

# This Week with the Ghostriders



THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER OF THE GHOSTRIDERS

## What's News ?

### 2011 Weekend at Wang

Take 26 bike riders, 5 "support crew", about 95km of Australia's premier rail trail and combine it with 3 days of cloudless autumnal excellence and you are guaranteed a weekend to remember !

We have just returned from what was almost certainly our best ever weekend away on the Wangaratta to Bright Rail Trail. For any of our newsletter readers who have not ridden this rail trail I really must encourage you to join us when we return in 2012.

Most of our participants arrived in Wang on Friday afternoon and shared dinner together at the Hollywood Café. This gave us a chance to chat and get to know each other a little better before heading off on the ride the following day.

On Saturday morning we awoke to a glorious morning and posed for a group photo before taking to the bikes. The first 25 km of the trail is quite flat and takes you from Wang to Everton Station. This was a chance for a drinks break before our group split into two smaller groups. While most chose to ride up the 16 km hill to Beechworth, some of our less experienced riders continued straight

ahead to Myrtleford and on to Bright. These riders completed about 85 km for the day.

Those that buckled down for the uphill slog to Beechworth all made it to the summit in good spirits. Refreshed with some food and free coffee from the Bakery we returned back down the hill and turned left towards Myrtleford where we stopped for a late lunch.

The final 30 km to Bright is surrounded by absolutely delightful scenery and (thankfully) is almost dead flat. When I finally rolled into the High Country Inn in Bright my speedo was registering just over 120km for the day. No wonder my "nether regions" were feeling like they had been vigorously rubbed with sandpaper.

Later that evening we crowded into the Il Centro restaurant for another dinner before retiring to bed, savouring the thought that, with the end of daylight saving, we would all get the benefit of an extra hour's sleep that night.

On Sunday we enjoyed a buffet breakfast before getting our sore backsides back on the bikes for the ride back to Wang. The majority of our riders chose to ride the road as far

as Gapsted, before completing the ride on the rail trail. When we arrived in Wang at about 2 pm my speed told me that I had ridden about 205 km for the weekend. All that remained was a final cappuccino and the long drive back to Melbourne. Now I can't wait to come back at the same time next year !

On page 2 of this newsletter you can see some images from the weekend.

### 2012 Africa Trip Info Night—Apr 9th RSVP Please

After a year of planning I am pleased to announce that detailed plans for our "Under African Skies" adventure are almost ready for distribution.

On **Sat April 9th I will be holding the detailed information evening for this trip.** At that time I will be releasing all trip costs and full itinerary. We already have a significant number of people who have expressed an interest in this exciting adventure. If you would like to find out more it is important that you contact me to reserve a place for Sat April 9th. Places are strictly capped at 16 max so once that number is reached the trip will be full. You can also view a short intro video on YouTube. See the

Tues April 5th 2011

#### Ghostrider Contact Details

- Contact Person: Dennis Dawson
- Email: [ghostriders@netspace.net.au](mailto:ghostriders@netspace.net.au)
- Web: [www.warbyghostriders.com](http://www.warbyghostriders.com)
- Mail Address: PO Box 196, Emerald, Vic 3782
- Phone: 5968 3307
- Mobile: 0419 106 324

link on our web page.

### Sat 14th April Walhalla Forest Ride 10.30 am start in Erica

Our next weekend ride will take the form of a MTB ride along the forest paths between Erica and Walhalla. This ride starts in Erica at 10.30 am and follows the old rail trail to the Thompson river. From there we cross the big bridge and ride on into the historic Walhalla township.

For about 10 years or more Walhalla was our young family's annual holiday location. At that time the town had no mains electricity and our kids really believed it to be a magical place. Although power has now reached the town it still retains much of its original charm. We will share a picnic lunch in town before riding back to Erica along an alternate route.

**All those who plan to participate in this ride are asked to contact me by Thurs 12th April.**

## Upcoming Rides & Activities

**Thurs 7th April—Warby Trail Ride** start at Woori Yallock at 12 noon or COGS at 1 pm.

### Sat April 9th—"Under African Skies" Adventure—Information Evening—7 pm

This meeting is important for anyone considering taking part in our "2012 African Skies Adventure". **RSVP please if you want a place at this meeting.**

### Tues 12th April—Tuesday Fitness Group

Bushwalk starts from my place at 10 am

### Thurs 14th April—Warby Trail Ride

Start from Woori Yallock at 12

noon or COGS at 1 pm

### Sat 16th April—Walhalla Forest Ride (MTB) 10.30 am

This is a rerun of a popular ride from the past. A great chance to get out on the rail trail from Erica to Walhalla. We will be meeting in Erica township for a 10.30 am start. The ride will then follow the rail trail to the Thompson River Bridge, from where we cross over and ride into Walhalla. After a picnic lunch we ride to the far end of the township and ride up to the old tramway which we follow back to the Thompson River. The ride terminates in Erica. **All those participating need to contact me by Thurs 14th April**

### Tues 26th April—Anzac Day Social Ride—starting from Woori Yallock at 10.30 am.

Bring along a partner or friend and get them started on cycling. Since Anzac Day coincides with Easter this year there will be no designated Easter Ride.

#### 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



## More News from Wang Weekend

Over dinner on Friday night I had the privilege of presenting new Ghostrider jerseys to 9 of our riders and also officially recognising 2 new Ghostriders into our midst.

**Rick Coxhill** has been associated with our group for the past few years, having completed our Kopr Ridge trek in Nepal in 2009 and also our 2010 South America Ride. He was introduced to the Ghostriders by his long time friend and colleague Noel Wolstencroft. Rick now becomes Ghostrider number 105.

**Lionel Rex** was introduced to our group by his friends Cor Riethoff and Dick Bartley, both of whom completed our 2009 European ride. Lionel will be completing our 2012 European ride later this year. He has also completed 4 rides with our group qualifying him as Ghost rider number 106.

I trust that both Rick and Lionel will enjoy many future adventures with us in the years ahead.



Sat April 2nd—our peloton assembles at the Warby Lodge Motel in Wang, ready for a start on the trail.



It's easier going this way! Some of our riders on the exhilarating ride down from Beechworth back to Everton.

Sunday April 3rd—gathered for a mid morning coffee break at Myrtleford on the return ride back to Wang.

What a perfect weekend! Thanks so much to all those who came along and shared the ride and an encouraging word. It was much appreciated.

**GARMIN**<sup>®</sup>  
A valued supplier of GPS equipment for our rides.  
For more information refer to [www.garminoutdoor.com.au](http://www.garminoutdoor.com.au)

**GOLDCROSS**<sup>®</sup>  
*cycles*  
Generous discounts for Ghostriders at all Goldcross Stores throughout Australia. Check out their website [www.goldcross.com.au](http://www.goldcross.com.au) for the store closest to you.  
Huge range of bikes, accessories, clothing, helmets and bike repairs—everything for the cycling enthusiast.



Sat April 2nd—Ghostriders gather for the traditional photo shoot at Everton station before heading up the climb to Beechworth.

