away.

## In Box

### Early Christmas present

Santa knew that all the Hawthorn Cycling club boys and girls have been good this year and he decided to give us all an early Christmas present by fixing the cracks in the Hawthorn Velodrome. The Council have cut out three off the problem sections and replaced them with new sections.

Well done Santa and his little helper Angelo.

*Stuart Vaughan*

## Boroondara News

### Tram route 109

Bart Sbeghen passed this on after I bumped into him in the lobby of BV as he was walking out of a meeting with VicRoads and tramways people...

*The VicRoads guys and their consultants wanted BV feedback on their first draft concept designs. They had proposed widening the tram fairway to 8m (from the normal 6.8m) so that the tram stops could be more easily constructed for disabled access without having to flare the tram tracks out at the stops to get nearer the kerb. A wider tram fairway would also let them create a wider inner lane for traffic.*

*We pointed out that this would take the kerbside lane space that cyclists rely on. The current 3.7m would be reduced to 3.0m leaving no room for a bike lane. They had not thought about this and said they would go back to the drawing board perhaps keeping the 6.8m fairway midblock and then trying to accommodate bikes at stops. It will be a hard slog though as it will be hard or impossible to fit all road users in with an upgrade of the trams (the prime objective) Draft designs will be out for public comment April 05 (or at least that is what they are aiming for). The BUG should make sure to put in its input. They are looking at the Boroondara section, Yarra River to Union Rd, concentrating on Ermington Place (45E6) to Deepdene Shopping Centre.*

*But really they are trying to develop scenarios or concepts for different types of precincts for community consultation. For instance some concept tram stops for residential areas and some for shopping centres and some for larger intersections. The Whitehorse Road bit is done though they may come back to it at later date. From memory I think we (BV) sent 1700 emails out to people in Boroondara asking for feedback on this, not all members.*

***Thanks to Jason den Hollander for passing on this information***

I am a member of the focus group that is looking at the bit of line from 'my' stop (ie first bit in Boroondara territory) to Ermington Place (wherever that is!). I (as always) rode to the 1st meeting so had helmet and reflective jacket so my interests were obvious. I was delighted that VicRoads (Denmark Street offices) had bike racks! The consultants are aware of the needs of cyclists but as Bart says there are so many conflicting needs that I fear they will be low on the priority list - no one else in the meeting had even thought of their needs (as opposed to cars and parking of cars).

Still, their needs are mentioned in the various reports and I'll do my best. I sent a note to BBUG members asking for any feedback and also have heard from BV (Bart S). If anyone wants me to bring up anything at subsequent meetings I'll do my best - next meeting is not until March (postponed from February). All folk mentioned the conflict between bringing stops closer to kerbs for the sake of pedestrian safety and how this conflicts with cycling safety.

*Rosemary West*

### Sustainable Living Workshops

The City of Boroondara and the National Centre for Sustainability (based at Swinburne University) are holding a series of workshops on *Living more Sustainably* for residents of Boroondara ONLY. There are some limited places left for the workshops commencing in February and we are inviting registrations from interested individuals.

There are 6 workshops over 6 months held in the evening and many of the workshops provide you with free items and ideas to help your home to become more sustainable. The program will be launched by Tammy Van Wisse, the marathon swimmer, who calls herself the "human water quality tester".

If you are interested and a resident of the City of Boroondara, go to the link <http://www.swin.edu.au/ncs/research-projects/boroondara.htm> and you can register from there. It's a great program - so please consider registering.

*Linda Condon, National Centre for Sustainability*

### Repairs/works spotted

New pram ramp and removal of bollards at the curb of Reserve Road, near Kooyongkoot Road (Mel:59,2D) which goes onto Gardiners Creek path

20m section of Balwyn Rd Parking/EBL has had parking lane paint ground-off/removed to become kerbside EBL-only. South-bound side, just north of Belmore Rd.

