

EastGippBUG

www.eastgippbug.com

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 6. September 2007

New voice for cycling in eastern Victoria

Nicholson (East Gippsland) resident Michael Oxer has been appointed by the Minister for Roads and Ports, the Hon Jim Pallas MP, to act as a regional cycling representative on the Victorian Bicycle Advisory Council (VBAC).

The Council is a peak body located within VicRoads, to advise the Minister on programs affecting cyclists throughout the State. It is co-chaired by the Chief Executive of VicRoads and an Executive Director from the Department of Infrastructure.

Five regional representative positions provide an opportunity for local views, concerns and interests to be heard and discussed, but Mr Oxer points out that this involves a two way flow of information. In recent years there has been little information shared with and from cyclists in eastern Victoria. He has set up an email based network to share information with cycling groups and interested individuals across the shires of Baw Baw, Latrobe, Wellington, South Gippsland, Bass Coast and East Gippsland.

All these Shire Councils, the print media in their regions and known cycling groups, BUGs etc are being contacted to invite support for the network which can make better use of the VBAC.

'I will use the recently established East Gippsland Bicycle User Group (BUG) web based framework to enable quick, easy and cheap sharing of information.' Mr Oxer said. 'The EastGippBUG web site (www.eastgippbug.com) will be used as a public notice board for reporting on SBAC deliberations but I will need information about cycling needs provided to me by local groups in the region.' he added.

The Council meets four times a year and as a broadly based forum includes representation from local government, Victoria Police, VicHealth, cycling interests and the bicycle industry, Parks Victoria, the RACV, and Regional Development Victoria.

Mr Oxer said he is keen to add support to the efforts of local government and obtain increased funding for pro cycling infrastructure in regional towns, to encourage safer and more bicycle riding, especially for low cost local mobility such as riding for shopping, to schools and work, and for its health benefits. Any one interested in being included on the email reporting network can visit the EastGippBUG web site and leave their contact details.

For further information etc. please contact Michael via email eastgippbug@wideband.net.au

Keep an eye on the Great Victorian Bike Ride in EG.

On Saturday December 1st riders will surge out of Paynesville on their way to Buchan.

Check the details at www.bv.com.au/great-rides/40346/

Orbost – Burn Rd link for the E G Rail Trail

Latest news is that the off road link is essentially completed except for a stock crossing. New signs and information boards have been added. Now for the off road connection to Marlo!

Vote4Cycling: <http://www.vote4cycling.com.au>

The site includes information and resources including suggestions on what individuals and groups can do to increase cycling investment at the federal level. Check in and have your say!

Bicycle User Group Needs Analysis Survey: (PDF file, 525k)

www.cyclingpromotion.com.au/BUGNeedsAnalysis2007.pdf

A report on a recent project of the Melbourne based Cycling Promotion Fund (a bicycle industry initiative).

A web site worth visiting: www.bikewalk.org/newsletter.php

CenterLines Newsletter CenterLines is the bi-weekly electronic, text-only news bulletin of the National Center for Bicycling & Walking in the USA.

If you have an issue related to cycling in EG, or want to air a topic, please email your thoughts to eastgippbug@wideband.net.au

The EastGippBUG email network.

The link will be to and via: eastgippbug@wideband.net.au and at our [website](#) as above.

This email Bulletin is Bcc'd as a privacy measure.

To add a name to the list **please ask the person interested to send** the following:

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 email address used for the Bulletin mailings.

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