

# TEAM MT BEAUTY ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

## 2015-2020

In consultation with our membership, in 2015 Team Mt Beauty developed a 5-year plan which highlighted three priority areas for the club to focus on:

1. Building infrastructure to improve the trailhead area
2. Building human capital to encourage more people to get involved in TMB activities and volunteer at our events
3. Building and maintaining the trail network, including improved signage

An ongoing focus for TMB is:

4. Events

Below is the extensive list of TMB’s activities and achievements from 2015 to 2020 for each of these areas.

### 1. ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

NATURAL ASSETS	
2017	Undertook a major clean-up around the trailhead and paddock area of the lower mountain bike park. This was led by Joel Panozzo and included weekly working bees to clear blackberries and fallen trees and mow the whole area. Regular clean-up and maintenance work continues to be completed by Joel.
Ongoing	Performed drainage works around the carpark area. Thanks to Joel.
TRAILHEAD INFRASTRUCTURE	
2016	Installed a new trail map on the sign at the trailhead. This development was led by Turi Berg.
2018	Lobbied the Alpine Shire to paint the toilet block at the trailhead.
2018	Received grant funding through the Pick My Project initiative to refurbish the trailhead shelter with a concrete floor, a deck, seating and BBQs . A bike wash bay was also constructed. This project was led by Damian Heman and completed in 2020.
2020	Refurbished the infrastructure to display the trail map sign in the carpark. This was part of the PMP initiative and was installed through volunteer labour, largely thanks to Justin Hams and Joel Panozzo.

tbc	Installed a new trail map on the sign at the trailhead. This re-design is being led by Rachel Whipps.
<b>EQUIPMENT</b>	
2015	Purchased two trail backpacks that can carry chainsaws.
2015	Construction of an event podium. This was built by Matt Spencer and Michael Whipps.
2016	Purchased a Polaris Ranger to facilitate trail work and event activities.
2017	Purchased a tractor with flail mower to maintain the trailhead and paddock area.
2019	Received grant funding from the Alpine Shire Community Grant Program to purchase “rider packs” for use at Gravel Grom sessions, events etc. This was led by Pete Hull.
2020	Received grant funding from Bendigo Bank for an AED machine at the trailhead. This was led by Pete Hull.
Ongoing	Purchased brush-cutters, leaf blowers and PPE.
<b>OTHER</b>	
2015	Installed a new banner on the trailer opposite AGL to thank drivers for their courtesy.
2020	Took over management of the BMX track.

## 2. HUMAN CAPITAL

<b>SOCIAL</b>	
2015	Started having thank-you dinners for event volunteers.
2016	Hosted a “family day” for members in Dec 2016. This was initiated by Joel Panozzo and included social rides, skills clinics, kids activities and a BBQ. This “family day” has evolved into regular “club ride days” that also include free shuttles.
2016	Started hosting an annual members dinner at Roi’s
<b>SPOKE SISTERS</b>	
2016	Started the Spoke Sisters to promote female participation in mountain biking. This was founded by Rachel Whipps after attending a mountain bike conference at Mt Buller and hearing about the great work that Lindsey Richter was doing with her Ladies AllRide movement in the US.

2017	Received grant funding from the Alpine Shire Community Grant Program to run a MTBA level 0 coaching course for eight women. This was led by Rachel Whipps and Carly Emond.
2017	Worked with junior Spoke Sisters to start beginner lessons for junior girls. This led to Ayla Armitage designing the Spoke Sisters jersey from DHaRCO in 2018. This initiative was facilitated by Rachel Whipps.
2017	Re-started individual and group beginner coaching sessions and social rides. This was facilitated by Rachel Whipps and Carly Emond.
2018	Received grant funding from Sports and Recreation Victoria and the <i>Change Our Game</i> initiative to run several regional women's networking sessions. These sessions were designed to connect female mountain bike leaders and provide an opportunity to share knowledge, experience and skills. This would then lead to stronger relationships and enhance our capacity to increase female participation in the sport. Sessions were held in Beechworth (Nov 2018), Mt Beauty (Feb 2019) and Albury (April 2019). This initiative was coordinated by Rachel Whipps, Carly Emond and Turi Berg.
2020	Won Mountain Bike Australia's <i>Community and Inclusion Award</i> for the Spoke Sisters contribution to the sport.
2020	Hosted a women's downhill coaching day for those racing the Vic DH Series. This was led by Turi Berg with instruction from Joel Panozzo.

## JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT

2015	Re-started junior development through a weekly ride program, along with skills sessions from Joel Panozzo. This program was first led by Gerry van der Ploeg and Cath Richardson. This was later re-born as the Gravel Groms in 2018 by Pete Hull.
2018 ??	Supported juniors to get involved as event helpers. This was nurtured by Rachel Whipps.

