



## April - September 2018 Newsletter

Hi TBUG members and supporters.

Once again, thanks for being patient about the massive time delay between newsletters! Over the past months I have been busy plus picking up more work around town and escaping the cold and visiting Cambodia. It is now Springtime and perhaps that dreadful wet season has finally left us. Many rides were cancelled this year due to deteriorating weather conditions. Wednesdays were usually WET! I hope you all survived the winter chill, the warmer weather and winds will soon arrive, so there may be plenty of time to get out and explore. Luckily, daylight saving is just around the corner and more riding opportunities will be available to you then. Some members escaped the winter blues and I hope to include several reports of their riding adventures in this newsletter.

If you attended the Big Bike event at the STAR THEATRE recently, you should still be wearing your tall bike smile. What a great turn out that was. Hopefully the Film Night will return to Launceston in the future. Please note the AGM is on Wednesday Sept 19<sup>th</sup> from 6pm, Food and drink supplied. Please come along and listen to our inspirational young speaker who will have just returned from representing AUS overseas. Welcome Home Sam Fox.

*Di McHenry (editor)*



Amsterdam bike parking (top); a German beach scene (middle); trains, bikes, buses. (bottom)



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

### A cold but busy TBUG winter

*By Malcolm Reid TBUG President*

Yes, the last few months have been cold and wet but we certainly have not been in hibernation.

On the advocacy front we have continued to participate in the City of Launceston Bike and Pedestrian committee. It's been good to see some of our long-term work come to fruition. This includes the long awaited pedestrian bridge and the gradual opening up of Northbank – or Riverbend Park. This precinct will make a big difference to Launceston and the success of the bridge reinforces our frequently used argument that “build it and they will come...”



I am confident too that our long-term work will see benefits for active transport with the Inveresk traffic upgrades due to be rolled out over the next few years. We also continue to push for close collaboration between council and UTAS with their move into the city. Some things take years as we all know but it looks like we will have improvement to the bikes storage at the Aquatic centre... finally!! As well as a street-based route through Mowbray to link up Remount Rd with the Rocherlea Trail. These should be completed before Christmas. More than two years have gone into this small project.

We have continued to do regular ABC slots as well as interviews for the Examiner and ABC Drive. TBUG has worked with Council to produce a series of bike promotion Facebook videos, and our own Facebook page has grown to over 750 likes. I have also met with some upcoming Council candidates, have put in a funding submission for bike Week 2019 and have made another submission regarding the Northern Suburbs support project – part of the City Deal with the federal government.

On the rides front our regular rides have continued throughout winter. Thanks to all the ride leaders. In addition, TBUG organised Peace Festival, Junction Tweed Rides and Spring Beginner rides. We also supported the highly successful North East Rail Trail Run and Ride. If you haven't ridden it yet make it a spring priority.... it's great! And as always, thanks to St Lukes and INTAS for their continuing financial support. See you at the AGM!



## RIDE REPORT

### An Overseas Adventure

*By Marie Spencer.*

Two Tbuggers Terry Sansom and Marie Spencer joined a group of about 40 other cyclists from all over Australia, Canada and the USA to cycle from Copenhagen to Paris in July 2018. The trip was timed to arrive in Paris on the eve of the finish of the Tour de France.

The event was fully supported by an extremely competent and accommodating crew who between them made the experience thoroughly enjoyable, informative and feasible. Initial concerns about navigation and capability of cycling the often 100-plus km distances quickly vanished thanks to the (mostly) foolproof system of arrows on the road and plenty of refueling stops.

The terrain was mercifully mostly flat with brilliant cycle paths or very quiet roads all the way to Paris. Denmark, the Netherlands, Germany and Belgium really do cater extremely well for cyclists. The different attitude of car drivers there compared with in Australia is also very striking. I think the fact that 80% of people ride bikes there some of the time is the key. Locals said it was faster and easier to cycle rather than drive a car in towns and cities - cheaper too. As well as ordinary bikes, ebikes were also quite popular, particularly with older riders. We have a long way to go on this!

For me, the highlights of the trip included cycling through gorgeous countryside, visiting ancient towns with remarkable architecture, culture and history, cycling beside tree lined canals, brilliant weather (one day of rain in the whole month) and the company of many interesting people. The excitement of Paris at the end of the Tour will be an enduring memory.

To get some idea of the event, check out the photos on the intro page.



## COMING EVENTS

Check out the website and Facebook for any late changes, additions or more rides. Click [here](#) for the link. If you are keen to do any rides, contact the person listed, and they will be able to tell you more or if the ride is cancelled for any reason. Check the ride quality and length using the [TBUG Ride grade chart](#) below, or on Website Calendar.

