



# This Week with the Ghostriders



THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE GHOSTRIDERS

## Be a Patriot—Celebrate Australia Day on Two Wheels ! (You Know It's the Right Thing to Do)

Mon Jan 24th 2011

The most important news this week concerns our upcoming **Australia Day Ride**. This will be held on **Wed Jan 26th**.

To cater for riders of all levels of experience there will be three optional start points to choose from.

**The longest option will be to start at Ferntree Gully at 9.00 am.** During the week I did a reconnaissance ride around the area and decided that **Kings Park** offers the most convenient location to begin our ride. There is plenty of parking there and the **Ferry Creek Bike Path** runs right alongside. **You enter King's Park via Acacia Rd from Burwood Hwy.** If you are wanting a ride of about 85 to 90 km then this is the start point for you. You should be there at about 8.45 am ready for a start at 9.00 am sharp.

We will then be following a new route along the **Ferry Creek Bike Path** all the way to Stud Rd. There we will turn right and pick up the sealed bike path alongside Ferntree Gully Rd. At the Eastlink crossing this path joins the Eastlink Trail and

eventually connects with the trail to Jells Park. We will stop at the Jells Park Kiosk for a rest and a drink before continuing. **The Jell's Park Kiosk provides the second start option for those wanting a ride of about 60 km.**

I anticipate that we will reach the Jells Park Kiosk at around 10 am (exact time will depend on the speed of the group).

After a rest at Jells Park we will continue out of the park and straight down Waverley Rd to the **Monash Aquatic Centre (626 Waverley Rd), which will be the start point for those wanting a short flat ride of about 40 km return.** I know there is a steep hill in Waverley Rd, but it is not long and I suspect that most riders will choose the two legged option on this section. Once over the hill it is easy going to the start of the Scotchman's Creek Trail.

I anticipate that we will reach the Aquatic Centre at around

11 to 11.30 am. There is plenty of free parking available for those wanting to start there.

We will then follow the Scotchman's Creek and Gardiner's Creek Bike Paths into the city where we will stop by the Yarra to share lunch and coffee together.

Most of the route is sealed and is suitable for just about all types of bike. **To make sure we don't miss anyone all those who are planning to do this ride should contact me beforehand and let me know where they will be joining the ride.**

This ride would also be the ideal opportunity to invite along a friend or partner.

### Wangaratta to Bright Rail Trail Weekend—April 1,2,3

This is another reminder about our Annual Wangaratta to Bright Rail Trail ride to be held on the first weekend of April. The plan is to drive up to Wang on Friday, staying overnight at the Warby Lodge Motor Inn. On Saturday we will be riding to Bright (via Beechworth if you are keen) and

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then staying overnight at the Best Western High Country Motor Inn in Bright. On Sunday we ride back to Wang. I am expecting a number of "guest" riders on this weekend and would love to have as many of our regular Ghostriders as possible come along to share the fun. All those attending will need to contact the motels to make their bookings.

### How would you like to have an African Adventure?

Plans for an African Adventure, possibly to take place in 2012, are starting to slowly take shape. This would take us to a number of countries in Southern Africa, including a wide variety of terrains and a diverse range of amazing wildlife. We would also visit some of the local indigenous tribes of the region. I have already had a number of people express their interest in this adventure and if you would like to be kept informed as it develops, you should let me know.

## Upcoming Rides & Activities

### Tues Jan 25th—Tuesday Morning Fitness Group

Walk starts from my place at 10 am sharp.

### Wed Jan 26th (Australia Day) Bike Paths to Melbourne

We will be repeating our popular ride from Ferntree Gully to Southbank and back again. There will be THREE start points to allow for different experience levels of cyclists. Those following the longest route will cover over 90 km, the second group about 65 and the shortest option about 40 km. Our aim will be to explore some alternate routes so we will be covering some bike paths that we have not previously ridden on.

The first start point will be at the Kings Park Reserve FTG at 9 am. (Enter via Acacia Rd) The second option will be to meet us at the Jells Park Kiosk (about 10 to

10.15 am). The shortest option is to join at the Monash Aquatic Centre (626 Waverley Rd) - probably at about 11 to 11.30 am.

**If you will be taking part in this ride please RSVP to let me know where you will be starting.** The only reason this ride will not proceed is if the weather is predicted to be too hot. Watch for updates on the web site.

### Thurs Jan 27th - Warby Trail Ride

Starts from Woori Yallock at 12 noon. Return at approx 4.15 pm. All welcome.

### Tues 1st Feb—Tuesday Morning MTB Ride

MTB ride starts from my place at 10 am sharp.

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

This year we will be conducting our annual Wangaratta weekend and I would like to invite you all to participate. We will also be having some interstate guests riding with us. The recommended motels are **Warby Lodge Motor Inn** (Wang—Friday Apr 1) and **Best Western High Country Inn** (Bright—Apr 2nd). You will need to contact the motels to arrange your own bookings.

### 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 regroup 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).*