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It seems like we have been waiting forever for the much anticipated “Darebin Link” to be completed. It really is the 'missing link'. However, things are on the move as the following images testify. Maybe, the “Year of The Rooster” 2017, will see us cycling across the new Yarra bridge.



Rear Wheel Failure and Replacement

I use a Giant CRX flatbar Road bike, about 8 years old, on most of my Banyule BUG rides. It is a light bike that I can easily carry up stairs or lift over a fence. It has 35mm 700 tyres that enables gravel trails to be handled with ease. A few months ago I noticed a noise coming from the rear of the bike. A couple of times I had a quick look at the bike but did not identify any cause of the noise. The noise level increased and I had to get serious about locating the source of this likely problem indicator. A close examination of the rear wheel revealed cracks radiating out from the drive side spoke holes in the rim. Refer to the photograph for a better understanding. This was a low end wheel that did not use eyelets and reinforcement at the spoke rim hole. The solution, replace the rim with a wheel rebuild or replace the complete wheel. I have done a number of wheel builds/rebuilds with a reasonable result, in this case I decided to go for a quick solution and obtain a complete new wheel.

I looked at a lot of on-line bike shops and did not find anything that got me enthusiastic until I

came across a custom build wheel ordered online. All the component options listed were good quality and easily reviewed online at various sites, so I decided to give it a go. I selected the following components for a complete wheel from the providers website selection process.

Shimano Tiagra 4600 Rear Road Bike hub, Silver, 36 holes

Mavic A319 Road rim Black, 700c, 36 spokes

DT Swiss Black Champion Spokes

Velox Rim Tape cloth

6 days later it was on my doorstep.

The wheel appeared very well built.

Included was a note informing me of the value of the spoke tension for both the drive and non drive sides.

I installed my cassette on the wheel, installed the wheel in the bike, gave the rear gear change a slight adjustment and went for a ride. The spokes made a tinkling sound for a couple of seconds as they settled and then silence.

I have been using the new wheel for 3 months and all is well, I am very happy with my online ordered custom wheel.

Ask me if you want more information.

Maurie Abbott



From the web

Belgian Government Ministers bike stolen as he attends a cycling promotion event.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-38979734>

Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail improvements

<https://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Lists/Latest-news/Lilydale-to-Warburton-Rail-Trail-improvements>

Here's a petition members of the BUG might want to support?

Protect pedestrian and cyclist safety: Keep St Georges Rd crossovers closed

<https://www.change.org/p/protect-pedestrian-and-cyclist-safety-keep-st-georges-rd-crossovers-closed>

Everyone agrees, Sydney Road needs fixing – BN

A lengthy article about the state of play along the dangerous Sydney Rd as it runs through Moreland.

https://www.bicyclenetwork.com.au/general/policy-and-campaigns/783/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=In+the+Loop+%E2%80%93+ALL+FRIENDS++2+March+17&utm_content=bicyclenetwork.com.au%2Fgeneral%2Fpolicy-and-campaigns%2F783%2F%231march2017&utm_source=www.vision6.com.au#1march2017

Here is the latest offering in the rapidly developing electric bike field. The numbers being sold world-wide are huge and has attracted the attention of some big players in the field of engineering and electronics, hence the recent developments are impressive. This offering from Peugeot eT01 Touring Gents - Bosch 2016 is just one example.

<https://www.bikeexchange.com.au/a/electric-pedelec-power-assisted-e-bikes/peugeot/qld/milton/peugeot-et01-touring-gents-bosch/102873053>



Get Ready for the New Membership and Renewal Form

Thanks to some innovative work by John Perkins, you will soon see a revised form on the website for new memberships and annual renewals. This replaces two outdated forms and introduces new features that will make the BUG's record-keeping more accurate and less labour intensive.

The new form has "smarts" built in which guide the user and help ensure all required information is provided. The "Send" button on the form will then forward it by email to the BUG administration. Behind the scenes, the data will be automatically extracted to a spreadsheet allowing direct entry into the BUG membership database. This will remove the error-prone process of manually transcribing and recording names, email addresses and contact details.

