



# Whitehorse Active Transport Action Group Inc.

Incorporation No: A0098729X

ABN: 63 938 570 447

Web: [www.watag.org](http://www.watag.org)

14<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Hello

WATAG (Whitehorse Active Transport Action Group) is holding a **Community Chat** meeting at Blackburn Lake Visitor's Centre on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 7:00pm. **And you are invited.**

We have programmed **Community Chat** meetings every two months. We want to make these informal events an occasion where you can get to know your neighbours, meet like-minded people and have a *sip-and-nibble* if you like. You can participate in, and give your views about using our local streets safely to get about, play in and generally feel that your local street is your domain and not that of the cars which are just passing through.

At the meeting on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April we will have a Special Guest – see details below. ([click here to RSVP](#))

At the last **Community Chat** in February, all who attended agreed it was a great way to connect informally with locals. We also learnt from a resident that she was hit by a car when on her bike at the entrance to Officeworks in Middleborough Rd which resulted in a broken leg and hospitalisation. If there had been a safe link from the Gardiners Creek trail through Spotlight, there would have been no need for her to use Middleborough Rd. This led to WATAG arranging a petition asking for the construction of an all-abilities ramp at the rear of Anaconda/Spotlight to link the Gardiners Creek Trail to the shops along Middleborough Rd. We hope this will lead to a remedy for a long standing problem.



At this coming **Community Chat** we would like to talk about options which will enable pedestrians and cyclists – young and old – to safely cross Blackburn Rd at locations such as connecting Heath St with Alandale Ave. (See photo and refer <https://www.google.com/maps/@-37.8273378,145.1535008,17.75z>)

This is a major link between Blackburn Creeklands and Blackburn Lake. The Council's newly created EasyRide Route crosses the road here. It is used by many school children to get to and from school, and is totally unsafe for this use.

At weekends it is used by hundreds of people of all ages.



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Traffic volumes and speeds, and pedestrian & bike use are far greater at Blackburn Rd than at the newly installed traffic lights on Laburnum St near the station.

If lights are required at Laburnum, why not here?

You can also hear very quick updates on other important issues which might include LXRA project at Surrey Hill and Mont Albert, The Suburban Rail Loop project at Burwood and Box Hill, ongoing planning and active transport matters at Box Hill, Easy Ride Routes, Council liaison and similar.

## Special Guest



**Jeremy Lawrence is the President of Streets Alive Yarra.**

**He has generously agreed to join is in conversation to give us an insight about how Streets Alive Yarra is making a difference to local living in the City of Yarra**

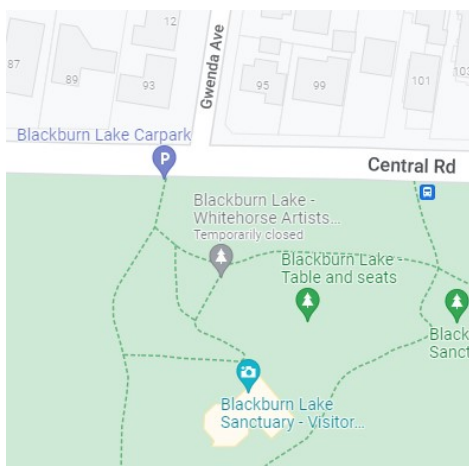
**The [Streets Alive Website](http://www.streetsalive.org.au) is packed full of information with advice on how to build "A beautiful, liveable and accessible city"**

**Isn't that what we all would like for Whitehorse?**

Informality will be the key. Partners and children invited too.

## You are invited

**When:** Wednesday April 27<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm for a *sip-and-nibble* – and starting time for discussion is about 7:30pm . But we are very flexible to allow for busy people. As is the finishing time which hasn't been set. Simply stay as long as you are enjoying the chat, or head home or elsewhere as soon as you need to. ([click here to RSVP](#))



Note

So be prepared!

**Where:** Blackburn Lake Visitors Centre -  
Central Rd Blackburn

- For many it's an easy walk.
- It's relatively safe to ride there.
- For those needing to use a car, there is plenty of parking.

that the paths linking the car park to the Visitor's Centre can be a little dark if the path lights are not working.



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To help give us some idea of how many *sips-and-nibbles* to buy, a reply would be a big help, but is not necessary. ([click here to RSVP](#))

Best regards

Chris Trueman  
WATAG Secretary  
0409 028 124

**Covid Safe.** Blackburn Lake is a Council owned Covid Safe environment. Consequently we ask that all people are fully vaccinated as mandated by the Victorian Government. Because it's a *sip-and-nibble* event, mask wearing might not be possible much of the time, but we ask that you have one with you.