

# Manningham B.U.G. Newsletter - February 2008

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## OUR NEXT MEETING (the first for 2008!)

- Monday 18th February 8pm Venue: Pancake Parlour, 550 Doncaster Rd Doncaster

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## RIDE REPORTS:

### Terry's Tour - 9th Dec 2007

Terry's unwarranted reputation for seeking out hills obviously deterred some riders, but not Fiona or Bernie.

The threesome assembled on a humid and overcast morning in Ruffey Lake Park, then headed for points east. We found that the steep section of path leading to the carpark on Victoria St has been replaced by a series of steps, so had to dismount and carry our bikes - oh well, it's all good exercise. The back streets of Doncaster East, plus a couple of patches of parkland, then got us to Blackburn Rd, where we crossed with the lights, then sought out a couple of mild hills, and zig-zagged around until we reached Springvale Rd - no lights there, so it was a matter of waiting for a lull in the traffic then dashing across. Shortly afterwards, we linked up with the Mullum Mullum trail, which, as everybody knows, leads straight to Beasleys.

After refreshments and deep discussions on the meaning of life, we continued along the trail for a short way (now in bright sunlight), then turned onto The Parkway, which led us back over Warrandyte Rd and into Green Gully, and then into Serpells Rd. Although obviously impressed by the elaborate houses we passed, Fiona resisted the temptation to stop and buy one. Some further maneuvering brought us to the Ruffey Ck trail, and we eased past a few walkers and dogs to get back to the start point.

Total distance 21 km, with only a couple of hills worth mentioning, and we all survived. Thanks to Fiona and Bernie for their company on an enjoyable ride.

Terry

### Annual Fish and Chip Ride Wed 19th Dec

F&C Ride number thirteen proved to be just as good as the past twelve. Sixteen riders and fifteen bikes meet at the Floral Clock in St. Kilda Rd on the Wednesday evening before Christmas and went off on one of the most obscure rides of our calendar. As has been the tradition, within a few hundred meters we were off our bikes for the walk around the shrine. Then back on board to head down lanes that are just wide enough to fit the handlebars - a challenge for Captain Ed & Stoker Terry on the tandem.

Parks, Lovers Lane, circles and around the lake all enjoyed before the run up the side of the bay to Clamms Fast Fish in Albert Park.

The Ball family has made a new record with six members on the ride. Ed says someone must volunteer to ride the tandem on all future F&C rides so make your bids early to be one of the luck ones in the "2008 F&C Tandem Crew". Is it to early to mark your calendar now?

Harv

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## St Kilda Foreshore

I imagine that many of you have ridden down the Bayside trail in the last few months and have seen what is happening at St Kilda. Basically they have obliterated all trace of a bike path or even a shared path through the area immediately to the south of the pier, and have turned it into a forecourt for the various cafes. In future cyclists will have to weave their way between the pedestrians here as they do at Southbank, and they'll just have to know the trail continues as there is nothing to show this.

I have already written to the City of Port Phillip to protest and I suggest that other cyclists do likewise. It would be especially good if the various BUGs and clubs that conduct rides and use this trail made official protests. This is one of Melbourne's premier off-road routes and as such worth defending. Don't forget to cc any protest letters to BV.

Julia Blunden on VicBUGChat

RIDE REPORTS continued:

**Warburton Rail Trail** Sat 26th Jan (Aussie Day)

Two from the top rode down to join the other six at Woori Yallock on what we feared could have been a very hot day. But with no big hills and a great trail to ride on we all had a most enjoyable day. Cossie gained a couple of trout but lost a couple of chain links. (See the photo of Helen doing her 'Bike Maintenance with a Stick' while we waited for Cossie to fix his chain and catchup.)

We will return again and again to this trail - it has to be the best in Victoria and the Mt Evelyn Cog Bike Cafè is a great reward for those that decide to ride back up on the way home.