*Jason den Hollander who submitted the above items of information has suggested that other readers may like to contribute similar items when they spot any improvements/changes to cycling facilities in Boroondara*

## **Bike Lanes and Training Rides – Let's Go!**

Interested in a new route for your training ride? After all, riding to Frankston and back is a bit old hat – everyone does that! A colleague at work decided to give Beach Road a rest one weekend and took to exploring many of Boroondara's new on road bike lanes and found it quite a good ride. Have you tried similar either for training or as a recreational or exercise ride? A great way to show onlookers that bike lanes are great for sharing the road safely. The network has even been designed to include some challenging hills to test your metal! Try out a circuit using as many of Boroondara's on-road bike lanes as you can and perhaps link them with shared paths and off road paths where necessary. Let us know for the next Newsletter how you made out.

*Graeme Stone*

## **Boroondara BUG News**

### **Welcome to New Members**

It is most pleasing for the B-BUG to receive support from four Boroondara cyclists who have joined in the last few months. Welcome to Peter Bowtell, Carmel Gould, Mark Yorston and Heinz Kreutz. Heinz joined in October and we did receive of course his stated position on cycling for the council elections. (It was a little surprising that his background briefing in the January Boroondara Bulletin didn't include cycling as an interest because we know Heinz is a keen supporter of cycling and commutes to Monash from time to time). We look forward to contributions or involvement in one form or another from our new members and wish them happy cycling more often.

### **Web Site Developments**

If you haven't looked at the Boroondara BUG web site lately then it's time you did. It just keeps getting bigger and better. There is now a News section which is frequently updated with new material of relevance to cyclists in Boroondara and beyond. New pages planned for 2005 include one for Projects which the BUG intends to promote. Our webmaster Jason den Hollander welcomes all feedback. However he will be away overseas during February, checking out the cycling facilities in Holland amongst other places. We look forward to a report from him on his return.

### **Minutes of Boroondara BUG Meeting 6.30pm Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2004**

Instead of a formal meeting BUG members and some of their partners met at Jason den Hollander's place for a barbecue dinner. Although there was much discussion of cycling issues no formal business was conducted. Our thanks to Jason and Angela for offering us their hospitality on this occasion. A leisurely meal watching the setting sun from their spacious back veranda made an enjoyable end to another year of BUG activity, one in which significant improvements to the network of on-road bike lanes in Boroondara have been achieved.

## **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](mailto:jblunden@bigpond.com); web site: [www.keypoint.com.au/~bbwinc](http://www.keypoint.com.au/~bbwinc)

**Hawthorn Cycle Tours:** contact Hawthorn Aquatic and Leisure Centre, phone: 9815 0988; e-mail: [lexbishop@bikerider.com](mailto: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](mailto:janpeter@bigpond.net.au) or COTA, phone: 9654 4443.

**Knox Bicycle Touring Club Incorporated,** email: Email: [Mikeaatleisure@aol.com](mailto:Mikeaatleisure@aol.com) Web site: [home.vicnet.net.au/~knoxbike](http://home.vicnet.net.au/~knoxbike)

**Manningham BUG:** e-mail: [seball@netlink.com.au](mailto:seball@netlink.com.au), [H.Edwards@bom.gov.au](mailto:H.Edwards@bom.gov.au); web site: [www.vicnet.net.au/~mannbug](http://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/](http://home.vicnet.net.au/~mbush/)

**Whitehorse Cyclists:** e-mail: [ejhopper@vicnet.net.au](mailto:ejhopper@vicnet.net.au); web site: [home.vicnet.net.au/~wcycle](http://home.vicnet.net.au/~wcycle)

**Darebin BUG:** Rides and Events Coordinator, Doug Morffew, phone: 9499 7325 (AH), email: [dougmorf@alphalink.com.au](mailto:dougmorf@alphalink.com.au)  
Download the [Darebin BUG rides flyer](#), with details of rides. (Word doc); web site: [www.darebinbug.org.au](http://www.darebinbug.org.au)

**YHA:** contacts: Claire, phone: 9726 5142 or Jane, phone: 9525 6462; e-mail: [yhacycling@yahoo.com.au](mailto: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](mailto:info@mbtc.org.au)  
(Please note that this e-mail address doesn't get checked every day - so don't expect an immediate response!) Web site: [mbtc.org.au](http://mbtc.org.au)

