



Wheezer  
the lungfish  
says, "Save the  
Mary River!"

# Dam the Mary River? Save the Mary River!

## MEDIA RELEASE

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Save the Mary River Coordinating Group

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## 1000 riders take to Kandanga hills to protest Mary River dam

PREMIER Peter Beattie may have won the election but he still has a fight on his hands in the Mary Valley.

And residents are focussed on their next event – the Kandanga 1000 horse ride.

There is still time to join the riders and opponents to the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam who will muster at Kandanga this weekend for the Kandanga 1000.

The campout on Saturday, and mass horse ride on Sunday, will give everyone a chance to re-charge their batteries and fighting spirit, and rejoice in the beauty of the Mary Valley.

Organised by the Save the Mary River Coordinating Group, it will be a great opportunity to talk out your frustrations and disappointments, as well as remember the highlights of the four-month campaign so far, treasurer Lyndall Ensbey said this week.

“We need to make sure that we support each other, our friends and our neighbours in the community – and we need to engage the broader community to share the load in this campaign,” she said.

She said more than 1000 riders from throughout the country were expected to saddle up for the Kandanga 1000, which sets off at 9am sharp from the paddock near the Kandanga Creek State School on Sunday, to ride a scenic circuit into the Kandanga township and back, filling its main street with horse flesh and country threads..

The night before, most will enjoy entertainment round the campfire and a hearty feast of bushman’s tucker.

The 1000 riders symbolise 1000 farms and the lives of 10,000 people directly affected by Premier Peter Beattie’s solution of a mega-dam to save the south-east from the grip of a water crisis.

It’s a solution fiercely opposed by many country and city residents of the south-east.

Mrs Ensbey said the aim of the ride was to give the people of the Mary Valley a real lift, to keep the smiles on their faces and to show them they are not alone.

“When you have your seat in the saddle, you feel like you are actually doing something to stop this dam,” she said.

The Sunday ride normally takes about 1 \_ hours, but with 1000 riders that could stretch out to three hours, as the riders meander through the hills taking in scenery which would be lost forever should the Traveston Crossing dam proceed.

Cost is \$10/adult, \$5/child or \$20/family which includes camping, entertainment and the ride. You can book by calling Peter on 5484 3040, Brett on 5484 3532 or Neville on 5484 3697.

Follow the campaign against the dam on [www.savethemaryriver.com](http://www.savethemaryriver.com)

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