#### **Terrain Difficulty**

- 1 – flat
- 2 – gentle grades
- 3 – rolling hills
- 4 – mostly rolling hills, some steep climbs
- 5 – steep hills, long climbs

#### **Pace**

- A – leisurely (13-15kph)
- B – moderate (15-20kph)
- C – brisk to fast (20-25kph)
- D – workout (25+kph)

## UPCOMING RIDES

Mid week rides are planned for **Wednesdays**, so keep an eye out on Facebook and in your inbox. Marion will let you know. The start is usually either Carrick, Westbury or Longford. Note: if you are keen to attend then let the leader know, either by email or text, or by liking the ride on Facebook. This means you can be alerted if the ride is cancelled - sometimes we have nasty weather. And as we are making changes to our Facebook page, you might want to add your favourite rides or pictures. **Upcoming ride dates are:**

**Wednesday rides.** Contact Mick: 0418 131 211 or hlmstatham@gmail.com

Scheduled on. Sept.19th and 26th, Oct 3, 10th ,17th (ride2work) and 24th

Sunday, September 16 @ 9:15 am - 12:30 pm Bracknell – Blackwood Creek 3B 60K

- Meet at the Bracknell Hall. Ride a loop around country roads ending back at Bracknell for lunch if you would like it. Contact Helen: 0400 511 156 or hlmstatham@gmail.com
- More Sunday rides. Sept 16th, 23rd and 30th and in October 7th, 14th and 21st.

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**Saturday ride, September 15 at 9:30am.** Starting from Royal Park – this is a ride for those who want a shorter ride and a chance to gain confidence and improve their skills. This is a comfortable ride around Launceston Trails. Discover a different side of our town in good safe company with coffee afterwards...we can cover around 12K easily and safely. For further info check out the rides calendar at [www.tbug.org.au](http://www.tbug.org.au), [contactus@tbug.org.au](mailto:contactus@tbug.org.au), or ring Malcolm Reid on 0419 107 892.

**Thursday night trails around Launceston.** Rides begin again on 4th October from 5.45 at Royal Park. Start cycling at 6pm.

And don't forget the AGM on **Wednesday, September 19 from 6:00pm at the Newstead Tennis/Squash Centre.** We will start with Pizzas and drinks as usual with the formal meeting to start around 7:00pm. We finish around 9:15. Our guest this year is our very own Sam Fox...budding MTB world champion. Sam is currently at the world titles and we will hear all his stories when he gets back. You can RSVP to [contactus@tbug.org.au](mailto:contactus@tbug.org.au) but it's not crucial...just turn up!!!!

To save time at the AGM I have included a link so you can read the minutes from the last AGM and get this year's agenda. You will find both documents on this page <https://tamarbug.org.au/club-events/>. This enables us to assume minutes have been circulated and read and you are aware of the issues.

## COMMENT &c

### About keeping your dollars in Australia.

*By Dick Smith*

I have never been so angry!! Please watch my video (<https://player.vimeo.com/video/288285200>) where I expose foreign-owned multinationals for extorting millions of dollars from small, family businesses in Australian country towns, in the middle of a drought. In the video, I compare this "extortion" to the protection money paid by Kings Cross hotel owners to crime gangs in the 1950s. This is not voluntary. Our small country family businesses are forced to sign up to these foreign booking

websites, otherwise they will lose up to 50% of their business and be forced into bankruptcy. Please watch it now, and share with friends, family, and make it go viral!

## GREAT WEBSITES TO CHECK

1. Velocipede salon – forums etc. [www.velocipedsalon.com](http://www.velocipedsalon.com)
2. Bike Rumors – nerdy and new tech items. [Bikerumor.com](http://Bikerumor.com)
3. Cycling tips – Aussie Road culture. [Cyclingtips.com.au](http://Cyclingtips.com.au)
4. Big Ring Riding. Photos and more. [bigringriding.com](http://bigringriding.com)
5. The Bicycle Store. Images of cycling. [Bicyclestore.tumblr.com](http://Bicyclestore.tumblr.com)

## QUOTE OF THE NEWSLETTER:

*“Treat people the way you want to be treated. Talk to people the way you want to be talked to. Respect is earned not given.” Anon.*

## COOL BIKE PHOTOS



Street and harbour views from Copenhagen



## WHAT'S NEW? THINGS TO CHECK OUT

A bike that has a string instead of a chain. [www.stringbike.com/](http://www.stringbike.com/)

Check out inventions insider. [Insiderinventions/videos/9-inventions-to-excite-every-cyclist/1344940422308165/](http://Insiderinventions/videos/9-inventions-to-excite-every-cyclist/1344940422308165/) It features nine inventions that will excite the cyclist in your life. Parkis, bike rack. Geo orbital wheel, Pod ride, and more. And if you need a great phone mount for your bike, check out <https://getfinn.com/en/> for EUR18, it is a wonderful addition to your bike.



## E-Bike Buyer's Guide: Everything to Know in 2018

Without a doubt, the fastest growing segment of cycling here's everything you need to know about buying an e-bike in one handy guide.