To make the system work, you will need to have a PDF reader installed on your computer, smartphone or tablet. (Adobe Acrobat Reader is the most common but other PDF readers will work just as well. A PDF reader may already be installed on your device. If not, search for Adobe Acrobat on the internet and download. All free!)

Open the form in the PDF reader and fill in as required. Depending on the email system you use, when you hit the Send button you may be prompted to give the PDF reader access to your email account. Follow the steps to send your completed form and you are done.

*The annual renewals come due from 1st of July. **All members are encouraged to use the new form and pay by bank transfer.** As many of the BUG's records are years old, the best way to ensure all your details are correctly recorded is to take a moment when completing the form to enter all your current details, especially your emergency contact person and his or her phone number.*

Finally, while the form provides for fee payment by means other than bank transfer, payments made by cash or cheque add a lot of administrative burden. In the vernacular, they are a big pain in the arse! All members are strongly encouraged to make payment by bank transfer. If you haven't done it before, get someone to show you how. You'll be surprised how quick and easy it is.

Many thanks from your long-suffering Treasurer and Secretary, Alan Preacher and Maurie Abbott.

On any Sunday

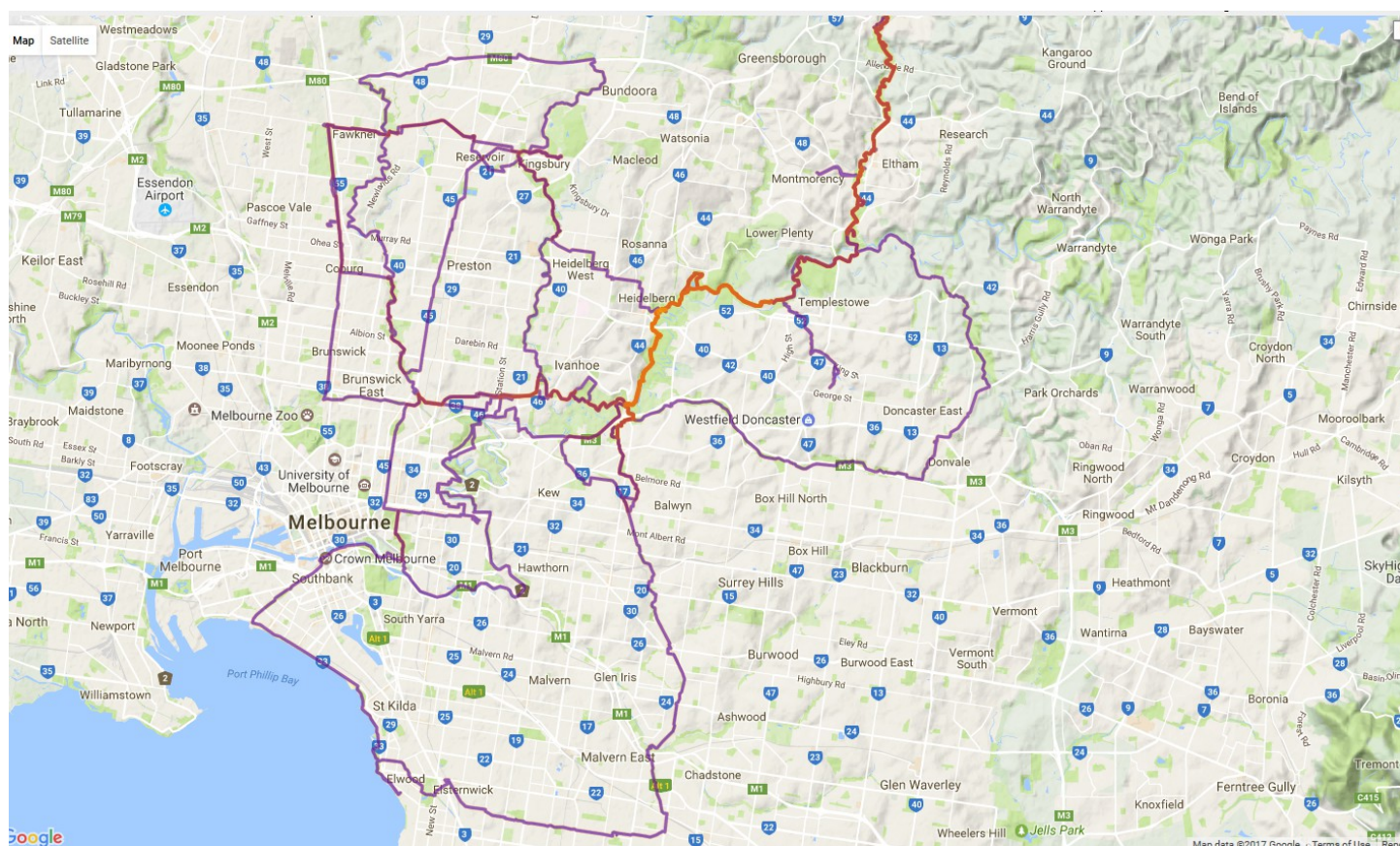
Here is what some BUG members get up to on a pleasant Sunday in Melbourne.



