

BOROONDARA

Bicycle Users Group

Newsletter June 2006

Boroondara BUG meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, except January. Next meeting will be on Wednesday 14th June, at the Swinburne Hawthorn Campus in room TD244. The TD building is between Park and Wakefield Streets.

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

Melbourne's Newest Bike Path

Returning along the Hume Freeway from Sydney in January I saw that the bike path from the Ring Road to Craigieburn, marked as 'proposed' in my 2005 *Melway*, had become a reality. Despite my daughter's comment, 'it doesn't look very scenic', I was keen to check it out. However for one reason and another I didn't get a chance to do so until last Thursday.

Eight of us caught the Epping train to Thomastown where we found a very acceptable café for our customary morning coffee and cakes. We then headed briefly south down High St to pick up the path heading west along the north side of the Ring Road. After a couple of kilometres this swung north, soon coming alongside the rather attractive roadside barriers which mute the traffic noise from the new freeway without blocking the light.

The path itself is solidly constructed of concrete, and is a good width making it easy to ride two abreast if desired. Visibility is good as it swoops up and down and curves gently without any of the steep pinches or tight corners found on so many of our trails. There are few road crossings and those there are have lights. One slight drawback is that for some of its distance it has quite pronounced ridges at the joins between the slabs giving a rather bumpity ride, at least if like me you don't have any suspension on your bike. Some signs indicating destinations and distances and naming cross roads would also be helpful but perhaps these are already in the pipeline.

After another couple of kilometres we reached a high point where there is a striking footbridge constructed of trendily rusted iron on the left, and below on the right the City of Whittlesea Public Gardens with a good path running right around and useful facilities including a toilet and picnic shelter. We agreed to leave these attractions unexplored until our return journey. Sadly they remain a mystery for reasons that will become apparent.

The scenery was now becoming increasingly rural and we passed cows and sheep at various points. After another 4km we were somewhat nonplussed to pass under a road and reach a T-junction not shown on my *Melway* map. As we pondered our whereabouts another group of cyclists fortuitously appeared heading back towards the city. They kindly stopped, explained that we were at O'Hern's Rd, and also told us that the path went further than shown in my *Melway* maps, and that we could easily ride all the way to Mt Ridley. Almost as a throwaway line they mentioned the option of riding back via Craigieburn Station and Broadmeadows Valley Park; all off-road is what I heard, or perhaps I imagined that last bit.

After another 12km or so, and a short sharp climb, we reached a picnic area, almost on top of Mt Ridley with a magnificent view of the country round about and of the CBD in the distance. No toilets unfortunately, otherwise a perfect lunch spot, except perhaps in wet weather as there is no shelter either. The last couple of kilometres we rode to get there were through the quiet streets of a very new housing estate.

Over lunch I raised the idea of returning via the route we had been told about, rather than simply retracing our outward route to the Ring Road as originally intended. One slight drawback to this plan was that I was missing the two relevant *Melway* maps. Another was that we hadn't really quizzed our informants about the details of the route. Once past Craigieburn Station and off my maps we would be trusting to our sense of direction to find the way. However one of the maps I did have showed a creek path heading more or less in the right direction and for no particular reason I felt hopeful that this would continue far enough to get us back into familiar territory.

Everyone agreed, so at Craigieburn Rd we turned off the new path to head to the station. Thankfully there is a pedestrian crossing, not shown in my *Melway*, which we used to cross to the west side of the line. The station has toilets but for some reason the female one was locked. It would be possible to catch a train back to the city from here though you might have quite a wait and there are limits to the number of bikes that will fit onto a sprinter.

We picked up the path along Aiken Creek and headed west, only to reach a dead end at a golf course after 2km. From here it was a matter of heading south through the streets. This was not as simple as it sounds as the main roads in this area are quite curvaceous and many of the streets are dead ends. We asked for directions from time to time and got more or less helpful information. By great good luck we finally found our way onto the shared path that passes under Somerton Rd and were soon away swooping down the Broadmeadows Valley Park towards the familiar territory of the Moonee Ponds Creek. Some of us called it a day at Jacana Station while others continued to Pascoe Vale or to the city. All agreed that it had been a terrific ride. Our enthusiasm was perhaps due in part to the ideal weather conditions we experienced, but this new path is certainly a great addition to Melbourne's network of off-road shared paths.

