

## Hello All

Have just about recovered from the journey that was the BMC Mountains To Beach. A week in NZ helped including riding in the Kona Colville Marathon and enjoying the trails at Rotorua.

Over the next couple of months we're looking forward to upgrading the hire bikes at Ye Olde Bicycle Shoppe, including some top end demo bikes from BMC, Ellsworth and Ibis. We're also running a few tours and skills courses - see below for details.

## BMC MOUNTAINS TO BEACH



What a fantastic week was had at the inaugural BMC Mountains To Beach from 1-6 March 2009. Of the 171 riders registered, 2 didn't start, and although 16 officially didn't finish, many of them rode the whole race distance. All agreed that the journey was spectacular and the variety of terrain more than made up for any pain suffered on the hills. We are a little concerned at news of the winner of the BMC bike choosing to take his prize as a road bike though ...

Full results and Wrap Up are on the website at [www.wildhorizons.com.au/mountaintobeach/BMC\\_MTB/RESULTS\\_A\\_ND\\_REPORTS.html](http://www.wildhorizons.com.au/mountaintobeach/BMC_MTB/RESULTS_A_ND_REPORTS.html), and check out the selection of amazing photos by Dave Bateman and Mark Watson in the Race Photos section.

Thanks to all those who helped make the BMC Mountains To Beach a success; thanks to our headline sponsor BMC, and major sponsors Ground Effect, Ay Up, Hayes, Manitou, Verofit and Berghaus. Thanks also to our host partners Thredbo, Novotel Lake Crackenback Resort, Perisher Blue, National Parks & Wildlife Service, Buckenderra Resort, Cooma-Monaro Shire Council, Eurobodalla Shire Council.

Check out the next issues of Mountain Biking Australia, Australian Mountain Bike, and Enduro for articles on the event. Also, Pedal Pushers Online will be running a story on the event in the near future - see [www.pedalpushersonline.com](http://www.pedalpushersonline.com)

Put **28 February - 5 March 2010** in your diary for next year's BMC MTB, and entries are planned to open in mid winter.

## DEMO BIKE LAUNCH - YE OLDE BICYCLE SHOPPE

From next week onwards we'll be starting our high end demo programme at Ye Olde Bicycle Shoppe in Bundanoon. The bikes we'll be stocking from next week are:

### Mountain Bikes

- BMC Team Elite 03
- BMC Team Elite 04
- Ellsworth Epiphany

### Road Bikes

- BMC Road Racer
- BMC Racemaster

Further information on the bikes, including hire rates, is on the website at [www.wildhorizons.com.au/shoppe/Ye\\_Olde\\_Bicycle\\_Shoppe/Hire.html](http://www.wildhorizons.com.au/shoppe/Ye_Olde_Bicycle_Shoppe/Hire.html). How the demo program works is that should you wish to purchase a bike after testing it, we issue you with a certificate of hire to take to a participating dealer and they will refund the value of the bike hire against the bike purchase price.

We're also having an official launch of the Demo Bike programme on **10 May** here in the Highlands. On this day we'll have BMC Trailfox, Fourstroke, Shiver, Team Elite, Ellsworth Epiphany, Ibis Mojo, all available to test completely free of charge! Places are limited and if you're keen to be involved, please fill out the form at [http://www.wildhorizons.com.au/forms/bike\\_demo\\_rego.html](http://www.wildhorizons.com.au/forms/bike_demo_rego.html)

## AY UP LIGHTS FOR HIRE



We have some sets of the fantastic Ay Up Lighting Systems MTB kits for hire. These lights use CREE XLamp High Powered LEDs and the kit includes two lightsets, 12 hours minimum battery life, Dual charger, and of course a helmet and bar mount. Check them out in detail at [www.ayup.com.au](http://www.ayup.com.au). To hire a set of the lights contact Fi on [fiona@wildhorizons.com.au](mailto:fiona@wildhorizons.com.au) Tel 02 4883 6509.