## Boroondara BUG Contacts:

### Convenor:

Graeme Stone, 16 Jervis Street, Camberwell VIC 3124.  
Phone: 9889 5426  
e-mail: [graeme\\_stone@optusnet.com.au](mailto:graeme_stone@optusnet.com.au)

### Webmaster:

Jason den Hollander  
email: [communic8@iprimus.com.au](mailto:communic8@iprimus.com.au)

### Newsletter editor:

Julia Blunden, phone: 9853 5095  
e-mail: [jblunden@bigpond.com](mailto:jblunden@bigpond.com)

### Other Contacts:

Phil Crohn: [philcrohn@ozemail.com.au](mailto:philcrohn@ozemail.com.au)  
David Leong: [leongd@anz.com](mailto:leongd@anz.com)

### Boroondara Bicycle Users Group

### Membership Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Member of Bicycle Victoria? Y / N

Phone: (H): \_\_\_\_\_ (W): \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership requires a one-off payment of \$10 per household. There is an additional charge of \$10 per annum for delivery of a hardcopy newsletter. Please send cheque (made out to *Graeme Stone*) along with this form to: Graeme Stone, 16 Jervis St , CAMBERWELL, VIC 3124

# Past and Forthcoming Rides

## Camberwell Downhill Gourmet Bike Riders

### January Ride

Nine riders gathered at Ashburton Station on 16/1 and instead of following the traditional route to the Botanic Gardens headed eastward to Jells Park along the Anniversary and Scotchmans Creek Trails. After lunch in the park we explored the Dandenong Creek Trail north to High Street Road then took a turn around the lake before heading back. Rather than retrace our outward route in its entirety we diverted along Lawrence Road to the Glen Waverly Rail Trail which took us to Warrigal Road, after which we took to the streets to return to the Anniversary Trail at Alamein. There was muttering in the ranks as, in the most flagrant breach of the group's principles, we tackled first one big climb from Jells Park through Wheelers Hill and then another from Scotchmans Creek to the rail trail. Graeme Stone who had planned the route had cunningly arranged to be absent leaving his substitute to bear the guilt.

*Julia Blunden*

### Next Ride Sunday, 20th February 2005

**THE RIDE:** Moonee Ponds Creek from Upfield via Broadmeadows Valley Park. This ride can be 28 km, 32 km or 38 km and with options of riding to the edge of Woodlands Historic Park. An easy ride, or moderate if you wish, mostly on tracks. Refer Julia Blunden's *Bike Rides Around Melbourne* Ride No. 11, page 71.

**MAPS:** Melways 7, 6, 5, 16, 17, 29, 28, and 2A.

**WHERE:** Meet at Upfield Railway Station at 10.30 for 10.45 am departure. (May need to adjust slightly to allow for train times). Please advise if you are coming so that we can wait. Finish at North Melbourne Station or earlier station if preferred.

**DESCRIPTION:** The Moonee Ponds Creek Path has many points of interest and lots of attractive picnic spots. This ride includes most of the path with an optional detour along the upper section from Jacana Reserve to Westmeadows shopping centre and on to Tullamarine and back. The latter section of the detour takes you out into quite rural surroundings and provides the opportunity to see planes at very close quarters. Overall the ride is generally slightly downhill with the usual ups and downs found on river and creek paths. There is some more sustained but gentle climbing in the latter section of the detour which goes to Woodlands but unfortunately there is no access from this side.

**REFRESHMENTS:** Several opportunities to buy these along the route.

**TRAIN FARES:** Upfield is Zone 1 + 2 = \$5.40 / 2.60 conc; Enquiries at VicTrip 131 638 or [www.victrip.com.au](http://www.victrip.com.au) for train timetables.

**ENQUIRIES:** Contact Elva on 9836 6392. Ride will be cancelled if forecast temperature is 30 deg or over.

### CDGBR Program for 2005

**Ride and other Dates for 2005 :** Sundays: 20/2, 13/3, 20/3 (Great Melbourne Bike Ride), 17/4, 15/5, 12/6, 8/7 (Dinner), 17/7, 21/8, 11/9, 16/10, 20/11, 25/11 (Dinner)

### 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](mailto:lexbishop@bikerider.com)

### Sassafras Ride

Every Sunday all year. Starts at "Bike Life", 114 Auburn Road, Hawthorn, near corner of Burwood Rd and the overhead railway bridge, Melways Ref. Map 45 F10. Arrive prior to 7:30 am to ensure departure at 7:30am sharp. Arrives in Sassafras around 9:00 am and leaves Sassafras by 9:30 am Arrives back in Hawthorn around 10:45 am.