If any reader knows of an off-road route from Craigieburn Station to connect up with the Broadmeadows Valley Park path I would love to hear about it. Failing that, suggestions for the best on-road route would also be much appreciated.

Julia Blunden, email: jblunden@bigpond.com

New Products and Resources

Introducing Bikely

What is Bikely? <http://www.bikely.com/>

Put very simply, Bikely helps cyclists share knowledge of good bicycle routes. It can be quite tricky traversing a car dominated city such as Melbourne on a bike, particularly when you need to travel an unknown route to a new destination. But the chances are someone has cycled that way before you.

Bikely makes it easy for him or her to show you the best way. Bikely is very young right now. What it needs more than anything is people like you to submit your favourite bike paths. As we collect more and more routes, Bikely can become an incredibly useful resource for the cycling community!

Thanks to Yarra Bicycle Users Group for this item

Hi,

My name is Michael. I am an inventor of a new bicycle light. It is not a modification of any existing product. It is a completely new Australian invention. Briefly speaking, it's a small, lightweight orange light that you clip to your glove or to a wristband (provided). It normally won't blink, however when you out-stretch your hand to indicate a turn, it will automatically start blinking orange. It will stop blinking one second after the hand goes back to the handlebar. This is because the device detects its orientation toward the Earth's gravity. It can be easily adjusted to an individual's riding style and handlebar type. I am a commuter and I found it very useful both on the road and on bike tracks. It became available only recently; see <http://safeturn.com>

If you have any questions, please contact either myself or the manufacturer Safe Turn Pty Ltd (ref. <http://safeturn.com> for the contact details).

Thanks to Janet Bennett for this item

Supplier of Cycling Books

Woodslane, one of Australia's leading book distributors, is the supplier of a wide range of cycling books from cycling specialist Velo Press. I have included a small sample of newly released and soon-to-be-released titles below which may be of interest to you. For more complete information please visit our website at www.woodslane.com.au, one of the most widely admired and functional websites in the book industry.

- *Andy Pruitt's Complete Medical Guide for Cyclists*
- *Heart Zones Cycling 3/e*
- *Mountain Bike Maintenance*
- *Training and Racing with a Power Meter*
- *Your First Triathlon*
- *Triathlete's Guide to Bike Training*

These titles are available from our wholesaler Bicycling Australia, or contact our Woodslane customer service team for further assistance or information. **email: info@woodslane.com.au, phone: (02) 9970 5111 fax: (02) 9970 5002**

Annette Scott, Marketing Communications Manager

Events

Darebin BUG Celebrates 5th Anniversary

Please join Darebin Bicycle User Group celebrate 5 years of making cycling safer and easier in Darebin.

When: Thursday 15 June, 7:30 to 9:30

Where: Preston Shire Hall

Hilary Harper from ABC radio will tell us why a traffic reporter commutes by Bicycle and Tony Barton from VicRoads will reveal the results of permanent counters installed around Melbourne.

Kathleen Kemp, Co-convenor Darebin Bicycle User Group, PO Box 362, Northcote 3070

Beyond Boroondara: Graeme's Media Grabs

Cyclists Plunder Taxpayer Purse, Again

Cyclists are in the news again, protected, as ever, by the traditional plunder of the taxpayers' purse, this time to the tune of \$70 million in the Government's new transport strategy. How can such extravagance be justified when, as any motorist will confirm, the hundreds of kilometres of bicycle tracks adorning Victorian highways are virtually deserted? Has it never occurred to those responsible that, in the unlikely event of these expensive tracks ever being fully utilised, there will be another major problem?

