



# Banyule BUG Newsletter

April  
2020

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**Our thanks to the Office of Anthony Carbines MP, state member for Ivanhoe, for their support in providing the photocopying facilities for this newsletter.**



## Ride Report:

Docklands -Poertarlington – St Leonard

This ride had a long gestation period. For over twelve months, during our regular rides we had talked about such a ride. It finally all firmed up, and developed and a date set (March 5). A perfect spot for such a ride; weather still good, before Easter and the school holidays. What could go wrong? Well, on that day Victoria had over the entire March average of rain on that day and the trains were disrupted and the ride leader fractured his femur on a BUG ride (more of this later) . However, the ride went ahead.

*Gordon continues....*

*7.45 saw Fran and Gordon riding across the Rosanna Golf course which was a series of creeks and pools due to the torrential downpour (they later marked the golf course closed).*

*Macleod station where the coffee shop man told us the trains were now going right through to the city as the current advice was that there were busses between Heidelberg and Clifton Hill, the station office obviously had no one in it as calls went unanswered. Announcements of late trains and we were joined by Deb. The train left at 8.20 very very crowded and one arriving at Heidelberg was stuffed with more passengers, Tokyo style as the attendants told everyone to clear the station, at least it got warm quickly.*

*9.20 saw us at Southern Cross station after many apologies by the train driver for many faults.*

*A frantic ride to the ferry and we joined 6 others on the ferry. At the very last minute Hassan arrived making our group now 9.*

*Fred and Annette, Carol, Carol(a guest), Don, Hassan, Fran, Gordon, Deb settled into the comfort of the ferry which cast off immediately.*

*Past some on the tall ships either at sea or in Williamstown punctuated the grim raining weather, down the bay at 30kph.*

*Off to St Leonards in the rain on gravel tracks, the ride was along the shoreline and as pleasant as the weather would allow.*

*A quick run out the jetty and then lunch at the pub. Spirits were very high considering the weather with good conversation was had by all.*

*The run back was surprisingly hard going with the gravel now soft from our passing earlier, however spirits remained high.*

*A coffee in Portarlington then onto the ferry again, several members decided on a snooze such was the effort of the return ride.*

*We all said goodbye at Docklands with Fran and Gordon arriving home at 6.20pm. A good day, all clothing into the washing machine, bikes to be cleaned next day.*

*Gordon Betteny*



## Injury report – Allan Garbutt



I love writing for our BUG Newsletter, but I must admit that this report is a pain to write – both in a figurative and real sense. During our scheduled ride to Elwood on a Tuesday morning, I had my accident. It occurred in Boyd Park on the designated concrete trail. Pipe works have been going on there for some time and some of the clay had washed into a depression on the trail and produced a very slippery spot which I did not see. We had been stopped, deciding which way to go and had just moved off when the front wheel skidded to the right and I rode the bike down hitting my hip on the left. I knew almost immediately that something had gone seriously wrong. The pain was great. The riders with me were great. There was no panic and people knew what to do. It is here I must single out Peter Gurney. He was terrific – ordering the ambulance, taking care of my bike and arranging to collect my car from Warrigal Park and get it home for me. (I will not forget this). Quickly into Box Hill and two days later I had my fractured femur fixed with a plate, screw and dynamic pin. For the first few days, this was a very painful exercise. Now quickly on the road to recovery following the successful surgery, I am

very much looking forward to getting back on my bike and riding with the group whom I miss very much. Thanks to all who registered their concern and best wishes.

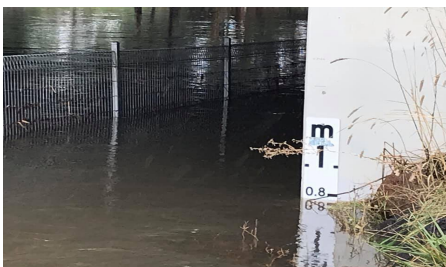
The accident happened in 'the blink of an eye'. A message to us all that we engage in, at times, a potentially dangerous activity. Recovery is going well.

Allan Garbutt

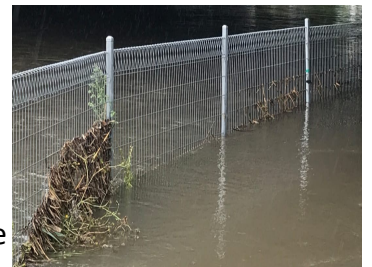


Peter Gurney has asked that we make note of this activity with a view to participating in **2021**. I must say that I have often looked at riding in this activity and will personally give it some thought. Let Peter know if you are interested.

### [Murray to Moyne](#)



It doesn't take much rain for our creeks to rise very quickly. March 5's deluge was enough to turn the Merri Creek into a torrent. It was well over its banks in places. This picture was taken by Kevin (Whittlesea BUG) at the M80 underpass. I wonder if the creek came anywhere near where those units are being developed?



[Dockless E-Bikes](#) are set to make an appearance in Melbourne.

These electric bikes are dockless in the sense that, via an app, they can be hired from any location and left in any location. They are tracked by GS so their location at any time is known and any left inappropriately will be quickly retrieved and re-located. Hopefully This will save them from the fate of the Yellow bikes that were left in rivers and up trees. The condition of the bikes is also monitored so repairs and battery pack changes can be effected promptly. It looks promising.

Banyule BUG is a professionally run organisation with planned rides that cater for most levels of cycling ability. [Our website](#) publishes a variety of information to keep any rider well informed. Past and present ride information is available along with maps, newsletters photographs etc. Each ride has a designated leader who is equipped with all the necessary information and ride location to make each ride a pleasurable experience.

