



January 2002

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Bicycle Wagga Wagga
PO Box 5789
Wagga Wagga NSW 2650

Bicycle Expo

On 23rd September 2001 Bicycle Wagga Wagga held a Bicycle Expo at Bolton Park Stadium. This was the culmination of some very hard work by the organisers, Graeme Buchan, Gillian Helyar and Graeme Thompson.

The Expo promoted cycling as a healthy, fun and sporting choice as well as an alternate means of transport for people of all ages and socio-economic groups

There were local and visiting exhibitors whom all reported great success on the day with exhibits ranging across a broad spectrum of cycling interests. Many exhibitors have already indicated their keenness to participate again.

There was information available about touring, mountain biking, Audax rides, safety, diet, injury care and prevention, the use of training equipment such as heart rate monitors as well as exhibits of various styles of bicycles and accessories. The recumbents proved quite a hit on the day with many people, young and old, putting these unusual bikes and trikes through their paces.

The Committee is especially thankful to all the BWW members that contributed on the day. That assistance, however minor it may have seemed at the time, contributed greatly to the success of the day.

Also, we are very thankful for the support given by the Tolland Cycling Club and the Wagga Wagga Cycling Club. The clubs organised criteriums and roller derbies on the day that added to the excitement of the day.

It has been decided to build on the momentum created this year by staging another Expo this year. There are still some details to be sorted out before a date can be fixed but it is expected that the Expo will be conducted in October. As soon as the date has been fixed you will be advised.

General Meeting

Bolton Park Stadium will be the venue for a General Meeting on 26th March 2002. The meeting will commence at 7:30pm.

The purpose of the General Meeting is to advise members of the direction the Committee is taking on various matters. Also, it gives members the opportunity to provide the Committee with valuable input that will help the Committee to take the club in the directions that you, the members, want.

Your ideas may benefit a lot of other cyclists. Please do not hesitate attending the meeting and contributing your ideas and comments.

Club Clothing

Following on from the success of our jerseys a polo shirt is now available complete with the BWW logo. The shirts are available in white or gold in keeping with the "Be Seen, Be Safe" motto.

The shirts cost \$27.50 each however if a bulk order is made the cost comes down to \$22.00. If you miss out on the bulk order then you will still be able to obtain a shirt however but not at the reduced price.

The shirts are available in the full range of sizes from XS through to XXXXXL.

If you're interested in obtaining a polo shirt or two, please contact Ray Stenhouse on 02 6921 4552 ah. Ray will need to know the number, size and colour of the shirts you require. Orders and payments for the bulk purchase need to be in by 26th February.

BWW Website

Ian Loble has developed a website for Bicycle Wagga Wagga. The site address is:

www.bicycleraggawagga.com-1.net

Bus to The RTA Big Ride

If you are intending going to this year's Big Ride from Manilla to Walcha and wish to use the bus then please advise Ray Stenhouse on 02 6921 4552 ah as soon as possible.

To be able to organise a bus we need to know how many passengers we are likely to have as this will dictate the options that are viable.

Mountain Bike Night Rides

In addition to the regular mountain bike rides Martin Zweep and Tim Cloutt have been busy of a night time too. The intrepid two plus others have been introduced to riding after the hours of daylight at the 24-hour event in Canberra and now wish to introduce others to the concept.

Martin and crew will be holding the rides on the second and fourth Wednesday evenings of the month. Martin is keen to cater for those riders

new to riding at night as well as adding some challenge and variation for the more experienced riders.

Martin can be contacted on 02 6931 8926 ah if you require further details. Martin is also keen to use electronic means to let MTB riders know what is happening. Please drop Martin an e-mail at mzweep@csu.edu.au if you are interested in being included on an e-mail list distributing ride information.

Tumbafest – 23rd / 24th February

For the people getting tired of the same old scenery why not take a trip to Tumbarumba and join in the rides there during Tumbafest? Naomi and Stuart Butler have mapped out several routes around the Tumbarumba district. You will enjoy mountain views, quiet roads and a few challenging hills. Afterwards you can settle back listening to some great music while you sample some of the fine food and drinks available from the many stallholders.

On Saturday, starting at 10:00am at the arched bridge at the Tumbarumba Creekscape, riders will have their choice of a 10, 30 or 50km ride. On Sunday, starting at the same time and place, there will be a 25km ride.

For further information please contact Stuart or Naomi Butler on 02 6948 3305. The Butlers have advised that their BWW friends can have a shower at their new house if required.

Wangaratta BUG – 9th/10th/11th March

The Wangaratta BUG has extended an invitation to our members to join them in a combined BUG weekend of fun cycling in the picturesque North East region of Victoria.

This is a long weekend in Victoria and there are rides planned for each day. On Saturday there is a 55km ride followed that evening with a Spit roast dinner that is included in the fee.

On the Sunday the cyclists take the Rail Trail to Myrtleford for a relaxing lunch which is supplied. There is a gentle tour of Myrtleford before the cyclists return to Wangaratta via Everton, a distance of approximately 50km.

To finish, on Monday there is a gentle ride that follows the creeks and streams of the area. This ride is approximately 40km long and starts early enough to allow you to complete the ride before heading home without being in too much of a rush.