Herald Sun, Monday 22 May 2006, p.16, Your Say

Parking Curbs Gain Strength

Parked cars may be banned along Beach Rd between Elwood and Mordialloc as part of a plan by Bayside Council. The proposed weekend ban aims to reduce cycling accidents and conflict between motorists and cyclists. The report, which was funded by Bayside, Port Phillip and Kingston councils and VicRoads is based on an investigation into the feasibility of weekend parking restrictions along Beach Rd.

Bayside Leader, Tuesday 30 May 2006; p.7

Cyclists Take a Punt, but the Idea Sinks

It was a gamble that did not pay off. The punt that carries cyclists across the Yarra River in the shadow of the West Gate Bridge will be axed tomorrow. The five-minute crossing between Scienceworks at Spotswood and Port Melbourne will be cut on weekdays. The punt will continue to operate on weekends.

The Age, Thursday 1 June 2006; p.2

Ballarat Safety Meetings

VicRoads and the Victorian Bicycle Advisory Council are to host several meetings in Ballarat so cyclists can gain knowledge about safety on western Victorian roads.

Ballarat 3BA Radio News, 6:58AM Tuesday, 16 May 2006

Bike Trail Call

Bicycle Victoria wants Wimmera community groups and councils to get serious about a proposed bike trail from Horsham to Natimuk. Bicycle Victoria facilities development manager Mark Dixon said now was the perfect time to lobby the State

Government for trail funding. He said the Provincial Pathways Program would be the ideal avenue for Wimmera residents to win government funding and support for the trail.

Wimmera Times, 15/5/06 Page 1

New Bridge Bike Lane Raises Safety Fears

JACKSONS Creek Ward councillor Jack Ogilvie has called for a safety audit on a bike lane installed on Macedon Street between Home and Evans streets. VicRoads communications manager Liz Evans said the bike lanes complied with guidelines.

Sunbury Telegraph, 16 May page 3

Safer Cycling in Tatura with New Bike Path

A new bike path that stretches from the Wilma Wilson garden to the sporting precinct will make cycling safer for Tatura residents. The funding to do the work came from VicRoads and the path runs from the Wilma Wilson garden all the way south to O'Reilly Rd."

Tatura Guardian, 16 May page 6

Thanks to Graeme Stone for these items

Boroondara News

Tooronga Village Re-Development

On Thursday 11th May Graeme Stone and Julia Blunden attended a meeting regarding the Tooronga Village re-development on behalf of the BUG. The re-development is of concern to the BUG for at least two reasons. One is that the Gardiners Creek Path runs along the south side of the area. It will almost certainly be disrupted temporarily during construction, and perhaps more seriously may be squeezed for space and overshadowed by tall buildings when construction is complete. The second is that there is an exclusive bike lane for the entire length of Tooronga Rd except for the section that passes this site. This is a once only opportunity to complete this missing link in an important north – south PBN bike route. There is also the opportunity to provide a link between the Gardiners Creek path and the east side of Tooronga Rd which would be useful for cyclists wishing to move onto Tooronga Rd and travel south.

The meeting was attended by approximately 150 people, and a group called the Tooronga Action Group Inc (TAG) has been formed to co-ordinate objections and to make a combined submission. They are aware of these cycling issues. Individuals can also make objections and are encouraged to do so even though the official deadline has now passed. There will be a panel hearing relating to the plan starting on Monday 10/7. Individuals lodging objections can choose to speak in support of their submissions at the panel hearing but will need to move quickly if they wish to do so.

There are many other possible grounds for objection to the current Stockland plan. However all cyclists are encouraged to lodge submissions pointing out the need to preserve adequate open space along Gardiners Creek and to complete the PBN bike route along Tooronga Rd. The Minister has called in the plan which means that submissions have to go to the Minister rather than to Council. They should be addressed to:

Planning Panels Victoria
Department of Sustainability and Environment
Minister for Planning
ATTENTION: Adrian Williams
PO Box 500
EAST MELBOURNE 3002

Don't forget to cc your submission to your local MP and to Bicycle Victoria. For further information contact TAG [info@toorongaactiongroup.org.au]

Julia Blunden

Minutes of Boroondara BUG Meeting 7.30pm Wednesday 10th May 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, Marion Green

Tram 109: JdH reported that the Tram 109 route is not looking good for cyclists and that Council and BV are now looking at alternative bike routes. One that has been suggested links Mont Albert Rd, Sackville St and Wellington St. This appears to be a reasonable option but some work will be needed. This includes adding a third pedestrian crossing at the Mont Albert/Burke Rd intersection, reducing the number of bluestone courses in Sackville St, and providing an EBL in the wider, western section of

Wellington St. PC suggested that another alternative route north of the Tram 109 route, perhaps along Yarrabat Ave and Gordon St, should be considered.

