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# Banyule BUG Newsletter

August  
2016

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## Here's a good ABC "Bike Check"

- ✓ Air - Inflate tires to the recommended pressure listed on the sidewall and examine them for wear (replace a tire once you can see threads, belts, or the inner tube).
- ✓ Brakes - Spin the wheels and make sure the brakes aren't rubbing. Squeeze the levers—there should be at least 1 inch between the lever and handlebar when the brakes are fully engaged. Replace brake pads when there's less than ¼-inch of pad left.
- ✓ Chain and Cranks - Make sure the chain is clean and lubed. Pull on the crank arms; tighten the crank bolt if it's loose.
- ✓ Quick - All quick releases should be tightly closed.
- ✓ Check - Look over the rest of the bike for loose or missing parts.

## New Section

I would like to introduce a new item to our newsletter - "My Favourite Ride". In it you might include a map and a few points about why it is your favourite ride. Nothing too long or wordy, just a map, your thoughts and maybe a photograph.

To get the 'wheel turning' – here is mine.

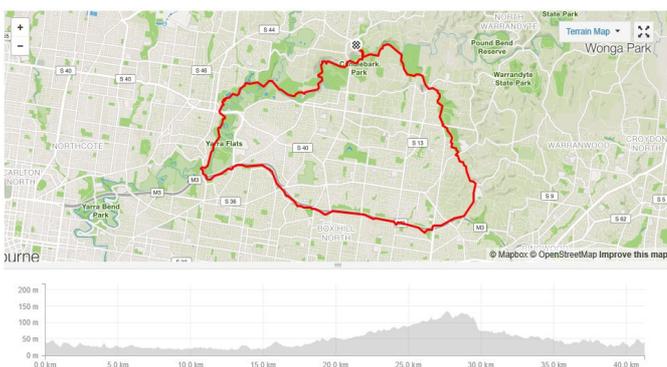
## My Favourite Ride – Koonung/Mullum Mullum/Yarra Trails

This is a ride that is very familiar to all of you and it is no doubt a ride frequently undertaken by cyclists. Whenever I take visitors on a ride, this is the one I choose.

The ride is relatively easy to do. From the start at Warringal Park, it is an achievable climb to Park Rd, the highest point in the ride. From here the cycle is generally down-hill or flat back to the starting point. The only exception being in Westerfold Park as it rises to Bonds Rd.

Why I like this cycle? It is almost completely on shared trails. The route traverses a variety of landscape types from manicured lawns to open bushland. I also like the isolation of the Mullum Mullum path as it drops down to meet the Yarra River trail. I never fail to stop at Tikalara Point (confluence of Mullum Mullum and Yarra River) known to the aborigines as "Place of Spirit" This is a lovely spot to rest, refresh and perhaps meditate.

From here the trail essentially follows the Yarra River as it wends its way through scrub and parklands. This is a great section to keep a lookout for native animals and birds. Wombats and kangaroos can certainly be seen here. Once Bonds Rd is reached, it is a gentle down hill to Warringal Park.



"Place of Spirit"



## From the web.

“Queensland's peak motoring body has backed calls for the state's one-metre overtaking rule for motorists passing cyclists to continue beyond the end of its two-year trial.....”

[Full report](#)

“Victoria Police and road safety groups have told a parliamentary inquiry they do not support introducing a one-metre rule for cars overtaking cyclists....”

[Full report](#)

Bicycle Network 1. Executive Summary: trial a MPDL with conditions

.... Accordingly, as there is no strong evidence against or in favour of the impact of the law, Bicycle Network recommends trialling a MPDL for five years in Victoria under the following six conditions:

1. continue to focus on the Safe Systems approach
2. make it clear that it's a minimum distance
3. the legislation should not apply to bikes in lanes in 50kmph or less zones
4. supplement the law with a driver behaviour change program
5. conduct a pre-and post-impact study
6. instruct police to enforce the law

[Full report](#)

“Cycling on roads can make you lose faith in humanity” - Overseas report.

