

MURRAY AND MOUNTAINS – INFO GUIDE

18th - 24th April 2027

Thanks for your interest in the Bike for Bibles 'Murray and Mountains' Tour, a fantastic 6 days of enjoyable road cycling through historic and high country around Albury NSW and Bright VIC and hanging out with a nice bunch of like-minded souls.

The main objective is to raise at least \$40,000 for the Bible Society's Literacy work in Colombia, so every participant is encouraged to drum up as much personal sponsorship as possible to help us reach that target.

Below you can find lots of information about the event to help you decide and prepare, but feel free to contact any of us if you have any more questions. We look forward to riding with you!

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William Hood **0418 479 781**
Catering whood@whood.org

EVENT DATES

Arrival Sunday 18th April– we'll kick off with 6:30pm dinner and a briefing session.

6 days of riding from Monday 19th to Saturday 24th April (long weekend, finishing early afternoon).

EVENT BASE

Our home base is Albury Presbyterian Church at 402 Wagga Road Lavington, located 5km NE of central Albury.

It provides us with sleeping spaces, showers, secure bike storage and off-street parking. It's also where all home-based meals are served (except some eat-out dinners) and where our nightly briefing sessions are held.

Note that alcohol is not to be consumed anywhere on the Church premises.

There are no laundry facilities but we provide everything for hand-washing clothes.

RIDES

The schedules below summarise the 6 days of planned routes for the A-Team and B-Team. All rides are on sealed roads, and while the terrain overall is flat to moderately hilly we'll incur a fair amount of climbing on some days.

Except for Thursday, we'll start and finish at the Church. On Thursday we'll transport everyone to Bright and back for a special day of High Country cycling!

There will be two teams catering for different ability levels to ride either the long or short distance and each team will be split into two to have a faster and slower group:

- The A Team will cover 100-130kms each day, with the faster group averaging 28+/-kph and the slower group averaging 23+/-kph. Total distance around 700kms over 6 days.
- The B Team will cover 70-110kms each day, with the faster group averaging 25+/-kph and the slower group averaging 20+/-kph. Total distance around 550kms over 6 days.

Each day you can choose a group to reflect your fitness and confidence. The teams generally meet up at the meal stops, which also lets you change up or down if needed on the day. And if riding 6 days in a row proves too much for you then you can just take a rest day and join a support vehicle.

We mostly ride together in packs (we'll teach you if you're new to riding in formation), and we have a no-drop policy. We stop every 30-45kms for morning tea and lunch.

Every group will have a leader as well as a support vehicle behind (or at call as needed). The support vehicle will carry a floor pump, water, fruit and snacks, as well as your “Day Bag” – for anything you may need on the ride (eg raincoat, extra clothing, spare parts). It can also transport you and your bike if you need to abort for any mechanical or personal reason.

COSTS FOR RIDERS AND ROADIES

\$400 On-road Costs (includes jersey), or \$60 per day (+\$40 for jersey) if you can only join us for part of the event. Payable at time of registration (refundable if the event is cancelled or you need to pull out).

No extra cost for any family members joining you (except when we dine out).

INSURANCE

All riders are required to have their own cycling insurance cover and to provide their details during registration. Insurance is typically included with membership of National or State-based bicycle organisations (eg Bicycle NSW, Bicycle Queensland, Bicycle Network).

FUNDRAISING

We are aiming to raise \$40,000 to support Literacy Development in Colombia. You are encouraged to fundraise as best you reasonably can to help us reach that goal. Donations are tax-deductible.

When you register you will be given a link to your own online fundraising page, ready for you to personalise and to share with your family, friends and colleagues.

EVENT FEE INCLUSIONS

- Accommodation at the Church.
- All meals from Sunday dinner to Saturday lunch (including Church-based, on-road and when we dine out). Please contact William for any dietary requirements.
- All non-alcoholic drinks EXCEPT on-road purchases (eg coffees) and when we dine out.
- On-road booster snacks and fruit (but you need to BYO any special energy snacks or drinks).
- Daily Yoga sessions to warm up before each ride and to wind down afterwards.