## COMMUNITY

2018, 2019	Provided financial support for Mt Beauty Secondary School's human powered vehicle program.
2019	Mowed some community spaces, eg. for Little Aths. Thanks to Joel Panozzo.
2019	Worked with Rocky Valley Cycles to stock and sell TMB merchandise. Thanks to Rachel Whipps.
2019	Donated firewood to disadvantaged local residents, thanks to Joel Panozzo and Anglicare.
2020	Collaborated with Riff Ruffs / Champagne Club for Gather Festival. This was led by Carly Emond.
Ongoing	Provided Rotary with a donation for traffic control at our events.

Ongoing	Worked with local businesses for event sponsorship and volunteer dinners.
<b>OTHER</b>	
2016	Overhauled the TMB website. Thanks to Gerardo Altman.
2015, 2016, 2019	Supported committee members to attend national mountain bike conferences at Mt Buller (Michael Whipps and Matt Spencer in 2015, Rachel Whipps and Turi Berg in 2016) and Maydena (Michael Whipps and Liam Panozzo in 2019)
2017	Updated TMB membership system. Thanks to Gerardo Altman.
2017	Started surveying our membership about what they want from a mountain bike club. This was initiated by Richard Wilson.
2018	Started surveying our event volunteers to find out how we can improve their experience and receive their future support. This was initiated by Rachel Whipps and Turi Berg.
2018	Re-started club newsletters, thanks to Rob Steep and Richard Wilson.
Ongoing	Continued to offer subsidised club kit to members and expanded this to include t-shirts, caps, bottles and musettes (2016), socks (2018), and gravity jerseys and new t-shirts (2019). These were organised by Turi Berg, Kim McKeown, Rachel Whipps and Carly Emond.

### 3. TRAILS

<b>IMPROVING ACCESSIBILITY</b>	
2016	Installed new trail signage, including new trail name signs, “You Are Here” signs at points of interest, and three marked loops to guide riders.
2017	Received grant funding from the Alpine Shire Community Grant Program to build the Big Easy, an easier climbing trail that would enable more riders to access the mountain bike park. This project was led by Turi Berg and the trail was completed in 2018.
2018	Began developing a network of kids / beginner trails in the lower area of the mountain bike park. This is ongoing and is being coordinated by Joel Panozzo.
<b>TRAIL WORK</b>	
2017	Developed <i>Trail Work Guidelines</i> to better manage the work in the park. These were first written by Matt Spencer and later updated by the committee in 2020.
Ongoing	Ran trail working bees, primarily in the lead up to our regular events.

**DEVELOPED RELATIONSHIPS WITH OUR LAND MANAGERS**

2017	Renewed our relationship with AGL. This involved a lengthy review of the licence agreement and was undertaken by Michael Whipps, Matt Spencer, Turi Berg and Rachel Whipps.
2018	Conducted a detailed trail audit of the mountain park to facilitate a new relationship with DELWP. This report was compiled by Cath Richardson with input from the committee, and was submitted in 2019.
2019	Began receiving \$25K / year in sponsorship from AGL to support our activities. This relationship was facilitated by Rachel Whipps.

**OTHER**

2017	Purchased trail counters to monitor the number of riders using the mountain bike park. These were initially installed on Survey Track and the Up Track, with two additional ones installed on the Big Easy and El Presidente. Michael Whipps regularly checks the numbers.
2017	Started the process to extend the Survey Track to Bogong Village. This is being led by Michael Whipps.

**4. EVENTS**

2015	Introduced the disciplines of gravity enduro and cyclocross to Mt Beauty and developed these as new annual club events. These both became part of their respective state-level series. Thanks to Matt Spencer and Michael Whipps for running all the gravity enduro races, and to Liam Panozzo and Norm Gray for running the cyclocross events.
Ongoing	Continued to run successful Mitta to Mt Beauty, cross-country (RAMBO / state series) and downhill events. Thanks to our many event coordinators, but mostly to Liam Panozzo for running every downhill race.

**YOUR 2019-2020 COMMITTEE**

- Michael Whipps 2014 to present (including President 2017-2020)
- Liam Panozzo 2013 to present (including President 2014-2017, Vice President 2017-2020)
- Carly Emond 2017 to present (including Treasurer 2017-2020)
- Turi Berg 2012 to present (including Secretary 2013-2020)
- Rachel Whipps 2015 to present (including Treasurer 2016-2017)
- Joel Panozzo 2016 to present
- Richard Wilson 2016 to present
- Blair Hume 2017 to present
- Peter Hull 2018 to present
- Rob Vandenberg 2018 to present
- Bernie McArdle early days, and 2019 to present
- Leighann Gnyla 2019 to present