Multiple ride mapper using Strava

This was suggested to me by Kevin Ballaam. It will overlay multiple rides from any selected period on the one map. Works well. The example below is the month of February for the Latte Group. The selection process contains lots of options for what to include.

<http://www.jonathanokeeffe.com/strava/map.php>



Sunday, 5 February, 2017

\$1.7 MILLION UPGRADE TO MERRI CREEK PARK

Merri Creek Park will benefit from a \$1.7 million upgrade to develop visitor infrastructure – including 6km of bike and walking paths.

The investment, from the Growth Areas Infrastructure Contribution (GAIC) fund, will improve community access to the 650 hectare green space in Campbellfield, protecting the state and nationally significant native grasses.

The upgrade includes:

- a link to the Whittlesea Public Gardens in Lalor, which sits on the other side of the Hume Freeway
- a link between Somerset Rd and Horne St on the eastern side of the Merri Creek Park
- a trail within the park's conservation zone
- a new bridge crossing over the Merri Creek

The GAIC is a one-off contribution payable by landowners developing urban housing in land that has been zoned for urban use and development in Cardinia, Casey, Hume, Melton, Mitchell, Whittlesea and Wyndham local government areas.

GAIC funding supports Melbourne's growing communities by contributing to state and regionally significant infrastructure including ambulance sites, parks, schools and public transport.

Quote attributable to Minister for Suburban Development Lily D’Ambrosio

“We know how important it is to upgrade the local infrastructure communities rely on every day – ambulance sites, parks, schools and public transport.”

Quote attributable to the Member for Broadmeadows Frank McGuire

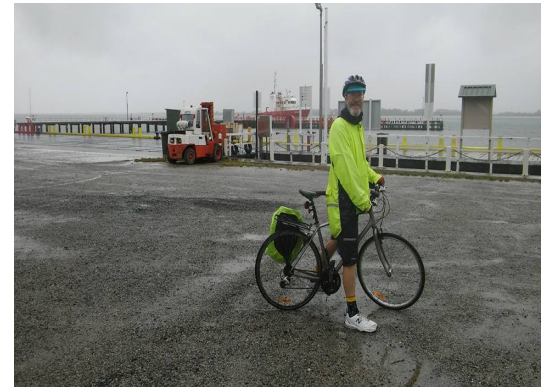
“This investment in Merri Creek Park facilities will improve the health and wellbeing of Victorian’s living in the growing communities of Broadmeadows and Campbellfield.”

Quote attributable to the Member for Thomastown Bronwyn Halfpenny

“The Andrews Labor Government is getting on with planning for the future needs of Victorians, acting now to upgrade the parks needed so families in growing areas have the services they need to enjoy the great outdoors.”

<http://www.premier.vic.gov.au/1-7-million-upgrade-to-merri-creek-park/>

A group of hardy “Latte Riders” recently cycled from Leongatha to Foster with some going on to Port Welshpool. This was on March 21. You might remember that day. I think Melbourne had near record rain on the Tuesday and Wednesday. However the ride from Leongatha to Foster was completed under a grey sky, but (remarkably) no rain. Wednesday from Foster to Port Welshpool was a little damp. Congratulations to that group – a striking effort.



Safe cycling to one and all.

I look forward to receiving your contributions for the next edition

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