

Manningham B.U.G. Newsletter - May 2008

Minutes of the General Meeting

21/4/08

Meeting started at 8.15 pm

Present: Gary Suffolk, Katherine and Bernard Ford, Helen Joyce, Terry Mc Donnell, Lyn Donat, Harvey Edwards

Apologies: Joanne Pugh and Joan Gaughwin (and an apology from Helen Joyce for not being in hospital looking after Colin!)

Treasurer's Report:

Bank Balance \$2,866.60

(including 36cents quarterly interest

-achieved by careful financial management!)

Membership:

10 family, 25 Single and 6 complimentary

Correspondence: Whitehorse Wheels, Invite to Pump House pedestrian Bridge opening - see below, Mullum Mullum Festival Flyers, Pedalite Lights promotion - see below

Future Rides: (See newsletter & calendar for details)

Ride reports.

The You Yangs Ride- Gary reported six went on this great enjoyable adventure and only the You Yang section was hilly. Harv explained the illegal diversion through the park that made the ride do-able as it bypassed 6-8 km of difficult sandy riding..

(Bernard also offered the ride report of going to get his newspaper that morning)

General business:

Gary handed out slips with our website address- seeing Katherine had just found us!

See www.vicnet.net.au/~mannbug

Discussion followed of some future ride possibilities:

1. A freeway ride utilising the new path that will start at Park Rd. and go through to Frankston beside Eastlink.
2. Kilcunda to Wonthaggi (36km) with a detour to Powlett River. The 90km, 1 ½ hour drive seemed acceptable to all present.
3. Belgrave to Dandenong - based on Julia Blunden's book
4. From Westerfold's along the Main Yarra Trail and up the Plenty River trail and return.

Meeting closed at: 9.11 pm

OUR NEXT MEETING

- Monday 19th May 8pm Venue: Pancake Parlour, 550 Doncaster Rd Doncaster

Quote: "The bicycle is just as good company as most husbands and, when it gets old and shabby, a woman can dispose of it and get a new one without shocking the entire community." -Ann Strong, Minneapolis Tribune, 1895

From the mailbox:

A new bridge has joined an extra 6km of rail trail to the Great Southern Rail Trail bringing the trail's total uninterrupted length to 37km trail between Minns Rd (6km north of Meenyan) and Foster. This bridge over the Tarwin River is just beside the South Gippsland Hwy. east of Meenyan. This removes the previous need to detour onto the highway to cross the river.

The public opening of the 242 metre pedestrian bridge is planned for June 13th but Alan Elery reports it was open for use when he was there two weeks before our April meeting.

The original wooden railway bridge that stands beside has stood for over a century and hopefully so should this bridge.

- More info from <http://www.railtrails.org.au/>



Photo: David Levin

RIDE REPORTS:

The You Yangs Ride - Sat 19th April 50 kms

A bright, sunny warm day found 6 riders at Southern Cross station to travel to Lara. Some of us not familiar with the rail system were unaware that the Met ticket system finished at Werribee; hence we had to buy a ticket to Lara at V-Line.

At Lara, after a visit to the shops for snacks we set off. The ride to the entrance of the You Yang was easy & flat. After a rest stop at the info center we rode off to the central circuit ride that runs around the area. This was not easy as the surface was rather sandy/gravelly & hard to ride through. We spotted several mountain bikers zipping around the Forrest tracks, so the ride leader tried his hand at one of the board tracks only to chicken out for fear of injuring him self..

After 12 kms of hard uphill soft surface riding we all had had enough. Harvey, having done lots of bush walks in the area, knew of a short cut down hill to reach the road. So we went bush with bike. After a short down hill walk, Harv assured us we only had 50 m to go to a rest stop, just up the hill he said.. Pushing our bikes uphill on rocky road & 500 m later we did reach the rest spot. Where we really did enjoy a rest. The track Harv then lead us down was only made for bush walkers & here we were trying to wheel our bikes down this track. Harv did reveal that he had walked this track at midnight many years ago!!!! Why at midnight?? You can ask him !!

Half way down the track we meet a bush walker coming up the other way, who informed us rather crossly that this track is not for bike riding. Who was riding ??? Not us. Eventually we got to the bottom, to a welcomed flat road. We set off riding again heading to Werribee. The roads to Werribee were long flat & never ending. At last we arrived at Werribee & headed to the coffee shop where we lingered for a long long time eating & drinking on the outside deck overlooking the tree lined river below.

A very varied, interesting & enjoyable ride. Thanks Harvey for your guidance, as usual the ride leader didn't know where he was going.

This ride can be found on www.bikley.com at search, type in You Yang's.

- Gary

Autumn in Blackburn -Sat 26th April

About ten of us set out from Blackburn Station in quite reasonable weather to enjoy another great Blackburn ride - this time in autumn as it's named! (Last time we chose the wrong season) With an orange juice stop by the freeway we were refreshed before the long hill up into Nunawading. Then down the pipe easement to Forrest Hill before winding our way around Blackburn Lake and the footy oval for a recovery at the Jacaranda Tree Coffee Shop. The bike paths and side roads help to make the ride easy but the company made it fun

- Harv & Anne

FUTURE RIDES: - remember to ring the Ride Leader before you ride.

Loop the Loop - Sat 10 May

From the Porter Street carpark in Westerfolds at 9.30am, we plan to ride the Main Yarra trail and a loop under the Greensborough bypass and back, throwing in a couple of permutations, but keeping hills to the minimum. Total distance is about 38 km. The weather forecast is for some drizzle that morning (but how reliable are the forecasts?). Coffee afterwards at Carlucci's or other place of your choice.

Contact Terry - 9848 6027 if you're a starter!

Pedalite

Pedalite Pedal Lights are the battery-free pedal lights for bicycles that have been designed to make cyclists more visible to motorists from any angle

As soon as you start pedalling the pedals store a small amount of energy so the lights continue to flash when your freewheeling or stopped at a road junction. .

Special Introductory Offer valid until 31/06/08 of \$99 with free delivery (RRP \$129.00) (Also available with toe clip)

More info from <http://www.pedalite.com.au/>

