



1. BIKE SAFE COMMITTEE MEETING

1.1 INCORPORATION

We had our meeting yesterday at LBW's offices. The Group has decided to Incorporate. The reasons being, we need to open bank accounts, receive grants and be fully accountable, to ensure our ongoing effectiveness.

Our adopted core purpose is :

To actively pursue programs which will improve on-road cycling safety. This will help existing cyclists, as well as encouraging increased participation in cycling and improve traffic conditions for both cyclists and motorists. As a result, the whole community will benefit from the increased economic, health, and environmental flow on effects.

Taking a localised, regional approach, we aim to work closely and respectfully with existing authorities, to effect positive change, at every level. The programs initially selected are:

1. *Identify and encourage ongoing implementation of urgently needed road maintenance on existing bike lanes and designated shoulders, used by cyclists*
2. *Encourage investment in bike lanes on key arterial, regional and urban roads in the Geelong Region, in accordance with established Austroads and VicRoads standards*
3. *Facilitate and implement public awareness campaigns designed to:*
 - *promote respect for one another,*
 - *encourage safer road behaviour, by both cyclists and motorists, resident and visiting*
 - *and that everyone obeys the road rules and is made fully aware of them.*

The **Committee** comprises of:

- President: Barton van Laar
- Vice President: Jodi Manion (Jodi.Manion@team.telstra.com)
- Treasurer: Michael Betts (mbetts@lbwaccountants.com.au)
- Secretary: Paul Nyko (paulnyko@live.com)
- Specific Members: Felicity Dales (fd@bodytorque.com.au), Steve Draper (info@hendrycycles.com.au)
- Members: Kevin Warburton (kevin.warburton@police.vic.gov.au), Furio Rovere (furio@netspace.net.au), Alan O'Donoghue (al.odonoghue@bigpond.com), Mark Boyanton (m.boyanton@hotmail.com), Rory Wilson (rapwils@dodo.com.au), Tom O'Connor (tom_oconnor1@bigpond.com), Lorenzo Moro (info@torquaycycling.com.au)

1.2 OFFICIAL PARTNERS

The Bike Safe Committee will recognise a Partner company or organisation, who assists us in achieving our goals, with tangible contributions or required goods and services in kind.

To date, we are pleased to announce they are: **Telstra, LBW Accountants, the Geelong Advertiser Group, and SuperSprint.**

1.3 REGIONAL BICYCLE EVENTS

One of our aims is to improve the behaviour of cyclists on regional events, by encouraging participants to obey the road laws and for organisers to enforce them accordingly. Like you, I am sick of "being tarred by the same

brush" for poor behaviour on some of these rides. I am pleased to report two event organisers have approached us, and we will work with them in achieving our mutual goals. They are the *United Way Ford Otway Cycling Classic* and the [Super Sprint Great Ocean & Otway Classic Ride](#). In particular Super Sprint have committed **substantial funding** for Bike Safe initiatives. Make sure you thank [David Hansen!](#) 😊

1.4 SHARE THE ROAD CAMPAIGN

We hope to launch the official campaign in July sometime, with a bang! Get on board!

1.5 BECOME A BIKE SAFE MEMBER, OFFICIALLY

In about a month's time we will open up more official membership, to all of you who are also passionate about road safety for cyclists in our Region. Yes, together we can, and are, making a difference!

1.6 PUBLICITY

The media are doing a great job! If you haven't seen any, you must be interstate! Special thanks to Steele Tallon and the crew at the Addy!

You have also probably seen the front page article in the Bellarine Times and Steve in the photo on page 7 as well. It's great to see *the resolve of everyone* bringing these issues to a head. Hopefully this won't go on forever, as we see improvements being made! Everyone be on the look out for road changes and let us know!

1.7 UCI

We have been told the organisers are wishing to leave a lasting legacy of the event on the Bellarine Peninsula re-training routes etc. We have put some ideas to those concerned, and we will wait and see what happens. The timing is perfect to have a consistent approach re-signs, maintenance, fixing hazard roads etc

1.8 MARKETING BUDGETS

We are working on Marketing budgets, as and when resources and monies become available.

2. BICYCLE INFRASTRUCTURE GROUP MEETING

This meeting was held last Tuesday at Vic Roads.

2.1 MAINTENANCE ON ROADS WITH LANES/SHOULDERS

Some very good news! As you know Bike Safe has submitted our databased bike lane/shoulder hazards, and I am VERY pleased to report that the VicRoads roads (*which are most of the main arterial roads including Surf Coast Hwy, Anglesea Rd, Great Ocean Road, Bellarine Hwy, Portarlinton Rd*), have been scheduled in the official VicRoads maintenance program, with some works commencing **immediately**. This is a huge job, so some patience on our part is required! It would be great to get a photo of some trees being lopped with a happy cyclist!!!

In addition, I have been told the COGG roads (Shell Rd and Wallington Rd) works will commence in **May**. THIS IS GREAT NEWS! 😊

2.2 ROUNDABOUT SIGNS

Also some good news. VicRoads will trial some signage at some key roundabouts where they have documented accidents. Once the locations are finalised we will let you know so you can report back. Another BIG POSITIVE! 😊

2.3 AUDITS BY AUTHORITIES

The authorities reported back and confirmed on road, regional cycling infrastructure "is

almost non existent" in some areas. We are pleased that mutual understanding is being achieved and in political speak "we are moving forward"

2.4 GROUP BACKGROUND

This comprises of Vic Roads, Councils, Barwon Coast and ourselves. It was set up in response to Bike Safe's call for action. Its terms of reference are

"With a focus on road infrastructure, the Bicycle Infrastructure Group will:

- identify routes regularly used by road cyclists in the City of Greater Geelong, Queenscliff and Surf Coast areas.
- identify deficiencies/issues associated with these routes, including on-going maintenance regimes.
- determine appropriate treatments/actions to address these deficiencies/issues, with a collaborative approach across agencies.
- determine the cost and priority for treatment.
- identify possible sources of funding.
- examine other relevant road infrastructure issues identified by the Group.
- convey the outcomes and rationale for decisions to target cycle groups."

Bike Safe is particularly pleased this influential group has been setup for the first time in our region to specifically look at on road cycling infrastructure!

2.5 MOBILE HAZARD NUMBER

Some work still needed here. We will give VicRoads a special number and phone, free of charge, and direct into the local maintenance, but we may need to have a step in between - preferably not the media! We will keep you posted.

2.6 SIGNAGE

We are working closely with VicRoads to standardise safety, "Bike Route" signs and "Share the Road" signs, in accordance with the regulations. We will have some answers soon to our designs.

3. ...AND ALSO

There's lots more, but lets leave it at that. Feel free to submit more positive ideas. I will be away in Europe for 4 weeks, but others "will maintain the quest" while I'm gone. Feel free to contact any of the Committee members (media included!), the quality of people on it speaks for itself! *From little things, big things grow....*

Barton van Laar



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