Distance under 70 kms from Hawthorn to Sassafras return (includes the 7 kms 1 in 20 hill climb). Route: Auburn Road, Rathmines Road, Canterbury Road, Boronia Road, Mountain Highway (Wantirna Sassafras Road), Mount Dandenong Tourist Rd. You can join and leave the peloton anywhere along this route.

Refreshment stop: Café "Ripe", 376 Mount Dandenong Tourist Road, Sassafras, phone: 9755 2100; Melways Ref. Map 66 F9.

## Council on the Ageing (COTA) Cycling Group - Rides Program

Council on the Ageing members have started a cycling group for people who want to ride more and learn more about their bikes and riding, as well as for people just getting started.

### Plans for Seniors Bike rides in 2005

We will ride 4 Wednesdays in the month. We will meet at 10 am at the place specified. If the weather forecast for the day, published the evening before, is 31°C or above 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 or roads 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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday rides will be reasonably short, approximately 30km. The details of these rides will be decided on the morning with the group, at the listed starting point.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday rides will be more challenging, approximately 50- 60km, and are detailed below.

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
Feb 2nd	Westgate Park Mel 56 F1 or ride from Flinders St. station.	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Feb 9 <sup>th</sup>	As above	The Bayside trail to Ricketts Point and return, 50km.	*
Feb 16 <sup>th</sup>	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Feb 23 <sup>rd</sup>	As above	Ride to Altona via Williamstown and return, 60km.	#
Mar 2 <sup>nd</sup>	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Mar 9 <sup>th</sup>	As above	Ride the Capital City Trail circuit with an extension down St. Georges Rd., 50km.	#
Mar 16 <sup>th</sup>	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Mar 23 <sup>rd</sup>	As above	Ride to Brimbank Park and return, 70km.	!^
Mar 30 <sup>th</sup>	No ride this week		
Apr 6th	Collingwood Children's Farm carpark, St. Heliers St., MEL 44 G5 or ride from Victoria Park station.	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Apr 13th	As above	Ride the Yarra Trail/ Anniversary Trail/ Gardiners Creek Trail via Hayes Paddock, approx 45km.	*
Apr 20 <sup>th</sup>	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Apr 27 <sup>th</sup>	Somerville (carpark behind the hotel), MEL 107 E12 or train to the Somerville station.	Tour through Hastings, the Bittern Coastal Wetlands to Stoney Point and Somers and return, approx 40km.	# if no wind!
May 4 <sup>th</sup>	Melbourne Zoo carpark, MEL 29 E11 or train to Royal Park	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
May 11 <sup>th</sup>	As above	Ride the Moonee Ponds Trail to Woodlands Park and return, approx 50km.	! with wind.
May 18 <sup>th</sup>	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#

May 25 <sup>th</sup> & 26 <sup>th</sup>	Carpark at the Lilydale Station or take the train there.	Ride the Warbuton Rail Trail over 2 days, staying at the Warbuton Hotel overnight. Distance each day is 40km. And the cost for accom.. is approx. \$50 per head. Please register with Janet for this trip.	*
June 1 <sup>st</sup>	Collingwood Children's Farm carpark, St. Heliers St., MEL 44 G5 or ride from Victoria Park station.	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	As above	Ride the Merri Creek trail to Reservoir and then cross on small local roads to Darebin Creek trail, approx 45km.	#
June 15 <sup>th</sup>	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Jun. 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Flowerdale, meet cnr Whittlesea-Yea rd. & Broadford- Flowerdale Rd., MEL 510 P9 or 610 P9.	Ride to Strath Creek, Yea, Break O' Day and return to Flowerdale. This is an undulating road ride of approximately 70km.	!
June 29 <sup>th</sup>	No ride this week.		
July 6 <sup>th</sup>	Glen Iris Bowls club, MEL 59 G6 or train to Gardiner Station.	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
July 13 <sup>th</sup>	As above	Ride the Merri Creek Trail/ Western Ring trail/ Plenty River Trail and return, approx 60km.	! some ^
July 20 <sup>th</sup>	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
July 27 <sup>th</sup>	As above	We will ride the Gardiners Creek trail and the Koonung Creek trail via Blackburn lake and then the Main Yarra trail, approx 50km.	*

