



# Banyule BUG Newsletter

April  
2021

## Contents

- 1 Welcome
- 2 Ride report
- 3 Lady Brassey Dve
- 4 Safe cycling
- 5 Darebin Parklands
- 6 Apple Pie Ride
- 7 Port Arlington

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



Welcome to the April edition of our newsletter. A thank you to all the people who sent in material for the February edition. These are always welcome.

Well our year is under-way and all things seem to be going well. It is great to be able to meet together and do our normal rides.

The photograph on the left doesn't need much explanation except to say: When first responders arrived, the women driving the car was found still clutching her mobile phone with a partial text message on the screen.

While we are talking about accidents. The following link takes you to a cyclist who is not only lucky to be alive, but what occurred is indeed a modern miracle. That he was able to stand up and retrieve the remains of his bike beggars belief.

## [This is what a miracle looks like.](#)

### [Southbank speeding cyclists](#)

A warning for all cyclists who venture along Southbank, and that will be most of us at some stage. VicPol are getting tough on speeding cyclists. It has been reported that a \$1600 fine is imposed for exceeding the 10kph speed limit for cyclists.

### **New section of trail complete**

If you have not been along the Darebin Trail recently, the new section of trail behind Northland is now complete. In addition, new safety fencing is being erected on the high point of the trail just before the trail drops down to the soccer pitch. The new trail is a pleasure to cycle along.

### [Latte Group ride maps](#)

If any of you spot any glaring problems with our ride maps, would you please let me know.

[allang@bigpond.net.au](mailto:allang@bigpond.net.au) I am not talking about a few k in distance, but major omissions/errors. I do check on them and I don't always have specific maps to include, but my eyes start to glaze over after a time.

## **Ride Report**

### **Watsonia to Mernda return**

The Latte Group riders normally start our rides from Warringal Park. On this occasion the assembly point was the RSL carpark at Watsonia. This has 5 hour parking for those arriving by car and the station close by for train travellers. Some 12 cyclists turned out for this 45k ride along mainly trails. The only road riding was through Watsonia to Uni Hill. The carpark is surrounded by many very attractive plants and bushes. Council is doing a good job here.