Tooronga Village: JB reported that a public meeting on this issue was scheduled for the following evening. It was agreed that JB and GS should attend this on behalf of the BUG to raise the issue of the Toorong Rd bike lanes.

Solway Bridge: JdH reported that the new bridge will be angled and 10m upstream from the old one. The climb to Ryburne Ave will be more gradual.

Integrated Transport Strategy: JdH has an advance copy of the Draft Report. He reported that it is rather general but quotes BBUG often and generally accurately. JB pointed out that we need to compare it with the BUG's submission. Community consultation will occur in June and we need to participate in this.

Bike Parking Rails in Glenferrie: JB reported that four parking rails have been installed to date, one on the east side of Glenferrie Rd outside Mountain Designs, and three on the west side, one outside the NAB and another two outside Coles. JB offered to write to the PL expressing appreciation for rails installed but pointing out the need for more further north.

Burwood Rd/Church St Intersection: GS brought detailed plans from VR for the new tram stop to be constructed at this intersection which will serve both the 48 and 75 routes. Tramlines, lane markings and kerbs will all be re-aligned as part of this project. The bulk of this work is scheduled to take place on the QB weekend. Those present welcomed the chance to study the plans and had many suggestions for minor alterations that will make the intersection work better for cyclists. GS agreed report these back to VR.

Dogs on Leads: JdH asked if anyone could clarify the rules about dogs on leads in areas with shared paths. There was general agreement that this is a matter covered by local laws and so is likely to vary from one municipality to another. JdH said he would carry out further research.

Site Visit: JdH reported on his site meeting with BCC's Jim Hondrakis and his assistant Manesh. Three issues were discussed:

1. A new pram ramp from the Main Yarra Trail into Willow Grove (Melway 45 F2)
2. A link between the Anniversary Trail and Mont Albert Rd, which will be beneficial both to pedestrians and cyclists. (Melway 46 A9)
3. Leonda Link (Melway 45 A11). JH has done diagrams taking the track up to Wallen Rd behind a power substation rather than into the car park as originally planned. GS and JB pointed out that this will not suit those wishing to proceed into Fairview Park. It was agreed that JH needs to be informed about this; cyclists ride through car parks in many places and this is not generally regarded as a problem.

Gardiners Creek Trail at Kooyong: There have been ongoing problems with cars using the trail to access car parking under the freeway. Marshalling, as promised by Kooyong Tennis Club, has not been happening. JdH offered to follow up on this.

Priority List: One again there was no time left to work on this. It was agreed to have a special meeting for this purpose. This will be at 8pm on Wednesday 24th May at Julia Blunden's place, 29 Elgin St, Hawthorn. All welcome.

Guest for next meeting: It was agreed that GS will invite his ward councillor, Heinz Kreutz 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

May Ride

Our May ride was an exploration of the Kororoit Creek. We caught one train in to Flinders Street and another out to Sunshine, where we started our ride up the creek-side path. At the Western Highway we headed briefly west on-road (not too scary!) to Deer Park, where we picked up another shortish section of the creek-side path through an un-named reserve. Here we ate lunch, after which we completed the circuit along this section of the creek before heading back to the Deer Park shops for our cappuccinos. We then retraced our route to Sunshine where we didn't have too long to wait for a train. Dark clouds threatened most of the day but fortunately the rain held off for us. An interesting exploration of an area that most of us seldom visit. Thanks to Elva for planning and organising the ride, and to Val who accompanied her on the preview ride and confidently took the lead for much of the ride .

