

EastGippBUG

is an Internet based 'virtual' entity giving voice to issues affecting bicycle riders across East Gippsland, speaking with those who can affect change, and building advocacy for more and safer cycling.

Bulletin No 1. December 2006.

This message is delivered by email in the first instance to the founding group which agreed to establish a **Bicycle User Group** for East Gippsland.

Please circulate it to any bicycle rider you know who might be interested in becoming a link in the EastGippBUG network. **Please read notes below for more details.**

1. A meeting on December 11th agreed to generate the BUG.

Seven riders met at Bob Yeates' office (several apologies noted) and agreed on the following details:

- a) to call the group EastGippBUG
- b) that it will be a 'virtual' entity, having no formal structure, membership or office holders. Tasks will be carried forward on the basis of volunteers offering to look after various tasks and activities etc.
- c) that it is an advocacy entity; there are organisations already operating who provide a focus for various bicycle riding interests and activities.
- d) primary communication will be by email, with a back-up website.
- e) actions will be focused and positive.

2. Initial tasks being undertaken.

- a) contact with East Gippsland Shire Council:
Trevor Caldwell offered to meet with Shire officer Al Campbell, to find out what the current situation is regarding the 1999 Bicycle Strategy, and also offer to assist on the Bicycle Steering Committee (for some time past not active).

other primary matters to raise with Council include:

- 1) a safe link between Bairnsdale, Eagle Point and Paynesville
- 2) need for Australian Standards compliance parking 'stands' (e.g. the inverted 'U' rail) in Bairnsdale shopping precincts
- 3) intentions re the recent \$210,000 funding allocated for cycling

- b) contact with cycling groups:
 - ◆ Eric Sjerp offered to be a link person to Bairnsdale area groups.
 - ◆ Michael McStephen offered to look at the interests of commuters from out of town.
 - ◆ Jeff Steadman is a link to the Orbost area groups
- c) networking into town planning type areas;
 - Eric Sjerp offered to monitor e.g. Bruthen landscape plan re bicycle matters.
- d) contact with State level agencies and communications.
 - Michael Oxer offered to write to the Chair of the Victorian Bicycle Advisory Council (within VicRoads) re failure of regional communications with VBAC.
- e) the EastGippBUG network setup, PR etc
 - Michael Oxer will continue to provide the email link (and database) and will also arrange for a web site facility (www.eastgippbug.com)
 - Bob Yeates is arranging a logo and letterhead paper.

Other matters.

Noted that the Great Victorian Bike Ride in 2007 might be through parts of East Gippsland.

The EastGippBUG email network.

The link will be to and via: eastgippbug@wideband.net.au

The email Bulletin will be Bcc'd as a privacy measure. To add a name to the list **please ask the person interested to send** the following to Michael:

an email message with their name, a postal address and phone No. It will be presumed that this response will give permission for their name etc to be held on the EastGippBUG database and included in the Bulletin mailings.

PDF dated: 12 Dec 2006.