The cost of the weekend is \$35 per adult and \$18 per child under 12 years. You have to register and pay before 18th February. For a registration form please contact Ray Stenhouse on 02 6921 4552 ah.

You have to arrange your own accommodation and as the rides will be held over the Victorian long weekend it will be at a premium.

Bicycle Wagga Wagga Membership

Membership Year

It has been decided to align the membership year with the calendar year. What this means is that instead of running from August through to July the membership year now begins in January and finishes in December.

Renewals

Last year we had 29 Family, 34 Adult and 1 Child membership. Currently only 31 of those memberships have been renewed which is very disappointing.

The fees have not changed since BWW was formed. The fee for a Family membership is \$10, and Adult membership costs \$5 and a Child under 16 membership is \$1.

Don't forget, one of your membership benefits is a 10% discount on parts and accessories at the three Wagga Wagga specialist bike shops so your membership cost will be easily recouped with a purchase or two. This makes your membership very affordable.

If you haven't renewed your membership please complete a membership form and forward it together with your payment to the Secretary/Treasurer, PO Box 5789, Wagga Wagga NSW 2650 at your earliest convenience.

Recommended accommodation:

Painters Island Caravan Park

03 5721 3380

Cabins \$55, Vans \$33, Sites \$17.60

Billabong Motel

03 5721 2353

Double \$45 to \$55, Single \$30 to \$40

Wangaratta Central Motel

03 5721 2188

Double \$66, Single \$50, Twin \$66

Millers Cottage Motel

03 5721 5755

Double \$77, Single \$70 – (3 day min)

North Wangaratta Budget Motel

03 5721 2624

Double \$55, Ensuite \$66,

Bunkhouse \$18 pp

Rides at Tumut – 30th/31st March / 1st April

Jim Goode is organising Audax rides on Easter Saturday, Sunday and Monday. The Audax Club has an award for riders that complete a 50, 100 and 200km ride in an Audax year that is called the Nouveau Award.

This weekend allows riders to ride all three distances and thereby qualify for the Award. While there is an opportunity to do all three rides there is no obligation to do so and riders can do one, two or all three distances.

On Saturday afternoon there is a 50km or 100km ride. On Sunday there is the 200km ride and on Monday there is a 50km ride to finish the weekend.

If there are sufficient numbers Jim is planning a pasta night on the Saturday as a social get together.

For further information about the rides and accommodation in Tumut please contact Jim on 02 6947 3300 ah or 02 6947 2636 bh.

Regular Sunday Rides

The regular Sunday afternoon rides recommence on 3rd February. These rides depart from the Wagga Wagga Beach at 2:00pm.

It would be great to see a few more faces meeting on Sunday to get out and about. Remember to bring a few dollars so that you can have a coffee and cake afterwards.

Don't forget, the dirt bike riders gather a bit earlier on the second and last Sundays of the month so that they can get away onto some of the less travelled tracks around the countryside.

The last Sunday of the month will see the riders meet at the Wagga Wagga Beach at 1:00pm for a local ride. This ride will be for all comers. The second Sunday of the month ride will be, in Martin's terms, "a little more adventurous" and will most likely be some distance from Wagga Wagga. Meeting times and details will vary for these rides so watch out for details in The Riverina Leader or contact Martin directly as detailed below.

Martin Zweep is the MTB/Dirt Ride Co-ordinator. If you're keen to show some other riders some tracks you have discovered please contact Martin on 02 6931 8926 ah or by e-mail at mzweep@csu.edu.au.

Steve Brown is the Ride Co-ordinator and he would be pleased to know if you may be interested in leading a ride somewhere. If you have a favourite ride or two, why not share it with your friends? Let Steve know by contacting him on 02 6931 0280.

Keep your eye on the regular column in The Riverina Leader for the latest information about rides and other upcoming events. Hopefully, as we become more technologically adept the website will also host the latest and greatest information.

Wagga Wagga Bicycle Safety Strategy Group

BWW together with the RTA, the NSW Police, the Tolland Cycling Club, the Wagga Wagga Cycling Club and other stakeholders have developed the Wagga Wagga Bicycle Safety Strategy Group. This group formed after BWW requested the assistance of the RTA to develop a Safety Strategy for Wagga Wagga.

Cyclists are at a huge disadvantage whenever there is an accident whether or not they are at fault. Therefore it is very important that we, as cyclists, do everything in our power to avoid accidents and to minimise the likelihood of injury.

Some cyclists in Wagga Wagga and district have made conscious decisions not to wear helmets. The Safety Strategy Group would like to see all cyclists wearing Australian Standards approved helmets.

One of the reasons that people may choose not to wear a helmet is that the wearer perceives that he or she does not look very good wearing one. Others will point to their friends or other riders that aren't wearing a helmet either as justification for them not wearing one.

As members of BWW we want to encourage all people to wear helmets when cycling. While a helmet may not prevent an accident it certainly can minimise the resultant injuries of one.

Brain injury is not pleasant for the person involved and adds stress, not only to their lives, but also to those that have to care for them. Some of our members can give personal accounts as to how wearing a helmet has reduced the extent of their head injuries.

So, please wear your helmet when out riding. Not only may it be beneficial in the case of an accident but it may also encourage others to do the right thing, and wear one too.