For further details later in the year, see the Cota website, [www.cotavic.org.au/events/cycle](http://www.cotavic.org.au/events/cycle)

Contact Janet Bennett, e-mail: [janpeter@bigpond.net.au](mailto:janpeter@bigpond.net.au) or COTA, phone: 9654 4443.

## Darebin BUG

Darebin BUG runs rides of distances approximating 10-20km every Monday, 40-60km on Tuesdays and up to 90km on Thursdays and a variety of rides of various lengths on weekends.

Unless otherwise stated, our rides meet at **Jika Jika Community Centre**, corner Plant & Union Streets, Northcote near Westgarth train station.

For information about any of these rides, contact the Rides and Events Coordinator, Doug Morffew, phone; 9499 7325 (AH), email: [dougmorf@alphalink.com.au](mailto:dougmorf@alphalink.com.au)

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

Please note all rides are free to anyone who would like to participate. Some rides need train tickets, these are to be bought by the participant. A first aid kit is carried on each ride and emergency contact numbers are taken prior to the start of the ride. Darebin BUG has public liability insurance - please note this **does not** cover you or your bike. If that is something you're concerned about then best become a member of Bicycle Victoria so you will be covered by their insurance.

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

**Tuesday & Thursday Rides** Both are social rides largely on bike trails that conclude around 4pm. Bring lunch & water.

**Tuesday Rides** *For experienced riders.* These rides leave from **Jika Jika Community Centre**, corner of Plant and Union Streets, Northcote, at 9.45am. They vary in length from about 40 to 60 km.

**Thursday Rides** *For experienced riders.* These rides leave from **Jika Jika Community Centre**, corner of Plant and Union sts, Northcote, at 9.30am sharp. Rides can be up to 90km.

**Saturday Market Rides** *Beginners and families welcome.*

**Sunday Rides - Varying Distances & Locations** *Some for beginners, others for experienced cyclists.*

9-11am (ish) Sunday Boulevard Or Bust *For experienced riders*. Ride along the Yarra Blvd hills at a steady pace of around 20 k/ph. Distance: 30km +. Join us for coffee or brunch at Hugos after if you have time.

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

**Weekend Rides Darebin BUG hopes to offer a series of weekend rides throughout 2005:**

**January 28-30** Gippsland Gourmet Deli Country Ride (FULL)

**March 12-14** joining the Wangaratta BUG for their annual Labor Day Weekend ride (contact: Alan 5721 5073 / Jim 5721 5193 to book in)

Other weekend rides are being planned. Offers to assist with planning and leading are very welcome, please contact the Rides Coordinator, Doug Morffew on 9499 7325 / 0409 956 913

**Around the Bay in a Day 2005**

Darebin BUG usually has teams going in the 100km and 210km ATB rides. Watch this space for 2005 info.

## Manningham BUG

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

Mid Week Rides. There are rides on most Wednesdays. Meet at 9:30am at Warrandyte (outside Pasta Mania) for a local ride every second week, alternating with a 10am meeting at a distant location for a longer ride. Contact Don 9848-5803

**Weekend Rides Calendar**

<u>Up-Coming Rides:</u>
Zoo Jazz rides in Jan/Feb <a href="#">Email me</a> with suggestions please.
<b>Very Advance Notice:</b> 8-10 April 2005. Neville & Cheryl's famous <b>SANDY POINT RIDE</b> Complete with Spit Roast or something similar on the Sat night. Beds for about 12 people and plus tent space for more. As usual there will be an approx 55km ride Sat and say 30km approx on Sunday. Further details closer to the event. <b>MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW</b>
If you like to think about riding to an event try looking up <a href="http://www.eventwatch.com.au/">http://www.eventwatch.com.au/</a>

Interested?

