

This Week with the Ghostriders



THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE GHOSTRIDERS

Enjoy a Sociable Week Ahead

With the heat of summer now behind us and the glorious days of autumn ahead, it is the ideal time of the year to enjoy some social interaction. This week we have, not one, but two social events that we would encourage all Ghostriders to take advantage of.



Labour Day Social Ride

The first of these events is a designated social ride to take place tomorrow (Labour Day Holiday). This is a new ride that has been put together by **Geoff James** who will also be acting as convener for day. The ride is specifically designated as a "partners' day" and there will never be a better opportunity to invite along your partner, friend, relatives, neighbours, etc.

The ride is primarily a social occasion to enjoy some cycling fellowship and to share our love of cycling with those who are less experienced. **We really need all of our experienced riders to come along and share their knowledge and support for**

those joining us for the first time.

For those wishing to do the longer ride you will need to gather at the **Fairfield Boat-house at 10.00 am**. Melways reference Map 30, J12.

For those wishing to do the shorter option you will need to meet at the **Royal Park Station (Melways map 29, F11) at 11.00 am**. From Royal Park the total return distance to Williamstown and back again will be approx 35 km.

You can also download and print off the entire ride directions from the Ghostrider web site. Just click on the link on the home page

Sat 19th March Social Evening Everyone Welcome

Since there will not be any "Awards Evening" this year there are not many opportunities for us to meet together in a purely social environment. To address this all Ghostriders are invited to come along to my place next **Sat 19th March** at

7.30 pm.

This will also be the chance to view the premiere of the movie "Ghostriders in the Andes". This shows the adventure that the 2010 Ghostrider team had in South America. This trip took us to some incredible places, including the "lost city of the Incas" Machu Picchu and Colca Canyon—home of the giant condors.

The movie lasts for 60 mins so there will be plenty of opportunity to relax and socialize afterwards. Please BYO drinks and some nibbles or sweets to share. **Please RSVP by Friday 18th March**

Breakfast Ride—Thurs March 24th

Our final Breakfast ride for this season will take place on Thurs March 24th. The ride will begin at Wandin at 7 am and will conclude with breakfast at the Carriage Café. This will replace the regular Thursday afternoon ride on that day.

Other News

Last Wednesday was the funeral service for the late **Leanne Dovaston**. Over 300 people gathered to pay their respects and to celebrate her life. She will be sadly missed.

Sun March 13th 2011

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Lothar Rockmann has now had his second cataract operation completed and is thrilled at the results. He can now see things that he has not be able to see for many years (like the road in front of his car).

Mal Bowmaker is also making steady progress following his recent back problems. It was great to see him back on the trail again last Thursday.

Our Weekend on the **Wang to Bright Rail Trail** is now only three weeks away. It is looking like we will have our biggest ever riding group so it should be a load of fun.

It is important to remind everyone that, if you wish to share a dinner on Friday evening in Wang, you will need to contact the **Hollywood Café** to make a reservation for yourself. Don't forget to tell them that you are part of the larger group. We are planning having Friday dinner at 7.30 pm.

There is more information about this weekend on page two of this newsletter.

Upcoming Rides & Activities

Labour Day (Mon March 14th)-Royal Park to Williamstown Ride.

This is a new Social Ride, especially designed to help you invite friends and partners to join in a flat ride with us. Start at Fairfield Boathouse at 10 am or Royal Park at 11 am. See above for more information.

Tues March 15th—Tuesday Fitness Group

Bushwalk starts at 10 am sharp at my place

Thurs March 17th—Warby Trail Ride

Start from Woori Yallock at 12 noon or COGS at 1 pm

Saturday 19th March—Social Evening, 7.30 pm

Social evening and screening of the movie "Ghostriders in the Andes". All welcome. **RSVP by Friday 18th March. BYO drinks and sweets or nibbles to share.**

Tues March 22nd —Tuesday Fitness Group

Bushwalk starts at 10 am sharp at my place

Thurs March 24th—Breakfast Ride 7.00 am start at Wandin

After an early morning ride along the trail we will be stopping for breakfast at the Carriage Café. This will replace the normal Thursday afternoon ride.

Annual Wangaratta to Bright Rail Trail Ride—April 1, 2, 3.

Don't forget to make your booking for Friday night dinner at the Hollywood Café in Wang. See above for details.