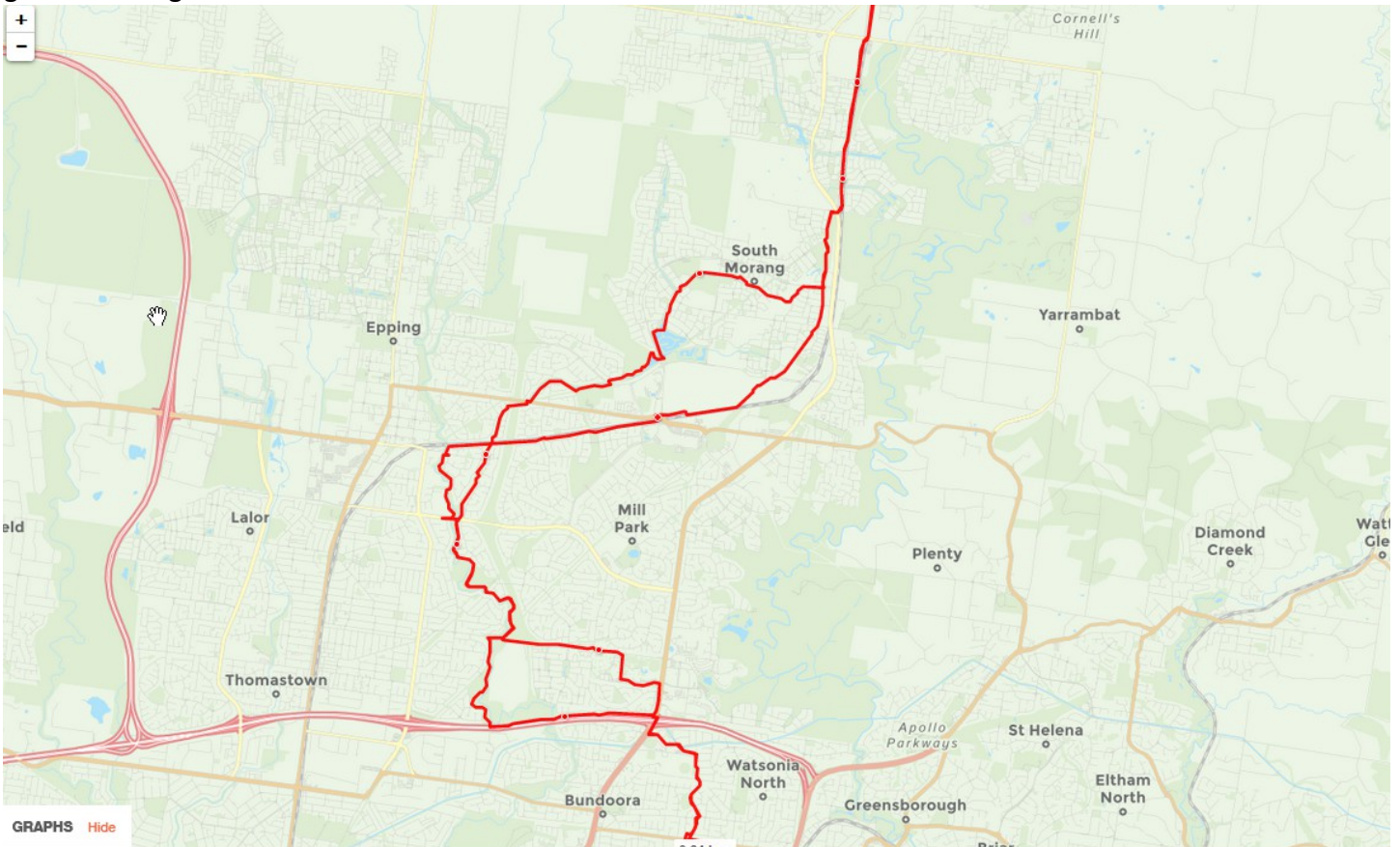


A word about the trails is necessary. Whittle Shire has done an outstanding job on providing first class concrete trails that span the shire. We were able to ride to Turner's Bake House, Mernda on trails with just a 600 metre stretch from Mernda Station on road.

The trails traverse what was once the broad acres of pasture-land and flood plains. Of interest are many very old river red gums that have been preserved and the remains of old dry stone walls that have sadly not been preserved. The trail gradually climbs about 100m from Watsonia, but this is gradual and hardly noticed. The reward is a downhill run nearly all the way home.



Turner's Bake House has been there for a number of years and is an excellent destination. The food is very good and can be consumed in very attractive garden setting.



## Lady Brasseys Drive, Kew

When heading for the Anniversary bike trail, the Latte group often cycles up Lady Brasseys Drive in Kew. Which leads to the question, who was Lady Brassey?

Contrary to popular opinion, Lady Brassey was not employed by Buckley and Nunn emporium to design brassieres and undergarments for the matrons of Melbourne.

No, Lady Brassey was an English traveller and writer. According to her Wikipedia entry she was born Anna Allnutt in London in 1839. In 1860, she married the English [Member of Parliament, Thomas Brassey](#) (knighted in 1881 and became Earl Brassey in 1886). The couple had 5 children and they later sailed the world in their luxury yacht, *Sunbeam*. Lady Brassey's last voyage on the *Sunbeam* was to India and Australia, undertaken in November 1886 to improve her health. On the way to Mauritius, she died of malaria in 1887, and was buried at sea.

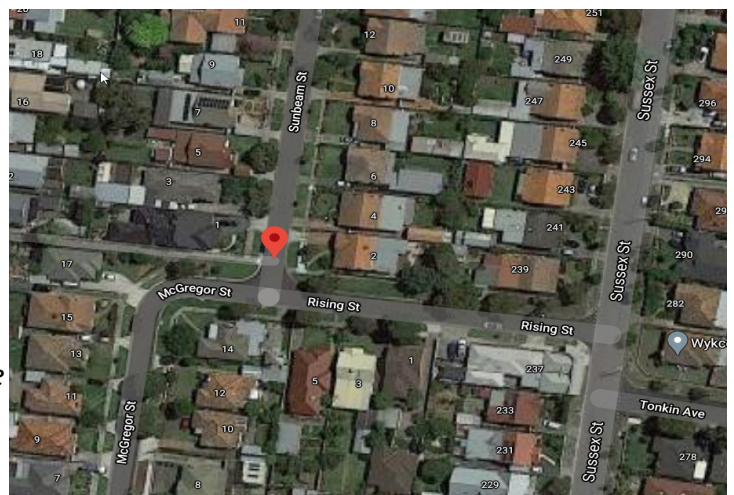


In The Jubilee History of Kew (pub. 1910), F.G.A Barnard records that Lady Brassey wrote to a friend in Melbourne 'Of all the beautiful suburbs in your remarkable city, I have been more especially struck with Kew. If I were going to settle down in this part of the world, it is there I should select to build a residence, partly because the outlying portions of it to the north-eastward are so picturesque and salubrious, and partly because of the views across the valley of the Yarra, in the direction of Heidelberg and Templestowe, combine the specific charm of the landscapes in the English county of Surrey, with all that is most characteristic as regards brightness and variety in the scenery of your own country. One of the most vivid pictures, which I have hung up for future enjoyment in the retentive chambers of my memory, is that which I shall carry away of a drive one summer evening along Bullen Road from Kew to some place the name of which I cannot call to mind.' Barnard writes 'was it any wonder that in cutting up one of the estates here, the name Lady Brasseys Drive was given to one of the streets.'