ACCOMMODATION

The Church building has various spaces for sleeping. To provide adequate privacy we will have separate areas for women and men. You need to bring your own bedding (mattress or air bed, blanket, pillow, linen) and towels.

There is the option for you to stay in your own caravan or campervan on the Church parking lot (not suitable for tents). You could also book your own off-site accommodation at your own expense. Please contact Chris for details on these alternatives.

REGISTRATION

You can register online at [HTTP://BIBLESOCIETY.ORG.AU/ALBURY27](http://BIBLESOCIETY.ORG.AU/ALBURY27)

Registrations close on 28th February, or earlier if we reach capacity – so don't wait too long.

Riders under 18 years of age are welcome if capable to ride the distances, but they should be accompanied by a responsible adult throughout the event.

WHATSAPP GROUP

Once registered, we will add you to our ‘Murray and Mountains’ WhatsApp group – so please make sure that you have WhatsApp installed on your mobile phone. We will be using this WhatsApp group extensively leading up to and during the event to keep everyone in close touch with all the latest news and any last-minute changes.

JERSEYS

A Bike for Bibles jersey is included in the full registration (or for \$40 if you're only registering for some days). If you already own another jersey from a previous Bike for Bibles ride feel free to alternate through the week.

A TYPICAL DAY

6 am

Rise (Helpers always wanted to set up for brekkie).

6:30 am

Breakfast together.

Ride start

7-7:30 am.

Optional Yoga session.

Ride end

1 pm - Mid Afternoon.

Showers.

Afternoon

Free time to recover, relax, fix the bike, go for coffee or shopping, explore.

Optional Yoga session.

6:30 pm

Dinner together at the Church or local venue.

8 - 9 pm

Nightly session at the Church. Review the day gone and the next day. Brief sharing and devotional time.

9 - 10 pm

More relaxing. Lights out at 10 pm.

YOUR BIKE

- Most riders use a road bike, but other bikes (eg gravel, recumbent, tandem or e-bike) can also be used provided you can maintain the group's speed (please no heavy mountain bikes).
- Make sure your bike has been fully serviced recently and is in good condition (eg tyres).
- Your bike must have front and rear lights that you turn on for every ride – this is a safety requirement to maximise each group's visibility on the roads.
- You need to bring spare tubes and tyres to have on hand. There are bike shops nearby for other emergency parts and repairs. Note that we are not providing a dedicated bike mechanic and we do not carry spare parts for others.

YOUR FITNESS

Riding around 100kms through at-times hilly terrain for 6 days in a row will stretch most recreational cyclists, so you'll want to do some significant training leading up to the event! If you come unprepared you'll struggle to keep up and your body will complain (not to mention your teammates).

In the 6 weeks before (ie. starting late February) you should aim to gradually increase both the number and length of your weekly rides and to include hilly sections. Aim to finish with a couple of 80-100km rides, ideally on consecutive days.

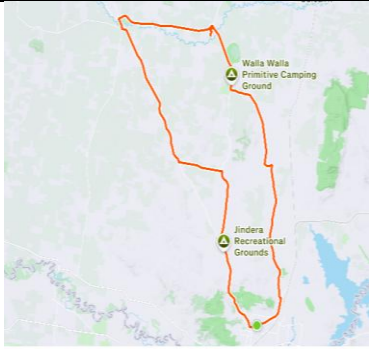
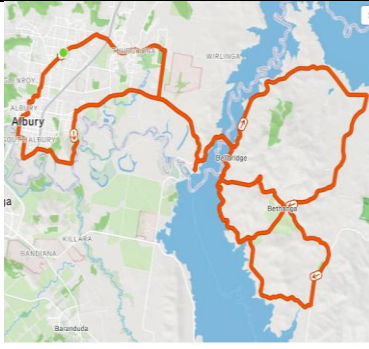
WHAT TO BRING

