



# Wilderness Bike Ride Association

ABN No. 42786908269

Wilderness Bike Ride Association and **S**Nowy **O**rbost **B**icycle **S**ociety (SNOBS)  
and **B**airnsdale **A**nd **D**istrict **M**ountain **B**ikers  
Newsletter Edition No. 14 June 2008



## **The Wilderness Coast Escape on the Anzac Day long weekend was enjoyed by riders and volunteers. Approximately 90 riders and 30 volunteers participated on the weekend.**

Simon Rothwell of Advance Event Management is preparing a comprehensive report on the event. The Wilderness Bike Ride committee has selected Simon for the position of Project Officer, Community Enterprise Grant Project. His background is in event management and banking, and most recently was involved in managing the Bairnsdale Multi Sports event on behalf of the Riviera Triathlon Club. Over the next few months Simon will be investigating the potential for a number of alternative ride and event options based on recreational cycling in East Gippsland. If you have any suggestions please contact Simon on 0400746662. Simon will be building upon the strategic plan prepared by the the Regional Development Company with input from the committee. The Regional Development Company will continue to work with the committee on determining the best organisation and governance structure for the Wilderness Bike Ride Association. As a starting point the strategic plan identifies us as a sustainable community driven not for profit organisation.

*One of the key factors in sustainability is the high cost of public liability insurance. In order to reduce our costs and increase our sustainability we recently affiliated with Mountain Bike Australia. As an affiliated club, club officials and other members are covered for public liability and personal injury. Affiliation requires riders to take out an annual membership or daily membership with MTBA through WBR. The costs proposed for the year commencing July 2008 are as follows:*

- **Full WBR membership (recreational): \$52 (\$42 MTBA, \$10 WBR)**
- **Full WBR membership (competitive): \$90 (\$80 MTBA, \$10 WBR)**
- **Participation Day membership (social): \$6 (\$5 MTBA, \$1 WBR)**

*These membership prices are greater than previously charged because they provide WBR with full cost recovery and the rider with personal injury cover. If you have any concerns about the new arrangement please contact a committee member.*

*On behalf of the Committee of Management  
Mark Lutze  
President*





## WBR is evolving.....

In 2007, WBR applied for State Government support under the Developing Regional Communities program. This program is designed to assist groups and organisations to develop and implement programs that benefit their local community. Utilising the consulting services of Regional Development Company, we have developed a Business Plan designed to evolve WBR into a self-sustaining enterprise delivering cycling tours and events with a focus on the wilderness experience.

In March we employed a Project Officer, Simon Rothwell to translate the Business Plan into activity. He is currently scoping a range of cycling events and activities and seeking the input of local cycling enthusiasts and others who would like to see eco-tourism developed in Far East Gippsland. Simon can be contacted on 0400-746662 and would love to hear from anyone with ideas for a cycling event or groups/businesses who are keen to partner future events.

## 2008/2009 Membership Changes

**T**here have been some positive changes to the WBR membership. In previous years, WBR has provided an insurance cover to its members, those who participate in organised Snowy Orbost Bicycle Society (SNOBS) and Bairnsdale & District Mountain Bikers (BADMOB) rides and participants in Wilderness Escape Bike Rides. With an annual insurance expense reaching almost \$7000, we needed to review our alternatives.

A decision has been made to affiliate with Mountain Bike Australia (MTBA) and incorporate their cycling insurance package as part of the **Full WBR Membership**. The insurance policy covers a range of circumstances including Public and Private Liability, Death and Personal Accident, Non-Medical Expenses and cover for incidents or accidents that result during logged individual training activities. The policy also offers degrees of coverage ranging from Recreational (Non-Competitive) through to a Competitive insurance.

Recognising that some people are occasional SNOBS and BADMOB riders, we have also introduced a MTBA **Participation Day Membership** which provides a slightly reduced level of insurance cover than full membership. Participation Day Membership insurance (worth \$6) will be arranged at the start of each ride for any cyclists who don't have a Full WBR Membership or a current MTBA licence. Participation Day Memberships will also be used on future Wilderness Escape Tours to cover participants.

The third **Friend of WBR Membership** (worth \$10) is for our non-riding members who are keen to support and maintain involvement with our organisation.

The intent of establishing these insurance arrangements is to ensure that *all* cyclists who participate on a SNOBS, BADMOB or WBR ride are adequately insured in the case of an accident or incident. Unfortunately there are no reciprocating insurance arrangements between Cycling Australia, Bicycle Victoria or MTBA. This means that all participants on a SNOBS or BADMOB ride will need to have either a Full WBR Membership, a current MTBA Licence or purchase a Participation Day Membership on the day of the ride.

All current memberships will expire on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2008. As a goodwill gesture and to allow time for people to take up their memberships, WBR will provide **free** cover for SNOBS and BADMOB riders by paying their Participation Day Memberships until 31<sup>st</sup> July 2008. In return, please show your support by becoming a member of Wilderness Bike Ride Association and enjoy the full benefits of membership.

***A Membership Pack is attached. It can also be downloaded via the WBR website. The Pack details the types of membership and insurance covers that are available. Your insurance cover starts at the same date as your membership of WBR.***

### **For full membership, you will need to fill out TWO FORMS:**

- Wilderness Bike Ride Annual Membership 1<sup>st</sup> July 2008 - 30<sup>th</sup> June 2009
- Mountain Bike Australia (MTBA) Inc.