Harv



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**FUTURE RIDES:**

**Helen & Ed 'French' Rides** - Sundays at 8am

As Helen and Ed are going to France in July and as such are doing a lot of riding (both Km and hills). All members are welcome to join them.

The rides will all be on pavement and they recommend Road or Hybrid bikes (or hard going on a mountain bike). All rides will be 40 to 80 kms. Longer rides will have less hills, shorter more hills. Ed says no one will be left behind.

So join them on:

Sun Feb 17th and 24th for an 8am start

Ring Ed on 9850-7062 on Thu or Fri before for start point

**Ride the Hume FWY - Thomastown to Craigieburn** - Sat 23rd Feb

Start at Pandora Av. Thomastown, meet at the vacant block Mel 8 C9 @ 9.30 am

Approx 25kms easy/medium riding.

Flat, dry, maybe windy but with some interesting road side architecture. A paved surface with no shops along the way so bring plenty of water & snacks. But there will be coffee at Craigieburn.

Return the same way.

Book in with Gary on 9439-5016

**Healthy Lifestyle Week Ride** - Sat 1 March

We are running this Saturday Morning Ride for the public as part of the council's Healthy Lifestyle Week.

From Westerfolds Park to Tindals Road including the Mullum Mullum Creek Track and return - a total approx.

20kms. A coffee stop at Beasleys is optional.

Time: 9.30 - 11.30am approx.

Bookings Essential: Gary - 9439 5016 or Harvey - 9890 8006

Cost: Free

Please come along as members to support this BUG venture.

Meet at: Westerfolds Park - Car park off Porter St, Templestowe, Melway Ref: 33 E3

**VALE Sheldon Brown** "His loss leaves a hole in the road that will never be fully repaired."

Sheldon Brown past away on Sunday Feb 3.

If you think your life wasn't influenced by this man - think again if you ever tried to do one of our BUG crosswords. His web site is a veritable encyclopedia of cycling knowledge and was the source of the glossary used to generate over 80 crosswords for our BUG. If you've never been to his website, you should go today.

From Wikipedia,

Sheldon Brown (July 14, 1944 - February 3, 2008) was an American bicycle mechanic and technical authority. He maintained an extensive website containing authoritative articles relating to bicycle mechanics and maintenance, as well as a thorough glossary of bicycling terminology. ... He was an accomplished amateur photographer and his site is well illustrated with his own photographs.

He was an enthusiast for many old and unlikely forms of bicycles and cycling including Raleigh and their English three-speed cycles, the Sturmey-Archer hub in general, tandems, and in particular fixed-gear cycles. Sheldon Brown also wrote a well-regarded guide to wheelbuilding, available on his website.

Sheldon Brown served as the "Parts Manager, Webmaster and general Tech Guru" of Harris Cyclery, a bike shop in West Newton, Massachusetts. He was also a frequent participant in online cycling forums. His April 1 additions were eagerly awaited by the online cycling community. On some groups, links to his site in response to technical questions were flagged with the abbreviation AASHTA (As Always, Sheldon Has The Answer).

In August 2007 Sheldon was diagnosed with primary progressive multiple sclerosis. After losing his ability to balance an upright bicycle to the disease, he was able to continue pedaling by using a recumbent tricycle. Sheldon passed away on February 3, 2008 after a heart attack.

Sheldon Brown - A man who dedicated his life to helping people ride bicycles.

It has been said

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## More for your 2008 diary

Brunswick Music Festival Sunday 24th Feb 12 to 7pm

Moreland BUG will again have a stand at the Sydney Rd Street Party. They hope to have a bike valet in operation at the Uniting Church at 214 Sydney Rd corner Merri St, with a gold coin donation.

Links:

Moreland BUG; <http://www.morelandbug.org/>

Brunswick Music Festival & Sydney Rd Street Party; <http://www.brunswickmusicfestival.com.au/srsp.htm>

Geoff Lewis - Moreland BUG

Combined BUG weekend 8-10th March 2008

Wangaratta Bicycle User Group released their March long weekend program of rides. It will be a great weekend of family recreation riding. Ride bookings are now open - phone Alan 5721 5073 or Jim 5721 5193.