[Full Report](#)

“Unhappy trails”: Bike riders fear Yarra path will be choked by new apartments – The Age  
A report about the Walmer St. development and its impact on the Yarra Bank and cycling.

[Full Report](#)



## SEE and BE SEEN - Revolights for safer cycling !

SEE and BE SEEN with Revolights - a revolution in safer cycling

When are you joining the safety revolution ?

Revolights is not only "THE BEST BIKE LIGHTING SYSTEM IN THE WORLD " (- the Men's Journal) ... but also the safest lighting system in the world.

A common story: It's dark, it's cold and it's early ... You're heading in to the office and keeping fit at the same time. You always think you can spot those motorists who are still half asleep, or maybe concentrating too much on their morning coffee ...

BUT DO THEY SEE YOU ? Chances are ... NO!

Revolights makes you visible ... not just directly in front and behind ... but from any angle - 360o visible!

Cyclists can now be seen from any angle, in all lighting conditions, and in all locations.

Peace of mind - not just for you, but for your loved ones - from greater visibility on our roads. Get your Revolights today and ride safe!

[Full Report](#)



Not specifically about cycling, but definitely related as the wonder Yarra Shared Trail is ridden by many of us frequently. Note the closing date is August 5, 2016.

The Protecting the Yarra River (Birrarrung) Discussion Paper has been released to help promote discussion about how the Yarra River is managed and protected in the future.

Everyone is encouraged to get involved and have a say on future management options for the iconic Yarra River at

<http://haveyoursay.delwp.vic.gov.au/protecting-the-yarra-river>

If you also wish to be informed of upcoming public engagement activities, please email us at [yarra.river@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:yarra.river@delwp.vic.gov.au).

The discussion paper is open for public comment until Friday 5 August 2016.

### Bike Spot Data Visualisations

Want to know where cyclists think are the safest and more dangerous spots to ride. This interactive map will answer all of this.

[https://crowdspot.carto.com/viz/2414a9a0-2d0e-11e6-b90f-0e787de82d45/embed\\_map](https://crowdspot.carto.com/viz/2414a9a0-2d0e-11e6-b90f-0e787de82d45/embed_map)



Ultimate recreational bike.

Now Maureen is a keen cyclist who enjoys the journey and also the “Latte spots”. However, she also has a good eye for the ultimate riding machine.

Thanks for the image Maureen.

### Pokemon Go

Had my first run-in (more correctly they ran into me) with a group of school aged girls on the Diamond Creek Trail. They were all over the trail staring into their mobiles and I had to stop as they were running towards me in a great skelter of confused souls. I counselled them about the courtesies of using a shared trail. They were very pleasant and said they were chasing “Jigglypuff”. They said that as I cycled down the trail, “Jigglypuff” was running alongside me. As proof, they showed me Jigglypuff on the camera of their mobile. Now, this was all very intriguing to me as it was very important to the girls. They gave me a full and complete explanation of how the game works and the characters involved. For those of you who are interested, here is a link to educate yourselves. <http://qz.com/731057/the-ultimate-guide-to-pokemon-go/> This was all a great revelation to me. I felt a little sadness at my wasted years in education of exploring the great classics and developing an understanding of higher mathematics when I was confronted with students whose great excitement in life was “Jigglypuff”. Such is progress I guess. But if the spectre of “Jigglypuff” is going to ride with me, he will need to join the Banyule BUG.