[Email us to find out more about the BUG](#)

## Whitehorse Cyclists Inc

**Calendar of Events Spring – Summer 2004**

Date	Event	Distance	Grade	Contact
<b>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. .</b>				
Thurs 3 Feb	Mordialloc	50	Med	Ken 9801 7157
Tuesday 8 Feb at 8 pm: Club Night: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Bruce 9848 4804				
Thurs 10 Feb	Royal Botanic Gardens	45	Easy	Keith 9857 5805
Sat 12 Feb	Myer Music Bowl - 1812 Overture	45	Easy	Elsa 9849 0131 or Keith 9857 5805
Thurs 17 Feb	tba			

March 12-14 Labour Weekend	Nagambie and surrounds	Various	Varies	Darby 9878 3589
----------------------------	------------------------	---------	--------	--------------------

## Melbourne Bicycle Touring Club

We are based in Melbourne, Victoria and conduct rides (or events) every weekend. We are a diverse collection of people with a common interest in cycling - cycle touring in particular. Please feel free to join us!

### MBTC Rides and Events Program: February-March 2005

FEBRUARY				
Thur 3rd	<b>Tupperware demo. Stock up for your camping adventures.</b>			<b>Margo</b>
Fri 4th	Wine Lovers. Tasting and social. Contact Judy for details.			Judy
Sat 5th	Walking tour of Spencer Street Station. See what effect the new development will have on our train use.			Darren
Sat 5th	Boathouse - Outer Circle - Boathouse. A leisurely trip on trails close to the city.	45km EASY		Joe
Sun 6th	Trip to Fabulous Farren Bike Museum via a short trip around city gardens etc.	20km EASY		Norm
<b>Thur 10th</b>	<b>Slides of Flinders Island trip</b>			<b>Jon</b>
Sat 12th	Mornington Peninsula - On road For experienced riders.	100km HARD		Jon
Sun 13th	Woodend - Trentham Falls via Wombat Forest and return	60km MED		Liz
W/E 12/13th	French Island via ferry from Stony Point. Enjoy a weekend of cycling on quiet roads on this National Park island. Stay overnight at the eco farm and enjoy a sumptuous buffet organic dinner. Some sandy roads and corrugations.	70km MED		Kathy
Tue 15th	Lunch at the Starpark Cafe, Camberwell	Tasty		Fred
<b>Thur 17th</b>	<b>Unicycling - A chance to try this exciting way of travelling.</b>			<b>Margaret</b>
Sat 19th	Dandenong Ranges loop. From Ferntree Gully to Belgrave, Cardinia Dam, Emerald, Kallista, Menzies Creek. Lots of hills and gravel roads.	75km HARD		Peter
Sun 20th	Flinders Street to East Malvern on trails.	20km EASY		Sean
Sun 20th	Afternoon ride. Dandenong to Brighton via Carrum. Mostly bike paths but graded medium. Finish with afternoon tea at Kathy's place afterwards.	45km MED		Kathy
Sun 20th	Sunday afternoon ride and World Music Concert. Federation Square to Northcote Amphitheatre	10km EASY		Tony
Wed 23rd	Club Lunch at Moreland - A Minor Thing			Gael
<b>Thur 24th</b>	<b>To be announced</b>			<b>John</b>
Sat 26th	Frankston Pancake Parlour and Art Gallery. Beach Road return. Options of 2km return and 45km one way.	90km MED/HARD		Peter
Sun 27th	Frankston to Mornington Peninsula Regional Gallery to view the exhibition "Arthur Streeton and the Australian Coast"	60km MED Cultural		Peter
Sun 27th	Sunday afternoon ride and World Music Concert. Federation Square to Northcote Amphitheatre	10km EASY		Tony
W/E 26/27th	Geelong - 13th Beach - overnight at Queenscliff - St Leonards - Portarlington - Geelong. Mixture of rail trail and road.	80km MED		Max
MARCH				
<b>Thur 3rd</b>	<b>Social Night</b>			<b>Gail</b>
Sat 5th	Books to Boathouse. Our regular beginners' and social ride. All on trails.	30km MED		Durelle
Sun 6th	Toilet walking tour of the city.			Durelle and Lou