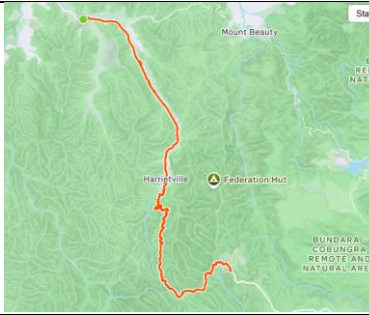
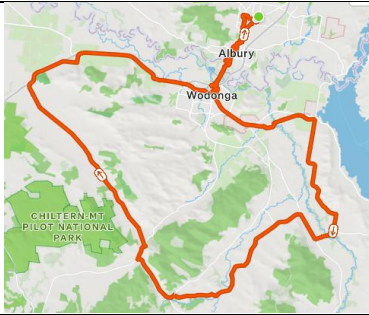
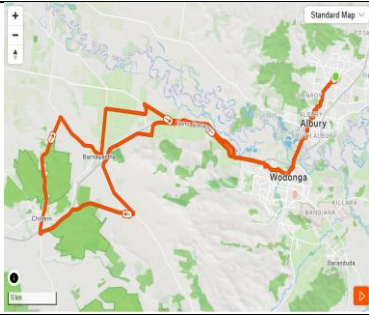
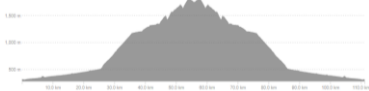
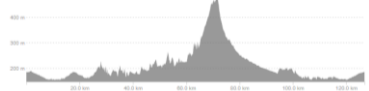
- Bike
- Spare parts
- Lights
- 'Bike for Bibles' Jersey and other Jerseys
- Knicks
- Cycling helmet, shoes, socks, gloves & sunnies
- Rain & Wind jackets
- Bedding (we have pumps for air beds)
- Respectable and conservative sleepwear
- Toiletries
- Towel
- Sunscreen & hat
- Regular clothing

And don't forget the Chamois Cream for your butt!!!

BIKE FOR BIBLES – MURRAY AND MOUNTAINS (APRIL 2027)

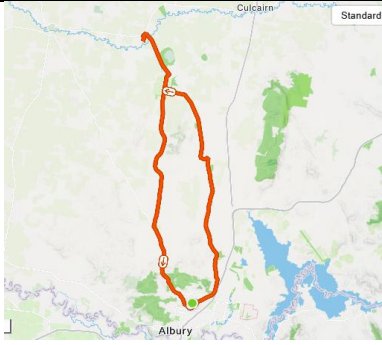
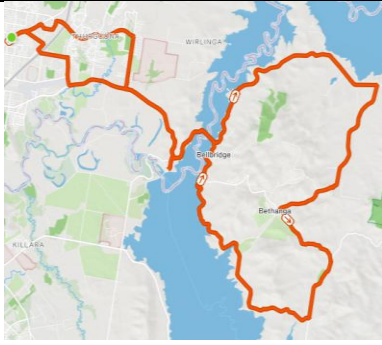
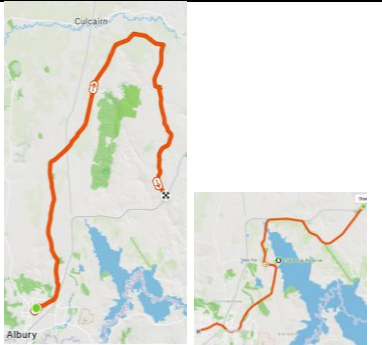
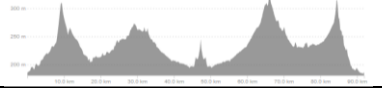
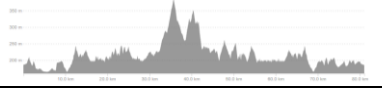
ROUTES – A-TEAM (Totals: Length 700 kms, Rise 6500 m)

