



# Media Release

## Back Yamma Bigfoot

*MTB Enduro - Put Your Foot Down*

Issued: 27 September 2010

## Inaugural Back Yamma Bigfoot Mountain Bike enduro event dubbed a huge success

With no huge mountain climbs and rarely found fast flowing hilly tracks, 300 mountain bike endurance riders came from all over the state to put their foot to the pedal in the first ever endurance race held in the Back Yamma State Forest last Sunday 26 September. Riders from the ACT proved very strong on the day, taking out quite a few places.

The Back Yamma Bigfoot was the first Mountain Bike Australia (MTBA) recognised competition to be held in Parkes. The inaugural event was coordinated by a group of mountain bike enthusiasts from Parkes who are members of the Central West Off Road Bicycle Club.

Organisers were thrilled with the number of entries received in the inaugural staging of the Back Yamma Bigfoot, where 300 male and female competitors contested a range of different course options, cheered on by several hundred spectators on a fine Spring day.

The course was designed to challenge beginners, intermediate and advanced riders. Beginners tasted the fun of the fast flowing single track in the 'Little Foot' (25km option), while intermediate and advanced riders pushed a little harder and displayed some more technical aspects of the single track in the 'Big Foot' (50km option) and the 'Two Big Feet' (100km option).

Organisers were thrilled with the popularity and attendance levels at the event and have received some really positive feedback from competitors who can't wait to return and contest the event in 2011, where its hoped it will be even larger. Many competitors have commented how well the Back Yamma Big Foot was organised and how unique the setting and tracks were. The Back Yamma course is really different to many coastal events where the terrain involves more hills and climbs and calls for lower speeds.

A father and son from Woonona, near Wollongong both battled it out for places in the 25km Little Foot course, and crossed the line at the same time in a display of family unity.

Organisers wish to thank State Forests for allowing the use of their facility for this recreational purpose, along with their sponsors for their input and support.

Council's Events Development Officer Katrina Dwyer extended "congratulations to the key organising team of Chris Hollingdrake, Brett Armstrong and Tim Ruckley for conducting such a well organised event that attracted visitors to Parkes and provided a string of flow on tourism benefits".

### ***Back Yamma Big Foot Placegetters were as follows:***

#### 100km (Two Big Feet) Male

- |    |                                |         |
|----|--------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | James Downing (Hackett, ACT)   | 3:47:28 |
| 2. | Chad Gossert (Blackheath, NSW) | 3:50:23 |
| 3. | Trevor Rix (Ainslie, ACT)      | 3:51:18 |

#### 100km (Two Big Feet) Female

- |    |                               |         |
|----|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | Samantha Hemsley (Melba, ACT) | 4:20:56 |
| 2. | Sara-Jane Uden (Wagga, NSW)   | 4:47:11 |
| 3. | Angela Farrell (Wagga, NSW)   | 5:13:34 |

#### 50km (Big Foot) Male

- |    |                                  |         |
|----|----------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | Phillip Tucker (Chisholm, ACT)   | 1:57:11 |
| 2. | Greg Collis (Banks, ACT)         | 2:02:53 |
| 3. | Greg Carr (Fig Tree Pocket, QLD) | 2:05:33 |

#### 50km (Big Foot) Female

1. Kylie Webb (Hackett, ACT) 2:04:40
2. Michelle Ainsworth (Narrabundah, ACT) 2:08:48
3. Mary Fien (Lane Cove, NSW) 2:18:31

25km (Little Foot) Male

1. Matthew Sheehy (Young, NSW) 1:22:12
2. Trevor Crittenden (Woonona, NSW) 1:25:17 - **FATHER**
3. John Crittenden (Woonona, NSW) 1:25:17 - **SON**

25km (Little Foot) Female

1. Pamela Carter (Burrill Lake, NSW) 1:23:54
2. Anna Davies (Ainslie, ACT) 1:33:04
3. Janet Allen (Bathurst, NSW) 1:33:06

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**Media Enquiries:**

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