

Friends of East Gippsland Rail Trail

Meeting 4/06 held at Bruthen Aug 14 2006

1.Attendance:

Janice Preston	Marlene Robb
Gary Squires	Alan Jones
Lynne Walters	Sue Peirce
Keith Law	Michael Oxe

Apologies:

Andrew Sharpe	Eddie Slatter
Geoff Preston	Vicki Everret

2.Minutes of previous meeting (3/06) held at Bruthen July 2 2006 accepted

Business arising

2.1 Letter to potential business members not done yet

2.2 Letter re bike path Bairnsdale to Eagle Point reply from East Gippsland Shire recreation planner – Al Campbell, stating that this is recognized in the East Gippsland Bicycle Strategy Implementation Plan as a low priority. The EG council has allocated \$210,000 in 07/08 Capital works budget to implement bicycle strategy initiatives and this project could be included. Discussions with Vic Roads will occur soon to investigate the possibility of additional funding.

2.3 the State election is Nov 25, so well clear of the Trail in a Day ride

2.4 the Orbost school bus is not available for Nov 11, but the bike trailer is.

2.5 keys for Eddie and Geoff to open gates have been provided – they have been clearing trees and generally keeping trail safe. Asked to keep track of hours spent and an allowance for use of their chainsaws or equipment should be provided. Suggested COM may wish to provide this.

2.6 purchased a laminator (COM) will do membership cards.

2.7 Friends seat location to be changed to start of Mississippi Trail as a seat and table already going to the site at trestle Bridge.

3.Events

August 27th Ride – Bairnsdale area start 10am from MacDonalds

Sept 3rd working bee – note – venue changed to trail at Simpson's Creek, enter from Simpson's Creek Rd at 10 am – install seat and table

Oct 10th Bruthen to clean up near tunnel and bridge. Start at 10 am.

Oct 15th ride from Orbost. Mick Brady to takeover in absence of Vicki. Mick's contact is 5154 8547. Mobile 0428 596 955. Details later. Start will be from Forest Park at 10am.

Nov 5th ride to Nowa Nowa Nudes - depart Bruthen at 10am and Orbost at 9.30 am

4. Membership – reminders sent out and renewals coming in. New members include Alan Answer, Richard Thompson, Orbost Countryman, Marlo Caravan Park Motel.

5. Committee of Management

5.1 Burn Rd –Orbost link – some planning objections regarding cow crossing point. Opinion of meeting was that not to worry about cows crossing – signs to designate end and start of trail at cow crossing.

5.2 Getting quotes for surface repairs at Lees Rd section where very sandy, and where trail crosses highway at Mossiface.

5.3 Map for new brochure is being done, East Gippsland Council giving \$3000 to assist with production.

5.4 Trail notes will be four sections – Need to include topographical information, bridges, vegetation, history – anything of interest. Marlene volunteered to write the NN to Orbost section.

5.5 Meeting with Vic Roads in Traralgon to discuss shared paths in Gippsland region – Michael and Andrew to attend – route to Marlo and Bairnsdale to Eagle Point to be raised as important links.

6 Trail in a day ride.

6.1 Information on website, applications coming in. Will put number of applicants on website so folk can see level of interest.

6.2 Information is on BV website

6.3 Chamber of Commerce interested in putting together a package for accom and/or meals in Orbost. Gary to do and give to Keith to put on website.

6.4 Volunteers – will be required at Bairnsdale, Bruthen, Nowa Nowa and Orbost. Put details in next Trail News for assistance – Lyn has volunteered.

-start in Bairnsdale – from 7.15 until approx 9.00 to check riders against registration and to sign form

- start in Orbost to help load bikes and check registrations and sign forms 6.45 to 7.30
- sag wagon – starting at Bairnsdale – Orbost – this will be full day and require communication with route marshalls at Bruthen and Nowa Nowa.
- Route marshall – at Bruthen and Nowa Nowa. Should require part of day. Role will be to check morning tea at Bruthen Pub, signs where required, contact with sag wagon, answer questions in contact with ride organiser.
- At Orbost Forest Park to assist with bike loading, answering questions in contact with ride organiser.

6.5 Janice had information on T shirts – would require considerable investment, approx \$660 for 50 T shirts– discussed possibility of sponsors – no decision made.

6.6 Advertising – Bairnsdale Advertiser – Sue to contact. Marlene to contact Snowy Advertiser after working bee. Marlene suggested inclusion of flyer in Wilderness Ride mailout.

7. Website – Keith reported 533 hits – information re Trail in a Day ride posted.

8. Other items

8.1 Lyn reported folk walking on top of Trestle Bridge – barriers and signs to be checked

8.2 Hospital creek bitumen chopped up by trail bike riders

Andrew is working on regulations so police and DSE officers can prosecute illegal actions on trail.

9. Next Meeting

Oct 9th at Nicholson Pub commence at 7pm.