[Learn More](#)



Click [here](#) for the link to the full article.



## WHAT'S ON

### LAUNCESTON

- Sustainability Expo. Albert Hall. Oct 13th.
- Sally's Ride. The 10th anniversary Sally's Ride is on again Sunday 18th November 2018. On-line entries are now open on the Sally's Ride web site. Go to: [www.sallysride.com.au](http://www.sallysride.com.au)
- [On Your Bike Tours](#) is a great way to know Launceston. Includes North, Esk and Tamar river areas. Friday and Sunday at 10am or 1.30pm. Includes a Tassie Taste platter. Adults \$60. Children 10-18 \$50. Phone Alison 0407 612 611.
- Wes Sulzberger our local Champion on a bike has begun a [new venture called En Route](#) and is offering bike touring and training options around our delightful state.
- If we are serious about increasing the number of people we want riding bikes then we need to be serious about funding the infrastructure – build it and they will come. Check [this link](#).

### HOBART

- For info on what's on in the south of the island, try [Cycling South](#). Look for newsletter # 139, the May newsletter also had some interesting information on folding bike helmets! Check it out.
- Work commences on Margate to Snug Trail. Kingborough Council has commenced work on a walking/cycling trail between Margate and Snug, starting from the Snug end. The surfaces of the path will be a mix of red gravel and asphalt sections, and will be mostly set away from the road.

The path will be carried out in sections progressing towards Margate, finishing at the Heritage Museum. The entire shared path is expected to be completed before Christmas, and sections may be open to the final part being finished

- Folding bike helmets. Bike Roar looks at what is on offer and whether they are safe or practical.

[More>>](#)

## MALAWI

Anyone keen to head to Malawi in May of 2019? Check out Malawi **Cycle and Sightseeing** or contact

**??????**

## GLOBAL

- [www.escapeadventuresnz.com](http://www.escapeadventuresnz.com) Includes Kenya and Tanzania, Madagascar, Colombia, Kyrgyzstan, China & Tibet, Cambodia and Fiji.
- [From.rome2rio.com](http://From.rome2rio.com). How to get where you want to go.
- Wayne & Margie offer some unusual tours and trip at [NoMints](#).
- [Bicycle Adventure Club](#) does what it says – all over the place!
- Chile, Dolomites, California – all in luxury on a bike at [TrekTours](#).
- Cycle Vietnam, Cambodia, Iran, Samoa and Laos – and change lives. [Check SocialCycles](#).
- Cycle Sulawesi, Bali and Flores [with CycleIndonesia](#).
- Six continents, 80 countries ready to receive your wheels. [Ask TDA Global](#).
- Lake Balaton, [Austria and Hungary](#). Brilliant Cycle Tours riding.
- Pedal Nation Tours, Vienna.

For **phone addicts**, some useful apps include TripIt, WillyWeather, EasyMed Medical, MapMyRide, Zwift, Relive.cc (brilliant!), Strava, CycleMaps, and for the nerd, BikeGearCalculator, Snap, Send and Solve.



## BUY, SELL & SWAP

- Wind trainers for indoor cycling use. Now only \$50. Ring John, 0416 310 722.
- Electric assist bikes. Now available 15% off at Cycology, York Street.
- Old bikes wanted to become works of art. Contact Anna at [fovey@intas.net.au](mailto:fovey@intas.net.au) if you have.

## DISCOUNTS

If you are a TBUG member get healthy discounts on products and services. Outlets include:

- **Cycle2...**
- **Geards**
- **AvantiPlus**
- **Sprung**
- **Mountain Designs**
- **Mountain Bike Tasmania**
- **Cycology**
- **Launceston Scout Shop**



## LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

- Search Tamar Bicycles Users Group or click [here](#)
- Encourage your friends and family to LIKE us too. It's a great way to get the latest updates and news from TBUG. We have hundreds of LIKES on the Facebook page. Add yours!

## THANKS TO

- Major sponsor St. Lukes Health
- Kerry Finch MLC for photocopying
- Foot and Playsted for printing
- INTAS for financial services
- Sarah Courtney for Bike Ed brochures.



## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- We would love to see you at our AGM. **Wednesday Sept 19<sup>th</sup>** At Newstead Tennis Centre on Olive Street, 6pm start. We share tea, and talk about all things bicycle.

## TAMAR BICYCLE USERS GROUP Inc.

- Postal: PO Box 5059, Launceston TAS 7250; [www.tbug.org.au](http://www.tbug.org.au)
- General Enquiries: [contact@tbug.org.au](mailto:contact@tbug.org.au)
- Newsletter items: [dianamchenry@netspace.net.au](mailto:dianamchenry@netspace.net.au)
- To unsubscribe: send a blank email to [newsletters-request@tbug.org.au](mailto:newsletters-request@tbug.org.au) with "UNSUBSCRIBE" as the subject (without quotes) and reply to the confirmation email.