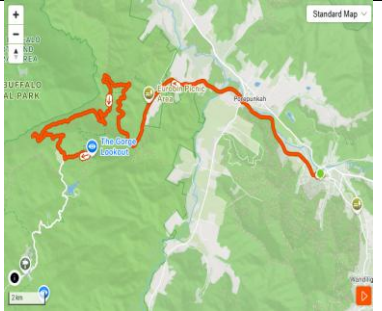
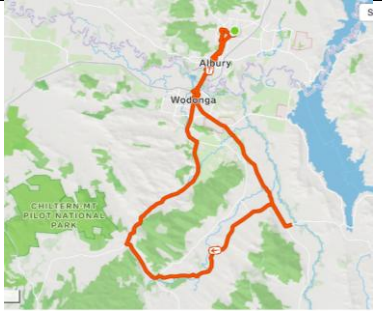
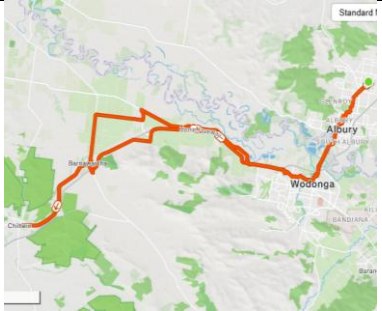
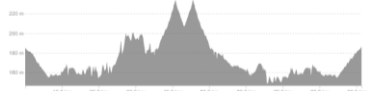
DAY	MONDAY 19TH	TUESDAY 20TH	WEDNESDAY 21ST
NAME	Bushranger Ride	Going Hilly	Hume & Hovell
ROUTE	Morgan's Lookout	Bethanga Hills	Tabletop Mountain (Yambla Range)
			
DIRECTION	Anti-clockwise	Clockwise	Clockwise
LEVELS			
LENGTH	114 kms	107 kms	114 kms
RISE	664 m	1612 m	663 m
SECTIONS	47 kms/ 54 kms/ 13 kms	40 kms/ 41 kms/ 26 kms	27 kms/ 51 kms/ 36 kms
M'TEA	Morgan's Lookout	Bethanga	Gerogery
LUNCH	Jindera	Lake Hume Village (Dam Wall)	Mullengandra

DAY	THURSDAY 22ND	FRIDAY 23RD	SATURDAY 24TH
NAME	Amazing Bright	VIC Village Velo	Historic Chiltern
ROUTE	Bright - Mt Hotham (or Mt Buffalo and Rail Trails)	Yackandandah	Chiltern
			
DIRECTION	Out & Back	Clockwise	Clockwise
LEVELS			
LENGTH	111 kms	127 kms	104 kms
RISE	2000 m	1091 m	435 m
SECTIONS	56 kms / 56 kms	42 kms/ 23 kms/ 62 kms	50 kms/ 42 kms/ 12 kms
M'TEA	Bright	Kiewa	Chiltern
LUNCH	Mt Hotham (???)	Yackandandah	Wodonga - Gum Tree Pies

BIKE FOR BIBLES – MURRAY AND MOUNTAINS (APRIL 2027)

ROUTES – B-TEAM (Totals: Length 550 kms, Rise 5100 m)

DAY	MONDAY 19TH	TUESDAY 20TH	WEDNESDAY 21ST
NAME	Bushranger Ride	Going Hilly	Hume & Hovell
ROUTE	Morgan's Lookout	Bethanga Hills	Tabletop Mountain (Yambla Range)
			
DIRECTION	Anti-clockwise	Clockwise	Clockwise
LEVELS			
LENGTH	92 kms	81 kms	114 kms
RISE	555 m	1263 m	663 m
SECTIONS	47 kms/ 32 kms/ 13 kms	39 kms/ 26 kms/ 16 kms	27 kms/ 51 kms/ 36 kms
M'TEA	Morgan's Lookout	Bethanga	Gerogery
LUNCH	Jindera	Lake Hume Village (Dam Wall)	Mullengandra

DAY	THURSDAY 22ND	FRIDAY 23RD	SATURDAY 24TH
NAME	Amazing Bright	VIC Village Velo	Historic Chiltern
ROUTE	Bright - Mt Buffalo and Rail Trails	Yackandandah	Chiltern
			
DIRECTION	Out & Back	Clockwise	Clockwise
LEVELS			
LENGTH	65 kms (plus Rail Trail extras)	96 kms	91 kms
RISE	1328 m	902 m	351 m
SECTIONS	33 kms / 32+ kms	34 kms/ 23 kms/ 39 kms	43 kms/ 36 kms/ 12 kms
M'TEA	Bright	Kiewa	Chiltern
LUNCH	Mt Buffalo (???)	Yackandandah	Wodonga - Gum Tree Pies