



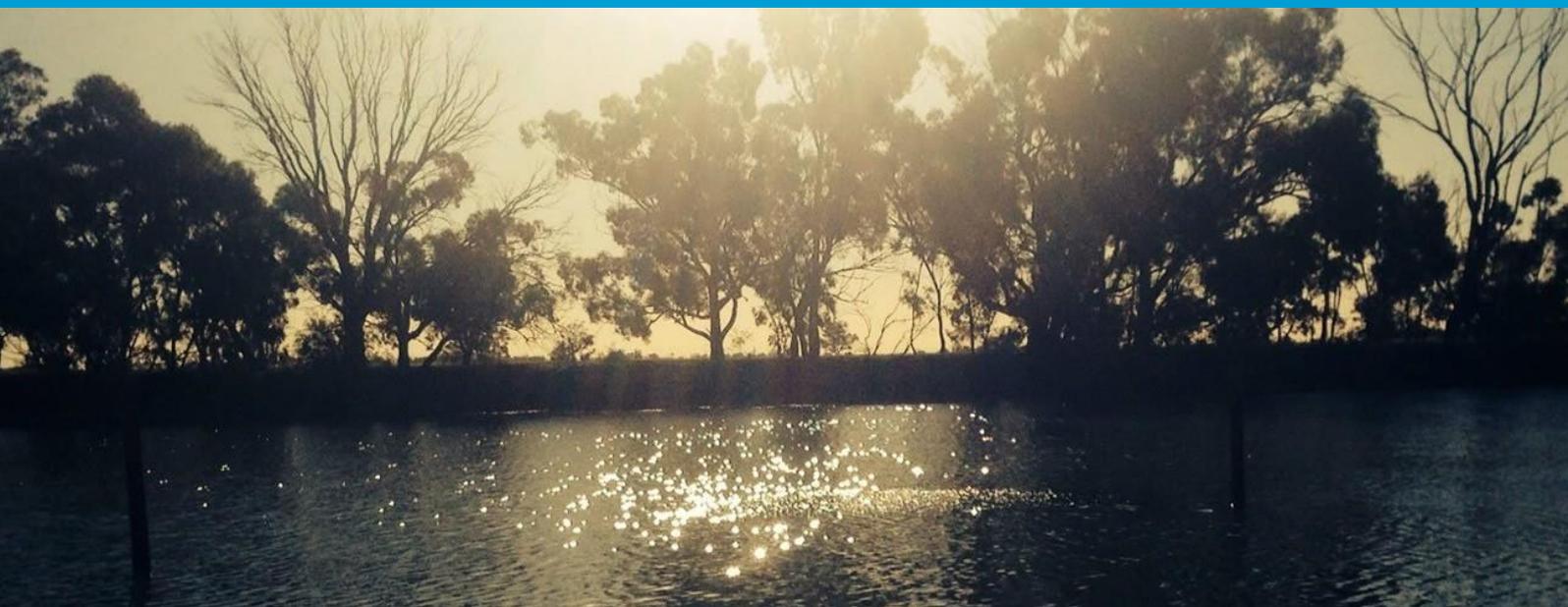
GREAT VIC BIKE RIDE

GREAT OUTDOORS
GREAT MATES
GREAT VIC

THE GOOD OIL

Brim – Sunday 29 November 2020

Today's riding: Rainbow to Brim – 58 kilometres



We had planned to ease into the first day of riding with a 58-kilometre flat ride from Rainbow to Brim, with the highlight of rolling past the original silo art mural in Brim. So, if you're planning a ride today, keep an eye for any public art in your neighbourhood along the way!

Check out [World Walking](#) to plan a replacement ride – see the route and daily ride distance and start planning some trips to fill that Great Vic hole.

WELCOME TO BRIM

Located between Warracknabeal and Hopetoun on the banks of the Yarriambiack Creek, Brim takes its name from the Aboriginal word for "spring".

The Yarriambiack Creek will bring you back to nature and is an ideal spot for a swim after a ride in the warm sun.

9 kilometers north of Brim on the Henty Highway is the Netting Fence, constructed in 1885 to stop rabbits invading the Mallee from the south and to keep the dingos to the north. The fence is also the division between the Wimmera and the Mallee regions.