### Balloon Landing In Warringal Park

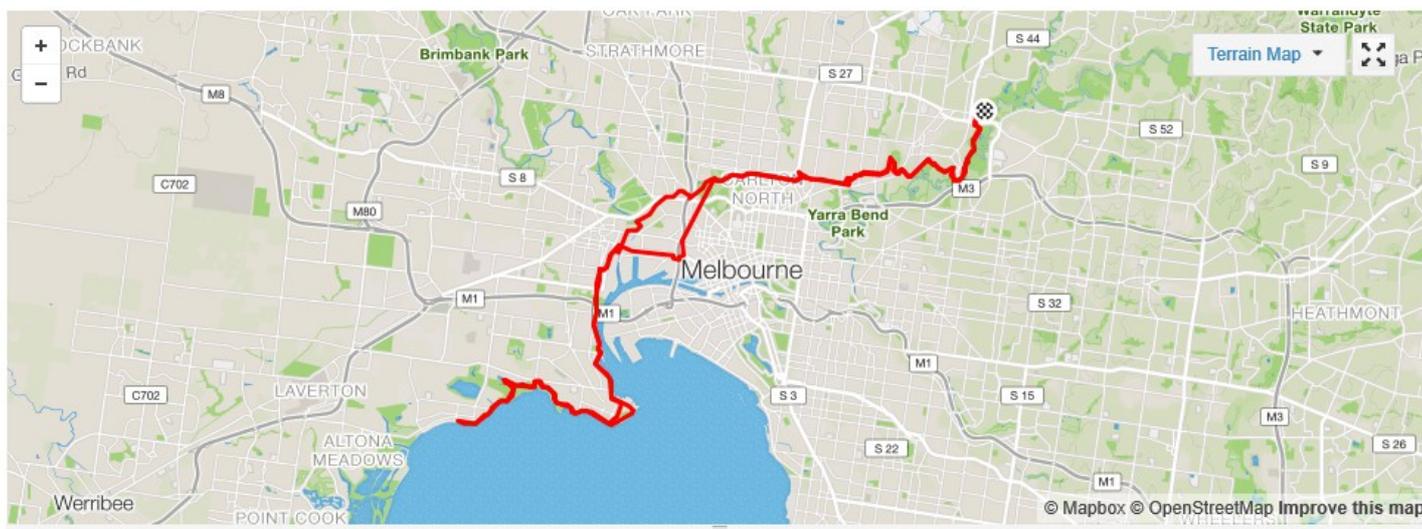
Great excitement greeted to Tuesday morning Banyule BUG rides as they prepared to set off on their rides. A huge hot air balloon floated gracefully down through the trees to land on the main oval in Warringal Park. It had earlier been going to land across the road, but the pilot injected some more hot air and lifted (just) over the trees to come down where it did. This was not good as the retrieval vehicle could not get into the grounds to retrieve the deflated balloon. So a little more hot air and they managed to coach it over the fence and into the carpark – very close to a white Mazda that happened to belong to me. I was a little concerned about my car and a hot air balloon being in such close proximity. Fortunately, the basket full of Chinese tourists evaded my car, but the now flacid canopy, devoid of hot air covered my vehicle in a “death shroud”. It was quickly pulled off with no damage done to my car. A great throng of excited tourists emerged from the wicker basket, mobile camers

silently clicking away. We even swapped images with them as, being in the balloon they wanted shots of them landing. So a great cultural exchange of images took place. It was all over almost before it began. Devoid of its hot air, the whole “floating excitement” was packed away leaving the cyclists to get on with their day.



### **Short Ride Report**

The Latte group had a wonderful cycle to Altona and back. This is a 90k ride and often results in arriving home in the dark. However, a 0900 start and very favourable cycling conditions allowed us to finish in daylight. It is without doubt one of our better ride. The run along the bay from the Westgate Bridge to Altona is always a delight. The wetlands near Koroit Creek usually have much there to hold the interest. Altona usually has something happening and this day was no exception with a town 'Farmers Market' and an annoying drone flying up and down the beach were attraction. Also lots of people chasing Pokemons. We had no rain and favourable (light) wind to move us along. A really good day.



That's all for this issue “fellow riders”. Help make the next issue longer by contributing your thoughts to [allang@bigpond.net.au](mailto:allang@bigpond.net.au) Or speak to me in person or contact me by phone.

Looking forward to a “plethora” of articles, in the meantime. Safe cycling.

Allan Garbutt (Ed.)