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

Accommodation for Saturday and Sunday nights has already been booked by various group members at Big4 Beacon Resort at 78 Bellarine Highway, Queenscliff, 3225 Telephone: 03 5258 1133 Fax Number: 03 5258 1152). The plan is as follows:

Saturday 10/6: Meet at 12.15pm at the Queenscliff Railway Station (east of the township) at 12.15pm for a quick lunch and a 1.00pm ride to Barwon Heads/Ocean Grove. This ride will be mainly on the road and is approximately 24km return. There are cafes and conveniences in both towns but not along the way. Saturday night dinner will be at one of the hotels or eating places in Queenscliff - we will decide which on the day, with a majority vote!

Sunday 11/6: We will meet at the Queenscliff Railway Station at 9.15 for a 9.30am start to Drysdale. This is a fairly easy ride on the old rail line, which has some gradual climbing, on the way to Drysdale. The surface is unsealed and is basically in good condition but it is out in the elements, so bring along wet weather gear in case we get caught! Once at Drysdale we will stop for lunch. There is a picnic area at the old Drysdale Railway Station and also shops with take aways just down the road. The old railway station also has a kiosk serving hot and cold drinks but not food. This is the only 'pit stop' for the day. Once refreshed we will then head for home along the same path only it will be a much easier ride and we can take in the scenery as we go. We should arrive back at Queenscliff around 4.30pm to 5.00pm and we can then decide where to go for dinner.

Should you prefer not to ride in the morning, you can catch the old steam train from Queenscliff to Drysdale. Or you can catch the steam train back to Queenscliff in the afternoon - the choice is yours!

Monday 12/6: As we have to check out by 10.00am from the units, we could all meet up at around 10.15am for a short tour-ride around Queenscliff and Point Lonsdale before heading homeward.

If you have not yet booked there may still be vacancies at the resort or at other motels.

Further enquiries please contact or leave a message on the answering machine to David and Geraldine Powell on 9807 0114 or email Geraldine.Powell@macquarie.com.

REMAINING 2006 RIDES: July 16th Graeme S; **August** 20th ?; **September** 17th Val & Joe; **October** 15th Lee & Alan; **November** 12th Geraldine & David

DINNERS: July 14th; **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 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 1st and 3rd 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 2nd and 4th 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
June 7 th	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 14 th	As above	Ride the Capitol City trail to Moonee Ponds trail and then cross on western Ring path to Merri Creek trail with an extension along the new Craigeburn bypass trail, approx 65km.	#
June 21 st	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
Jun. 28 th	Carpark at the Lilydale Station or take the train there.	We will ride a circuit of part of the Warburton rail trail and then roads to Healesville returning to the Lilydale station via back roads, ~ 70km.	!
July 5 th	East Malvern RSL Bowls club, MEL 60 A12 or train to East Malvern or Darling Station.	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
July 12 th	As above	We will ride the Scotchmans Creek trail to Jell's Park and then a circuit of Oppy's trails to return via Waverley rail trail ~60km.	*
July 19 th	As above	We will choose a 30km circuit to ride on the day.	#
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, approx 55km.	*

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 2nd	Woodend Wander The old favourite on quiet country roads ... BYO Lunch or buy at Woodend before we ride to Hanging Rock	40km medium	Harv 9890-8006	10am Bourke's Bakery Woodend
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 opportunitites 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 8 June	Thursday ride City- Mordialloc	45	Easy	Mike T 9859 3647
Queens Birthday June 10-12	South Gippsland Explorer	Booked out		Mike & Anna 9830 4195
Queens Birthday June 10-12	Nagambie	Various	Easy/Med	Darby

				9878 3589
Tues June 13	2nd Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	David M 9885 7673
Tuesday 13 June 7.45 pm : Club Night: Club Night: Box Hill Community Arts Centre Station Street Box Hill Mike Taylor 9859 3647				
Thurs 15 June	Asian lunch in Richmond	45	Easy	Ken 9801 7157 or Tom 9427 0332
Sun 18 June	Max's brunch ride	35	Easy	Max 9899 9556 or Anna 9830 4195
Tues June 20	3rd Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	Ken 9801 7157
Thurs 22 June	Thursday ride East Link oversight	50	Med	Ken 9801 7157
Sun 25 June	Adventure ride		Easy	Yvonne & Bruce 9852 1921
Tues June 27	4th Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	tba
Thurs 29 June	Thursday ride Preston Market	50	Med	Ken 9801 7157
Sun 2 July	Pakenham Gembrook Circuit			Graeme S 8504 0773
Tues July 4	1st Tuesday easy ride	30-35	Easy	Len 9898 2660
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.

