



# Banyule BUG Newsletter

December  
2017

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This image of O-Bikes being fished out of the Yarra River brought a smile to my face. I wonder what is the furthest from the CBD you have seen an O-Bike? I saw one in the Darebin near the Ringroad trail. I wonder. What is the mentality that allows people to think it is "ok" to steal private property and throw them in the Yarra. Just a thought.

Here is the official website for the [o-bike](#) revolution.



Shepherd Bridge over the Maribyrnong is now open and taking cyclists and pedestrians. This is a really good piece of cycling infrastructure, keeping cyclists safe and giving great views of the skyline. Traffic lights at the eastern end make it safe to cross the slip lane that carries the large trucks turning onto Footscray Rd. The vision in the image is made even more appealing by Arnold modelling the Bbug new tops.

More information here about future develop from [Vicroads](#) website.



This is the very sad remainder of a much loved and heavily frequented community asset in Eltham. In early December it was totally destroyed by fire. Arson is strongly suspected. This adventure playground, on the banks of Diamond Creek and near to Edendale Farm, was the happy haunt of thousands of children having fun. Party groups, family picnics, and social gatherings were all common events here. It was also a favourite cheese & bicky stopping point for cyclists being right on the shared trail. Our community has lost a highly regarded asset and we can only hope that it will be rebuilt bigger and better.



## Measures to increase cycling in Australia are predicated on failure

Cycling bodies Bicycle NSW and the Victorian-based Bicycle Network want laws changed so that people over the age of 12 can cycle on footpaths. We think this call is a symptom of the spectacular failure of Australia's governing bodies (at every level from local through state and federal) to make our roads safe for cyclists.



*An interesting take on the suggestion of adults riding on the footpath. Read the full text of this article here.*

<https://www.sbs.com.au/cyclingcentral/article/2017/12/15/measures-increase-cycling-australia-are-predicated-failure>

## It's party time

This time of the year brings out the party-goers and Banyule BUG members are no different. The first of the festive gatherings was a cycle then party at the Yarra boat shed rotunda. Apart from the terrific location, the stand-out feature of "party 2017" was the first mass public airing of the BUG new cycling tops. A most resplendent group indeed.



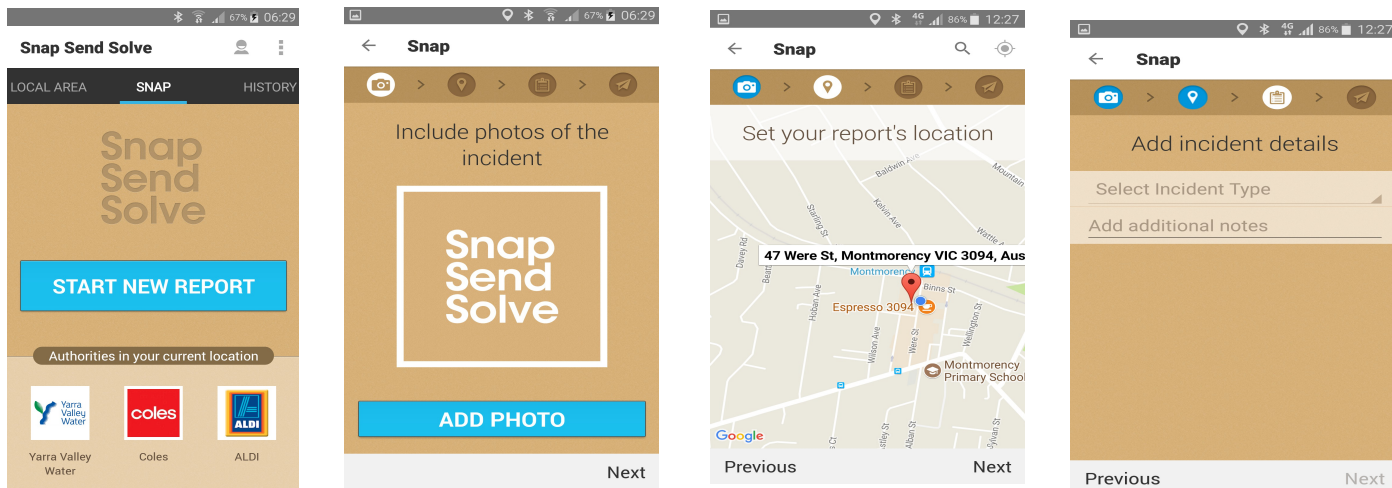
The party then continued at the final end-of-year get together at a local Briar Hill pizza place. This was very well attended with BUG members and their partners. The food was good, the enjoyment and animated conversation palpable. Greatly appreciated were the many bike related prizes handed out. A great time had by all. Well done to the organisers.



# Snap, Send, Solve

A valuable APP for smart-phones that cyclists will appreciate. As cyclists, we often come across damaged infrastructure, shopping trolleys in creeks, graffiti etc. that needs reporting to authorities. This APP allows for a photograph to be taken, report generated, along with location, and sent off to a relevant authority. A really neat aspect is that it has inbuilt, the address of the relevant authority. So, if a burnt out car is across a cycle path. A choice can be made of LGA, police or EPA.

Free to download and use.



<http://www.snapsendsolve.com/>

On behalf of all Banyule BUG members, I wish each of you a safe, happy and joyful Christmas. Cycle always with safety and pleasure in mind. When making your New Year resolutions, perhaps make one of them to be a contributor to the BUG Newsletter. I think Charles Dickens first piece of writing was a contribution to a pamphlet. (I read that somewhere)

2018 is the Chinese Year of the dog. People born in this year are loyal, friendly and intelligent. This could almost be the profile of a Banyule BUG cyclist.

**Merry Christmas to you all.**