Macedon Ranges MS Cycle Challenge Sunday 4th May 2008

The Macedon Ranges MS Cycle Challenge takes riders on a tour through a most picturesque route, of approx. 135 km on sealed roads of medium to hard level to suit riders with a good level of fitness. There'll be plenty of opportunity to pause for a tea, coffee or cake at one of the hamlets enroute.

The major focus is to raise funds to help find a cure for Multiple Sclerosis through the Rotarian Action Group. Most profits will go to MS and the remainder to meaningful community and international service projects.

So, get on your bike ...Challenge the Ranges for MS Changes.

Registration fee \$75.00 per rider. Starts 8:00 am at New Gisborne and takes in Woodend, Trentham, Daylesford, Kyneton, Mt Macedon to finish at New Gisborne. Includes map, power bars, water, sun screen, first aid & BBQ meal at end of event. Registration & rider kits available from 7:00 am at start line.

ENTRY OPTIONS; manual form or online registration

<http://www.gisbornerotary.org.au/news/macedon-ranges-ms-cycle-challenge/>

Melbourne Autumn Day (MAD) Tour - Sunday 6 April

MBTC will conduct the 25th annual MAD Ride with three options- 60 km road ride, 110 km road ride, 65 km mountain bike route. All rides start from the Woodend indoor sports stadium between 8.00am and 9.30am, and also finish there. Limited to 1,500 riders. Entry fee before 29 Feb is \$30, after 29 Feb \$35.

Terry has some entry forms, which he will bring to the next BUG meeting. OR

Download information and entry form from [mad\\_ride@mbtc.org.au](mailto:mad_ride@mbtc.org.au)

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**City to get 'lite' car-free day** - Clay Lucas; from The Age: January 3, 2008

MELBOURNE'S first "car-free day" will go ahead on February 17 — but it will be a far less dramatic occasion than organisers and Melbourne City Council had hoped.

Last September, five young environmentalists won support from the council to effectively shut the city to cars for an entire weekday. But Premier John Brumby immediately stomped on the idea, branding it a short-term populist stunt that would "not change anything". Now, the idea has re-emerged, but in a different — and far less ambitious — form: Melbourne City Council will join Moreland Council's Cyclovia festival; Sydney Road, parts of Royal Parade, and all of Swanston Street will be closed from 8am to 2pm on Sunday, February 17. It will coincide with the final day of the Sustainable Living Festival at Federation Square.

"We don't support a one-day stunt — we are about investing in a sustainable transport system for everyone," a spokesman for Roads Minister Mr Pallas said. "It will cause traffic chaos," RACV policy manager Brian Negus said. But Melbourne City Council's environment chairman Fraser Brindley said it was appalling that the Government would not support a car-free day. "It is blindingly obvious that we have got to start planning for the world beyond the car and this is something that can make people think about that," Cr Brindley said. Moreland Mayor Joseph Caputo, said every major city in the world now had regular car-free days. "

The car-free day movement has spread to 1500 cities around the world, and comes amid hot debate across the globe about how to reduce city congestion. Car-free days have been a success in many world cities, including Vancouver, Canada, which has run one annually since 2003. Last September, London for the first time banned cars from its busiest roads for a day, throwing them open to cyclists for its Freewheel London event.

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**The decision to ban bicycles** from trains during peak hour in January raised quite a lot of discussion in the press and the net.

There simply isn't enough room to do it justice this month  
so see what action is planned on:

<http://binthebikeban.org>

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<http://www.topgearcycles.com/>

304 Doncaster Rd

Balwyn East

Tel: 9857 4060

Email: [info@topgearcycles.com](mailto:info@topgearcycles.com)

Remember to mention you are a member when purchasing your parts to receive 10% discount.



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Members are privileged to  
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Specializing in: Mountain Bikes, Hybrid Bikes,  
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Accessories for all your bike needs

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