IN THE NEWS

[Cycleways down the centre of popular Sydney streets](#)

Sydney continues to utilize pop-up cycleways to plug gaps in their network, announcing three new pilot lanes on Oxford Street, Liverpool Street and College Street. [Read more.](#)

[Bike wheel that filters air](#)

Not only do bikes not spew muck into the air we breath, a new wheel design from London could mean that in the future they also suck the muck out of the air. [Read more.](#)

BRIM'S BIG BIKE QUIZ

Answers on page 2

1. Australia's Richie Port finished third in this year's Tour de France behind two riders from which country?
2. What town did the first Great Vic Bike Ride in 1984 start from?
3. Which races make up the Grand Tours?
4. What year did the first Australians ride the Tour de France?
5. Which Spanish city did the 1992 Tour De France start from?
6. Who was Australia's flag bearer at the 2016 Rio Olympics?
7. World Bicycle Day is held on what date?



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A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CATERING VOLUNTEER ON THE GREAT VIC

5:00am – 5:30am: Good morning! Time to wake up and get ready to start your morning breakfast shift. Now is also the time to pack up your belongings ready to move to the next campsite.

5:45am: The breakfast shift starts. You'll arrive at the catering marquee ready to start serving breakfast to riders, volunteers and the event team from 6am. All catering volunteers will work the breakfast and dinner shift each day and will be given a rest day during the event.

Before you arrive in the morning, the early breakfast team will have already set up the service area for you! This is a small team of 6 people and they usually start at 4:30am to prepare everything for service, so all you need to do is be ready to serve until around 8:00am.



Serving breakfast at the Great Vic.

8:00am – 8:30am: Breakfast service ends. By now most riders will be out on the road. It's now time to clean up and pack down the equipment ready to be transported to the next campsite.

9am – 10am: Time to head to the next campsite! Most catering volunteers will travel on a coach that departs at approximately 9am. Your luggage will travel with you on the coach.

When we arrive at the next site, there may be some downtime – most services are geared to be running in the afternoon and evening when the riders get in. The marquees will still be going up, and there will be trucks and people going everywhere to get the site ready. The best thing to do is to set up your tent, kick back and keep an eye out for lunch – which is usually delivered to the volunteer area.

12:00pm: The campsite is open to riders. Watch whilst the riders flood into the site and attempt to claim the best camping spot!

During the early afternoon you will have some free time to do what you wish. There is always plenty to do, such as visiting the local attractions, joining in on the afternoon's entertainment, watching the riders pass the finish line or simply relaxing at the campsite.

3:00 – 3:30PM: The early breakfast team will return to the catering marquee to set up the service area in preparation for dinner. This team will not serve at dinner time.

4:30PM: The dinner shift starts. It will start with a team meeting where you will learn more about what's on the menu for the evening, observe a serving demonstration and be allocated your role for the evening. Riding volunteers will join the catering team each evening to assist with dinner service.

5:00PM: Dinner service begins! Be ready to serve riders until about 7.30pm. Everyone will be given a meal break.

7:30PM: Dinner service ends. Now it's time to clean up the service area and reset the tables ready for breakfast in the morning.

8:30PM: Time to finish up for night! The rest of the evening is yours to enjoy as you wish whether it be enjoying the evening's entertainment or settling in for an early night. There is always plenty to get involved with in the evenings including live music, pub trivia, talent quests – even an outdoor cinema!

10:00PM: Lights out on campsite. Time to rest up for another big day tomorrow. Good night!

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VOLUNTEER PROFILE – BOBBY

We're shining some light on our amazing volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to bring our most popular events, like the Great Vic Bike Ride, to life. Today we're having a chat with a famous Great Vic volunteer, Bobby!

What motivated you to start volunteering on the Great Vic Bike Ride?

I saw a video on YouTube about the Great Vic Bike Ride and saw the logistics involved and I said man, I have to be part of this.