**Rider Member Application and return both to Wilderness Bike Ride, PO Box 301 Orbost 3888 with your Cheque, Money Order or Credit Card details. Cheques are made payable to Wilderness Bike Ride Association.**



## *Nowa Nowa to the Glasshouse*

Six riders participated in the Snobs Ride on Sunday May 11th, covering approximately 52km. Meeting at the Wolseley St Car Park; the riders drove to Nowa Nowa for the commencement of their ride. The riders headed east on the Rail Trail to the Trestle Bridge on the Wairewa Rd, turning right on to the bitumen then continuing to the highway, crossing over to Tyers House Road the ride continued on gravel to the Glasshouse. There was time for lunch and some exploring before returning to Nowa Nowa. The riders enjoyed a coffee at 'Mingling Waters' before returning home. Thanks to the support vehicle.

*Di Lavell*

## *Young Creek Reservoir*

The ride began at 10:00 am at the Wolseley Street carpark, where a group of seven cyclists headed north for a testing 45km ride. Two new riders, Peter and Neil, were welcomed and the group followed the Old Bonang Highway up to Cooney Ridge Road (approximately 18km from town and 417 m above sea level) where they were able to catch their breath, rest and enjoy the forest scenery around them. They then rode back to the tar and downhill to Storer's Track. Reservoir Road took them to the old dam. Once Orbost's water supply, the lake has all but dried up now and is surrounded by dense bush of Messmate and Grey Gum forest. The curved dam wall, built in 1918 and standing 7.8 metres high, can be seen from the viewing platform. It was there that the group had lunch on a glorious early winter's day.

The ride back into town was a little easier and the downhill run along Break Neck Track certainly compensated for the morning's hard effort.

The ride had offered a little bit of everything with varying road surfaces – bitumen, dirt, sand, gravel, patches of rock, rough surfaces, sticks and bark - with a few long hard climbs.





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## RIDE CALENDAR

**Remember BADMOB will ride on every third Sunday of the month and SNOBS on every first Sunday.**

**BADMOB** has many interesting rides planned for the coming season. Keep checking the website for details. If anyone wants to be added to the direct email list for BADMOB rides we will update you personally in regard to upcoming rides. So you need never miss out! Email contact details to Jeff Steedman at [counsel@bigpond.net.au](mailto:counsel@bigpond.net.au) Of course we will always have a ride on the third Sunday of the month.

## SNOBS RIDES

**Sunday July 6.** Leader is Marlene Robb. Sardine Creek . Straight up the Bonang on the tar! Distance of approx. 80 km. Easy to medium ride all on a good surface with some long, but not steep hills.  
(Because of the need for everyone to be advised of the new fees, this first ride will be free to everyone)

**Sunday August 3.** Leader is May Leatch. Meet at Orbost, Raymond St Carpark 9.30am. Drive to Mingling Waters, Nowa Nowa 10am. Ride along old Nowa Nowa-Buchan Road out of town into the forest; take 3 Mile Road around to the top of the small farming village of Wairewa; a wonderful ride on bitumen back to the Rail Trail which crosses Wairewa Road near a large trestle bridge; back along the Rail Trail towards Nowa Nowa with a short diversion through Fairweather Track. Medium difficulty. About 30-35 km. May Leatch 5154 2474. Cost \$6 each (free for full members of Wilderness Bike Ride).

**Sunday September 7.** Leader is John Bremner. Ewings Marsh / Newmerella area

**Sunday October 5.** Leader is Di Lavelle. Wood Point.

Distance: 40km return Grade: Medium to Hard Ride Gradient: Some flat riding, majority undulating with some significant climbs. Road surface includes bitumen, gravel, loose rock and cattle grids X 2.

The ride will leave from the Wolseley St Car Park in Orbost at 10.00am, travelling past Murray Goulburn, along 'B' Road passing through farmland, climbing up Garnett Track (forest) then turning left onto Wood Point Road riding to the Snowy River > Wood Point. Rest area includes Picnic area, toilet and camping ground.

**November** - Dates to be arranged.

Curlip history celebration rides, Nowa Nowa Nudes and Orbost Open Gardens rides to be considered . Ideas to May Leatch please.



## **Riders Responsibility**

Riders are responsible for

- Choosing a ride within their capacity
- Ensuring they are medically fit for that level of ride
- Signing in and out of each ride at start and finish, or prior to finish if riders decide to leave ride
- Making sure they and their bike are in an appropriate state for each ride. If unsure they should consult with Ride Leader
- Carrying a puncture repair kit, water , snack food and clothing appropriate to weather
- Informing the ride leader of any relevant medical condition that they have
- Obeying all road rules

*Riders under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Riders between 12 and 16 may come at the discretion of the ride leader after making face to face contact with the child's parent /guardian prior to or at the start of the ride*

- ***Thanks to John Bremner for putting up the ride flyers.***
- ***Keep checking the web site for ride details.***



***April SNOBS Ride***



## PHOTO GALLERY



Mark giving the day's orders.



Wanda is really enjoying the ride.

Dave and Barbara had a good time.