Here we can see one such ride leader preparing himself for the threatening wet weather.



### **VicPol Bicycle Police**



Great to see Victoria Police (bicycle branch) out on Sydney Rd enforcing all laws, but in particular, looking for motorists that use their mobile phones while driving. A bicycle is a great vehicle to observe such beaches of the law. How often do we see drivers with phones on their lap tapping away as they drive.

Full marks to VicPol.

### **Interesting web sites.**

[Infrastructure Australia backs 'cycling superhighways'](#) An interesting and positive view about the construction of dedicated cycle-pathways for our major cities.

[Dutch cycling figures.](#) This short video looks at the numbers behind the world's number one city for cycling. And, not a helmet in sight.

[Wash Your Hands.](#) While not being directly related to cycling, this short video explains very clearly why washing with soap and water is essential in slowing the spread of Covig-19.

### [Can I still ride my bike outdoors](#)

The above article appeared in 'Bicycle Network'. However, remember that this a a rapidly evolving situation and current advice needs to be sought.

### [Friends of Williamstown Wetlands](#)

On our way to Altona, we often cycle by the location of Cut Paw Paw Sanatorium. This was the site of Melbourne's first infectious diseases hospital. Nothing remains of of the structure, except a small cemetery in a secret location some 3k west of Newport. This page by the 'friends' group fills in a lot of the blanks.

### **In case you missed it. Here is an important announcement about Banyule BUG rides.**

### **Banyule BUG Members**

On behalf of the Banyule BUG Committee, please be advised:

A rapid increase in the number COVID-19 infections is now occurring throughout Australia. The peak is currently forecast to occur in May. Most Banyule BUG members are in the older age group and at greater risk of possible repercussions. The time has come to show social responsibility and go beyond social distancing as a control measure. The Banyule BUG committee has agreed:

- All Banyule BUG ride schedules be officially suspended from now until the end of May 2020.
- Circumstances be reviewed in late May to determine whether group rides recommence in June or if continued suspension is preferable.

- **Such reviews be made monthly until there** is general **consensus that scheduled group rides can restart.**

Members are encouraged to continue their own rides to enjoy the fresh air until a period of social lock-down, should it occur, puts an end to activities outside the home. Please apply prescribed 1.5 metre social distancing, hand washing/sanitising and provide your own food and drink while on rides.

Note that suspension of Banyule BUG's scheduled programs will mean the club's public liability insurance cover will not apply for private rides. Strongly recommended that members take out individual public liability insurance policies such as those offered as part of annual membership with Cycling Australia or Bicycle Network. Cycling Australia, for example, offers discounted membership and insurance for \$99.95/year.

Regards,

John Perkins

**From Darebin BUG – Re Stolen Trike**

From: **David & Faye Downing** <[kimsam3@optusnet.com.au](mailto:kimsam3@optusnet.com.au)>

Date: Tue, Apr 7, 2020 at 6:41 PM

Subject: <no subject>

To: Ian Singleton <[ian.singlet@gmail.com](mailto:ian.singlet@gmail.com)>

Hi Ian

I have an unfortunate tale to tell. My 92 year old sister in law, Lisa, rode back at her house, today (Tuesday 7th), after shopping, in Cain Ave opposite the Dennis Station on her trike, unloaded her shopping and took it inside and checked on husband Bill. While in the house her son turned up in his car and parked behind the trike in the driveway and went inside and asked Lisa for the garage key, as the garage has to be opened from the inside, to put the trike away. When he opened the garage door the trike had gone. A quick search of the neighborhood by car, revealed nothing. Unfortunately the battery key and her house keys were still plugged into the trike, so they have gone also.



In order to assist the recovery of the trike, I'll send an email to the Saturday riders and request that you do the same to the mid week riders.

Two pictures of Lisa's trike, before she fitted the yellow panniers and the green Ikea cushion, which is a somewhat different look, are attached.

The trike looks like a Greenspeed but is made by MR Components who's email address in yellow with black writing is on near side of the cross bar of the frame. When stolen the seat had a Ikea green cushion made in two sections, for the back and the seat on it. It had a Kmart plastic honker horn, fitted and as mentioned yellow Ortlieb panniers. It is unusual in that the motor is built into the boom extension (see the photo).

I would appreciate your assistance in the hope that this dastardly cretin is brought to justice for defying the lockdown, in this way.

Regards David Downing

As I took one of my lonely, isolated therapeutic walks around my local park the other day, my mind wandering as much as I wandered, Wordsworth's poem came to mind. (I think I saw a bunch of daffodils) With much mental effort, I coaxed the poem from the deep recess of my mind. It much cheered up my walk.

### **I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud**

By William Wordsworth

I wandered lonely as a cloud  
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,  
When all at once I saw a crowd,  
A host, of golden daffodils;  
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,  
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine  
And twinkle on the milky way,  
They stretched in never-ending line  
Along the margin of a bay:  
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,  
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they  
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:  
A poet could not but be gay,  
In such a jocund company:  
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought  
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie  
In vacant or in pensive mood,  
They flash upon that inward eye  
Which is the bliss of solitude;  
And then my heart with pleasure fills,  
And dances with the daffodils.



That's all for this issue folks. I now retire to to the isolation of my garret and await the passing of the seasons. I wish you all well. And remember **"Always look on the bright side of life"**.

*Remember there is a "bridge to the future" and I hope that in the meantime, you will cogitate, contemplate and contribute your thoughts to the next edition.*

*Regards, Allan Garbutt  
allang@bigpond.net.au*