Tuesday Morning Fitness Group

Each Tuesday you are invited to join us for a brisk and scenic walk around the tracks of Emerald. Each walk starts at 10 am and is finished soon after 11 am. On the first Tuesday of each month we have a bike ride, instead of a walk. For more details give me a call on 5968 3307.

Everyone is invited to participate.

Regular Thursday Ride Details

Each Thursday we conduct rides along the Warburton Trail. Visitors are always welcome to join us. There are several alternative start times and meeting points to choose from.

11.10 am Early Group—Meet at Woori Yallock and ride the full distance down to Lilydale before meeting the second group at COGS at 1.00 pm

12 noon Main Group—meet at Woori Yallock and ride to COGS at Mt Evelyn to start the return ride at 1.00 pm

1.00 pm COGS Group leave and ride as a combined group to Woori Yallock where we usually arrive at about 1.40 pm.

1.50 pm Woori Yallock all riders re-group for the ride to Milgrove where we stop for lunch before the ride back to your chosen start point.

In this way all riders can choose a starting time and ride distance to suit their level of bike fitness. On the leg between COGS and Milgrove we expect all riders to stay together as much as possible (ie no bolting).

This Week with the Ghostriders



Wang to Bright Rail Trail Weekend Apr 1, 2 & 3

I am pleased that we have had a lot of interest in this weekend, so much so that it looks like being our largest group to ride this wonderful trail. It is especially good to see several riders coming from interstate to join us.

Those of you who participated in our 2007 Great China Ride would already know **Ken Lister**. Ken and his wife Pauline will also be joining us from Cooma for the ride. I am sure that you will have a lot of catching up to do. Several members of our 2011 European Ride will also be joining us for the weekend.

If you have not already arranged your accommodation it may still not be too late to join in the fun. If the motels are full I believe the caravan park has excellent on-site cabins at good prices. It really is one of the highlights of our year and I would like to encourage all of you to make every effort to join us.

As far as the actual arrangements are concerned, this is how I expect to weekend to proceed.

Friday 1st April.

All participants make their own way to Wang and check into their accommodation. If possible we would encourage everyone to share a meal at the Hollywood Café on Friday evening at 7.30 pm. If you are planning to have a meal you will need to contact the restaurant (Ph 5721 9877) and make a booking. Don't forget to tell them you are part of the larger group.

Sat 2nd April.

All riders meet in the car park of the Warby Lodge Motel, ready for a 8.30 am start. At this stage I do not know how many vehicles we will have available for luggage transfer on to Bright. For that reason, if you will need any luggage carried for you, it will need to be in a **(very) small pack**. Alternatively, those with panniers may prefer to carry their own

gear on the bike.

The plan is then to ride as a group through to Everton Station where we will stop for a group photo and drinks break. At that point the group will split into two. Those that wish to ride up to Beechworth will head up the hill, while those who want a shorter ride will simply continue on to Myrtleford.

The hill climbers ride at their own pace up the hill and share morning tea at the Beechworth Bakery. Afterwards we have a high speed roll back down the hill to Everton and then turn left to Myrtleford where we stop for lunch at the bakery.

After lunch we complete the flattest section of the ride through to Bright. After a shower and rest we will be going out to dinner somewhere in Bright. (Any suggestions?)

Sunday 3rd April

After a slightly more leisurely start we will be leaving for the return ride at about 9.00 am. Arrangements for the Sunday are usually a bit more flexible. Some riders usually prefer to ride the road at least part of the way back, while others may want to keep to the trail.

We again stop for morning tea (early lunch?) at Myrtleford before continuing on to Wangaratta where we should arrive by mid afternoon.

Then you swap the bike seat for the car seat and the long drive home.

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Ghostriders on YouTube



For those of our readers familiar with YouTube you may like to check out another video clip of a Ghost rider ride. This one was made during our recent Poowong Ride and runs for about 4 minutes.

To find it just load YouTube and search for "Ghostriders on the Poowong Circuit". I will also be bringing the video camera out tomorrow for the social ride so, if you want to become a new YouTube star you better join the ride.

On the Warby Trail—Thur 10th



Is it a bird? Is it a reptile? Is it a fish? This rather interesting zoological specimen was observed on the Warby Trail last Thursday, not far from Seville.