June 2006

Sun 11 Riders' Choice

Tue 13 Kings Domain 45 km. Easy ride based on Yarra Trail.

Sun 18 Edwards Lake 35 km. Out through Springthorpe (H2 to Waiora Rd), Bundoora Park, Ring Road, streets. Return by Merri Creek Trail.

Tue 20 Riders' Choice

Sun 25 Koonung-Mullum Circuit 35 km. Up Koonung Trail, across to Mullum-Mullum (moderately long H1) with break at June's Billabong.

Tue 27 Pascoe Vale 50 km. Out by Capital City and Moonee Ponds Ck Trails. Return by Gavan Park Trail, streets to Merri Ck Trail.

July 2006

Sun 2 Quarry Hills Park 45 km. Out through Watsonia and Mill Park. H2-3 into Park & some walking possible. Return through South Morang but avoiding Plenty Rd.

Tue 4 Gasworks Park 53 km. Out by Yarra Trail, Prahran streets, Albert Park to break. Return via port and city.

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
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2006 June			
Thurs 8	<i>Bretton Magic - Richard and Lesley loose in Nova Scotia</i>		<i>Elizabeth</i>
Sun 11	Montmorency to Eltham via the Yarra River	30km Easy	Paul
W/E 10 - 12	High Country Rail Trail Ride Train based, lots of gravel	130km med/hard	Jim & Roger
W/E 10 - 12	MTB w/e at Castlemaine - various MTB rides, Maldon Steam train, pizza, pasta, birthdays		Tony
Thurs 15	<i>Jenny gets a new custom folding bike & tours England</i>		<i>Graham</i>
Fri 16-Wed 21	Central Goldfields-Bendigo loop camping or cabins	310km medium	Gail
Sat 17	Old Humevale Road from Hurstbridge	80km med-hard	John
Sun 18	Lebanese Pizzas & Italian Ice cream: delicious lunch on wheels	Easy 25km or easy med 40km	Kerry
Thurs 22	<i>AGM and Social night</i>		<i>Jon</i>
Sat 24	Jacana to Greenvale Reservoir to Greensborough & onwards	60km medium	Fred
Sun 25	Ghost ride with pub lunch on bitumen	Distance TBA	Alister
W/E 24 & 25	Whroo - Rushworth - Murchison	100km medium	Glenn
Thurs 29			<i>John</i>
2006 July			
Sat 1 July	Eltham - Sugarloaf Reservoir loop	60km medium	Peter
Sun 2 July	BAYSWATER - JELLS PARK LOOP via Blind Creek & Dandenong Crk Paths	30km Easy	Liz & Glynn
W/E 1 & 2	Intro to Touring: Around the Bay with an overnight stay	100km easy/ 200km med	Jon
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	Winter cycling - how to make it easy		Alister
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	Stories from the Club's past		Fred
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	Great WA ride photos		Jon
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
Sat to Monday 10 June	Weekend ride - Locksley - Base Camp - Nagambie / Strathbogies		Kathy
Friday 16 June	Social night - TBA		Liz
Sat 17 June	Hurstbridge - St Andrews Loop	Medium	Paul
Sun 18 June	NO RIDE		Contact yhacycling@yahoo.com.au to lead a ride on this date
Sun 25 June	NO RIDE		Contact yhacycling@yahoo.com.au to lead a ride on this date
Sun 2 July	Mitcham - Emerald - Monbulk - Olinda - Mitcham	Hard	Daniel
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](mailto: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.