Tell us a bit about your role on the riding marshal team

We are a group of riding volunteers and we do the whole ride for FREE! We leave camp in the early hours and station at points on the route between the old and new camp. Our role is to guide riders home. Most of us trained to do first aid, we give riders drink and lollies and inform riders about rest areas, lunch spots and hazard on the road. We also help riders with light mechanical issues as well as calling event assistance. We all love this role, that's why it's hard to get a free slot!

What is your favourite thing about volunteering?

Meet all the volunteers, we become like one family and we look forward to catching up every year, as well discovering all the new places around Victoria, it's a magnificent holiday in slow motion.

What is your most memorable moment of volunteering on the Great Vic?

Once we cycled from Halls Gap to Geelong and we camped next to the Twelve Apostles, after I finished my shift I ended up leading a few school groups up a steep hill and telling them if the old hairy legs can go up the hill, sure you can do it!

What advice would you give to someone thinking about volunteering?

Don't worry, you will be spoiled while you are volunteering, you get your three meals and you will have the best time of your life. You will never regret it.



Riding volunteer Bobby at a Great Vic campsite.



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SCHOOLS PROFILE – NEIL MCLEAN, FITZROY HIGH SCHOOL

What do you teach at Fitzroy High School?

I am mainly a maths teacher, but also teach humanities and a bit of sport.

How many years have you been involved with Great Vic?

Our school's first Great Vic was 2012 through beautiful Gippsland, I've been involved every year in some capacity since. I'm devastated that the run ends this year but am really looking forward to getting back in the saddle next year. I feel really bad for our students that have gone every year since Year 7 – we have a special award for those that ride in all six years, the Harrison Carr Award. It makes me a bit sad that there won't be a recipient for many years to come.

Why do you take a school group on the Great Vic every year?

I started the Great Vic at our school because it is during school term so I knew I'd never be able to go unless it was an excursion, so I organised a group of 20 of us to have the ride of our lifetime!

After that, we all just got hooked, the community grew and grew. Parents of students kept coming back each year and are now a wonderful social group themselves. Seeing the growth in students from being barely able to finish each day in years 7 and 8, to dominating in years 9 and 10 to helping the whole group in years 11 and 12 is an amazing transition to be a part of. Now, it is an institution at our school with our beautiful jerseys and pictures proudly framed on the walls in the corridors.



Fitzroy High School riders after topping Lavers Hill.



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What is your all-time favourite route?

This is like choosing between your children! I will say that the High Country from Bright was a strong contender, but I am a sucker for the Great Ocean Road. The views, the communities we pass through and the deceptively hilly nature of the ride does me every three years when we go.

Can you share a highlight from all your years involved in the Great Vic?

The number of highlights grows each year but here are a few:

- Having dinner as a whole group on the last night of our first Great Vic discussing the plan for the next day of how to cross the line together was pretty amazing.
- On a super long day in the saddle that started at 7am and finished at 5:30pm in Apollo Bay, me and a few other students were battling for more than 100km. As we approached town, a couple of riders in our team jerseys start coming up the hill - they started to ride the course in reverse to see if we needed any help! That's when I knew that they got what the Great Vic spirit is all about.
- Seeing how our kids and parents reacted to meeting and riding with Simon Clarke. Such a genuinely kind person that took the time to support the community

I could go on for days but maybe we'll leave it there.

What are you looking forward to on next year's Great Vic 2021?

Being with the community again - not just our school's community but all the other schools involved as well as the wider public. The energy is so positive and supportive. I also want to keep churning out more amazing cyclists who realise that two wheels is plenty to get you around :).

STAY AT HOME CINEMA

The Great Vic has an outdoor cinema at each campsite that shows movies to the masses. In each issue of the Good Oil we will list the movies we would have shown at this year's Great Vic so you can still make a mug of milo, kick back and watch.

Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them (2016, Netflix)

The adventures of writer Newt Scamander in New York's secret community of witches and wizards seventy years before Harry Potter reads his book in school. *Starring: Eddie Redmayne, Katherine Waterston, Alison Sudol*

It's Complicated (2009, Netflix)

Ten years after their divorce, Jane and Jake unite for their son's college graduation and unexpectedly end up sleeping together. *Starring: Meryl Streep, Steve Martin, Alec Baldwin*