<b>Thur 10th</b>	<b>Richard Smithers, Yarra Council. Come armed with question about inner city cycling.</b>		<b>Margo</b>
Labor Day W/E 11/14th	East Gippsland Lakes Explorer. Train to Bairnsdale on Friday 11th at 6:28pm.	170km MED/HARD	Jim
Sat 12th	Gardens, common and Royal.	25km EASY	Max
Sun 13th	Poowong and West Gippsland. Road	80km MED/HARD	Kerry
Thur 17th	StPatrick's Day ride. Irish Pubs before and after club. Inner city.	10km EASY	Kirsty
<b>Thur 17th</b>	<b>Trip Planning.</b>		<b>Alan</b>
Sat 19th	Launching Place loop via Healesville. Some gravel.	45km MED/HARD	Geoff
Sun 20th	Box Hill - Warrandyte - Blackburn	35km MED	Sean
Sun 20th	Mornington Peninsula. Bittern - Redhill - Sorrento - Blairgowrie - Frankston.	100km HARD	Peter
<b>Thur 24th</b>	<b>Cooking for cyclists.</b>		<b>Alister</b>
Easter Fri 25th - Tue 29th	Bendigo - Castlemaine. "Wineries and Goldfields" camping/caravan parks Five days with four day option.	50km/day MED	Glenn
<b>Thur 31st</b>	<b>T-shirt printing. Bring your clean t-shirts and create new fashions.</b>		<b>Glenn</b>
<b>APRIL</b>			
Sat 2nd	Nagambie wineries tour.	60km MED	Jon
Sun 3rd	Belgrave - Cockatoo - Officer Puffing Billy back roads, Autumn Colour, MTB options, winery, scenic hills, fern gullies and aqueducts. 80% dirt, fat tyres only. Sunday saver train ticket.	50km HARD	Tony

*For information on the above rides, please contact the Touring Secretary, Alan Hutchison, on (03) 9431 0458, 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!*

### About the Ride Gradings

**Easy:** Relatively short distances and easy terrain, with no critical time factor. Suitable for the occasional cyclist.

**Medium:** Longer distances with varied terrain. Reliable gears, food, tools and wet weather clothing are advisable. Ability to maintain a reasonable speed to meet critical time factors is required.

**Hard:** Long distances and/or difficult terrain. Extensive experience in all aspects of cycling is mandatory. Riders must be able to maintain a good speed throughout the ride.

## YHA

YHA Cycling is made up of people who enjoy cycling in the suburbs and out in country Victoria with a sociable group of like-minded people, aged mainly between mid 20s and mid 40s. YHA Cycling is a recreational club, not a racing club, and we do a mixture of day and weekend rides. The group is based in Melbourne, Victoria, under the umbrella of the YHA Australia, and is one of a number of such local YHA activities groups.

Visitors (whether members of YHA or not) are welcome to attend any of our rides or other activities. Please note that cyclists aged under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

### Summer Calendar

Date	Ride	Bike	Grade	Contact
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Albert Park Lake & Port Melbourne	Any	Easy	Greg
Saturday 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Studley Park breakfast ride	Any	Medium	Belinda

Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	NO RIDE			
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	The Merri Moonee Loop de Loop	Any	Medium	Paul
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Dinner – City	None	Easy	Belinda
Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Beach Road – (80-100k)	Road -Hybrid	Medium – Hard	Anna
3 <sup>rd</sup> - 6 <sup>th</sup> Mar	(Weekend Ride) Eureka – Ballarat – Home Ride	Any	Medium	Jason
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> Mar	(Labour Day weekend) – NO RIDE			
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Bayside ride and picnic at the St Kilda Global GardenParty	Any	Easy	Jane
25 <sup>th</sup> - 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	(Easter) – NO RIDE			

YHA contacts: Claire, phone: 9726 5142 or Jane, phone: 9525 6462; e-mail: [yhacycling@yahoo.com.au](mailto: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](mailto:yhacycling@yahoo.com.au) 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.