## THE 2009 HIGHLAND FLING - THE AUSTRALIAN MTB MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS



Entries are planned to open for this year's event on 15 June. Make a note in your diary!



## WINGELLO MTB TRAILS - WORKING BEES



Come and help the Highlands Trail Fairies maintain the network of singletrack in Wingello State Forest! Over the next six months they'll be holding working bees on the first Saturday of each month, dates as follows:

**Saturdays 4 April, 2 May, 6 June, 4 July, 1 August, 5 September.**

See [www.wildhorizons.com.au/trails/](http://www.wildhorizons.com.au/trails/) for all the info.

## SYDNEY CATCHMENT AUTHORITY CYCLING ACCESS - AN UPDATE

It looks as if finally the work to obtain some cycling access to the lands managed by the SCA is bearing fruit. The SCA manage, in conjunction with the National Parks and Wildlife Service, huge tracts of land in the Sydney area. A number of us have been working with the NSW Government to obtain some access for cyclists to these areas. The SCA, under instruction from the Minister, have identified a number of routes in the Blue Mountains and Kanangra Boyd NP's. Some of these routes will be opened relatively soon whilst others will go through a period of public consultation. We'll let you know when this occurs as it will be helpful for cyclists to make submissions in support of the routes.

## UPCOMING WILD HORIZONS EVENTS

### Wingello MTB Skills Clinic - Saturday 25 April

Places for the MTB Skills Day at Wingello on Saturday 25 April are filling fast. It's open to all who want to learn the basic skills and improve existing ones. You will be shown techniques which will enable you to ride more confidently, efficiently, and tackle new terrain. For more info and to book, please see [www.wildhorizons.com.au/tours/skillsclinic.html](http://www.wildhorizons.com.au/tours/skillsclinic.html).

### Fling in the Vines - Sunday 26 April

Join us for a leisurely 25km mountain bike wine tour. Fling in the Vines starts with morning tea at Tertini Wines' cellar door, near the historic Southern Highlands village of Berrima. We'll ride along a combination of country roads and farm tracks, taking in the beautiful scenery and rolling countryside to visit cellar doors and wineries of the area. For more info and to book, please see [www.wildhorizons.com.au/tours/flingvine.html](http://www.wildhorizons.com.au/tours/flingvine.html)

### Womens MTB Skills Clinic - Saturday 20 June

This mountain bike skills clinic is open to all women who want to learn the basic skills and improve existing ones. You will be shown techniques which will enable you to ride more confidently, efficiently, and tackle new terrain. Both novice (with some off-road experience) and intermediate riders are welcome. For more info and to book, please see [www.wildhorizons.com.au/tours/skillsclinic.html#2](http://www.wildhorizons.com.au/tours/skillsclinic.html#2)

### New Enduro Event

Keep the weekend of 22/23 August free so you can be at our new enduro event in the Southern Highlands of NSW. More details to be announced soon!

## OTHER EVENTS

### Cranks Bikes MTBO SuperSeries

The 2009 MTBO SuperSeries kicked off on 14/15 March with a two day event at Sunny Corner. Upcoming dates are SS3 at Wingello on 18 April and SS4 at Belangalo on 19 April. See [www.mountaindevils.nsw.orienteering.socialfx.net/events/](http://www.mountaindevils.nsw.orienteering.socialfx.net/events/) for more info.

### Gear Up Girl Grape Tour - 16-17 May 2009

Bike riding, wine tasting, relaxing and chatting with friends in a picturesque surrounding ... a great way to spend a May weekend in the beautiful Southern Highlands for the Gear Up Girl Grape Tour. Get your girlfriends together for a fun weekend away. See [www.gearupgirl.com.au](http://www.gearupgirl.com.au) for more info.

Cheers..... Huw, Fi, Wendy, Wayne, Kaz  
and all the Wild Horizons team