

CANBERRA CHALLENGE – INFO GUIDE

7th - 11th October 2025

Thanks for your interest in the 'Bike for Bibles – Canberra Challenge' cycling event, a fantastic 5 days of enjoyable road riding around beautiful Canberra region 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 Mozambique, 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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EVENT DATES

Arrival Monday 6th October (long weekend) – we'll kick off with 6:30pm dinner and a briefing session.

5 days of riding from Tuesday 7th to Saturday 11th October (finishing with a late lunch).

EVENT BASE

Our home base is Vision Church at 1 Lithgow Street Fyshwick, centrally located at just 4km SE of Lake Burley Griffin.

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 schedule below summarises the 5 days of planned routes for the A-Team. The B-Team will generally follow those same routes but there are Cutback Options shown for each day to shorten the distances and cut out the more challenging hill climbs. All rides are on-road and will start and finish at the Church.

We will have two teams to cater for different levels of ability and, depending on numbers on the day, we will split each team into a faster group and a slower group:

- The A Team will cover 120+kms most days, with the faster group averaging 28+/-kph and the slower group averaging 23+/-kph. Total distance around 560 kms over 5 days.
- The B Team will cover 70-100kms each day, with the faster group averaging 25+/-kph and the slower group averaging 20+/-kph. Total distance at least 400kms over 5 days.

Each day you can choose a group to reflect your fitness and confidence. Some days the teams meet up at the meal stops, which also lets you change up or down if needed. And if riding 5 days in a row proves too much for you then you can just take a rest day.

While the terrain overall is moderately hilly, we'll incur a fair amount of climbing on some days. Riding is on sealed roads, and we'll also make use of Canberra's extensive network of dedicated bike paths where practical.

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 35-45kms 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

\$350 On-road Costs, or \$70 per day 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).

FUNDRAISING

We are aiming to raise \$40,000 to support Literacy Development in Mozambique. 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 Monday 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 a limited opportunity for some people to use their own caravan or campervan on site. 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/ACT25](http://BIBLESOCIETY.ORG.AU/ACT25)

Registrations close on 30th September, 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.

Once registered, we will add you to our 'Canberra Challenge' 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

All riders are encouraged to wear a Bike for Bibles jersey. If you don't yet own one from a previous Bike for Bibles ride then you can order one after your registration – order details will be sent to all riders when available.

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

Lunch on the road or back at the Church.

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 club.

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 hybrids or e-bikes) 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 three bike shops near the Church in Fyshwick 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.


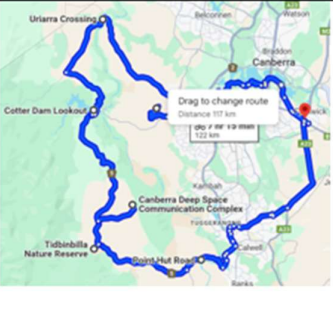

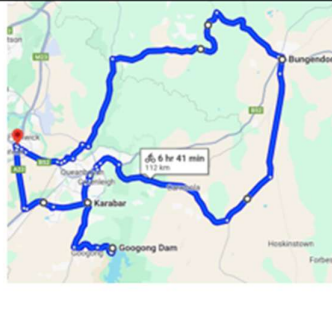






WHAT TO BRING

- 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 – CANBERRA CHALLENGE (OCTOBER 2025)

A-TEAM ROUTES (Totals: Length 563 kms, Rise 5,580 m)

DAY	TUESDAY 7TH	WEDNESDAY 8TH	THURSDAY 9TH	FRIDAY 10TH	SATURDAY 11TH
NAME	Northern Country	Western Ranges	Hills around the Lake	NSW Excursion	Southern Agony
ROUTE	Sutton, Lake George LO, Gundaroo, Nanima	Tidbinbilla, Cotter Dam, Uriarra Crossing, Mt Stromlo	Mt Majura, Mt Pleasant, Mt Ainslie, Black Mt, Dairy Farmers Hill, Red Hill	Bungendore, Googong Dam	Tharwa, Mt Tennent, Fitz's Hill, Orroral Campground
					
DIRECTION	Anti-clockwise	Anti-clockwise	Anti-clockwise	Clockwise	Out & Back
LEVELS	↑ 733 m · ↓ 731 m 	↑ 1,269 m · ↓ 1,268 m 	↑ 1,298 m · ↓ 1,299 m 	↑ 1,209 m · ↓ 1,208 m 	↑ 1,071 m · ↓ 1,069 m 
LENGTH	133 kms	122 kms	91 kms	112 kms	105 kms
RISE(Google)	733 m	1,269 m	1,298 m	1,209 m	1,071 m
SECTIONS	25 kms / 42 kms / 66 kms	59 kms / 25 kms / 38 kms	46 kms / 45 kms	41 kms / 38 kms / 33 kms	31 kms / 37 kms / 37 kms
M'TEA	Sutton Bakery (or Sutton Park)	Cotter Dam Lookout	King's Park	Bungendore Park	Tharwa (Bridge)
LUNCH	Gundaroo Park	Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve	Back at Church	Karabar (Barracks Flat Park)	Tharwa (Namadgi Visitor Ctr)
NOTES			Group photos at Mt Ainslie LO		
B-TEAM CUTBACK OPTIONS	Avoid Lake George Lookout (save 12 kms) Return via Gungahlin & M23 (save 21 kms)	* Avoid Mt Stromlo (save 8 kms & 150 m rise) * Avoid Uriarra Crossing (save 26 kms & 350 m rise) * Avoid Deep Space (save 8 kms & 150 m rise)	* Avoid Mt Majura (save 24 kms & 330 m rise) * Avoid Black Mountain (save 9 kms & 230 m rise) * Avoid Red Hill (save 8 kms & 160 m rise)	* Avoid Googong Dam (save 20 kms)	Turn back early at: * Tharwa (save 38 kms), or * Apollo Rd (save 20 kms), or * Fitz's Hill (save 11 kms)