Sue Griffith

*(Growing up in Pascoe Vale. I lived in Mc Gregor St. The three streets that were the center of my life were Mc Gregor, Rising (had a hill) and Sunbeam St. It is on these streets I leaned to ride a bike. I am wondering now, after all of these years, if this street was named after Lady Brassey's luxury yacht "Sunbeam"?)*

*In fact, as I sit here reflecting and dredging up fragments from my mind from all those years ago, I realise that many of the streets around this area were named after ships of the Realm – Tonkin, Rollo, Rodney, Lincoln, Mashoobra, Orvieto, Malborough etc. We often cycle along many of them. So all things are connected.) Ed.*



### Exciting news

This is news that trail users have waited a long time to hear. The new shared trail extension from Diamond Creek is now open to Wattle Glen. The wait has been long, but the new trail is terrific and includes 3 or 4 new bridges (I lost count) that cross Diamond Creek. A welcome safe way to reach Wattle Glen.



Here's an old advertisement from 1918 to help cheer up my cycling friends 😎

*I guess the ad appeared during the great pandemic that ravaged the world towards the end of WW1 – The “Spanish Flu”. The bikes have changed. The cycling outfits have changed. The tyres have changed. But, I imagine that the general sentiments expressed have not. Enjoy your healthy bike rides.*

*And speaking of being safe on a bike.*



**BICYCLING v. INFLUENZA.**



**V**ERY few of the people who've had influenza are regular cyclists. Those who bicycle regularly have been less liable to attack.

The clean sweet air on the road is far healthier than the stuffy atmosphere inside the tram, the 'bus or the train, and with a pair of Dunlop tyres fitted to your machine, you're free from tyre-worry and you've reduced the actual effort of cycling to the minimum.



**CYCLISTS' VISIBILITY ON THE ROAD**



**Safe Cycling**

When you are next out buying your safe-cycling gear, you might like to keep this chart in mind. The information was found on the net, so no scientific verification is available. However, it does seem to make sense in respect of the visibility of colours.

**Passing rule change**

The new law, which will require drivers to leave at least **one metre** when **passing a** cyclist in speed zones 60kmh or lower, and **1.5 metres** when **passing** at speed limits over 60kmh, comes after campaigning by RACV, the Amy Gillett Foundation and other cycling safety bodies for Victoria to follow every other state and ...7 Oct 2020 For a full report follow the link below to “Royal Auto”.

[New one metre road rule a win for safety](#)

**Darebin Parklands**

This park-lands is rapidly becoming “The jewel in the crown” of parks in the area (congratulations to all involved). The infrastructure has been much updated and is now ringed by well formed trails. In addition, the park is frequented by school groups who take part in a whole range of interactive, nature based activities. On my recent cycle through the park,



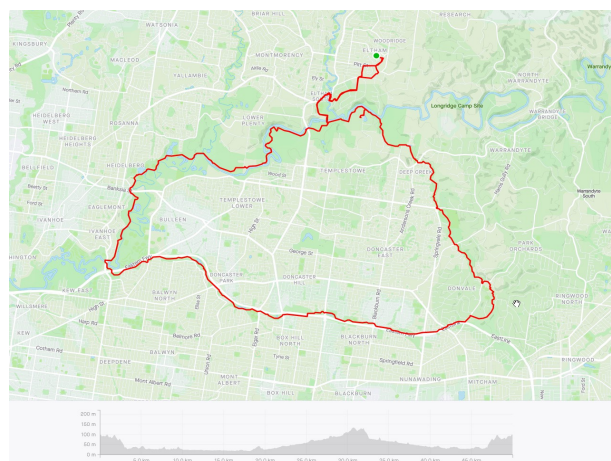
noticed a range of animal cut-out information boards. On closer inspection, I saw that they included a Q-R code that presumably (I didn't try it) brings up information about the particular animal featured. This is a great addition to the park.



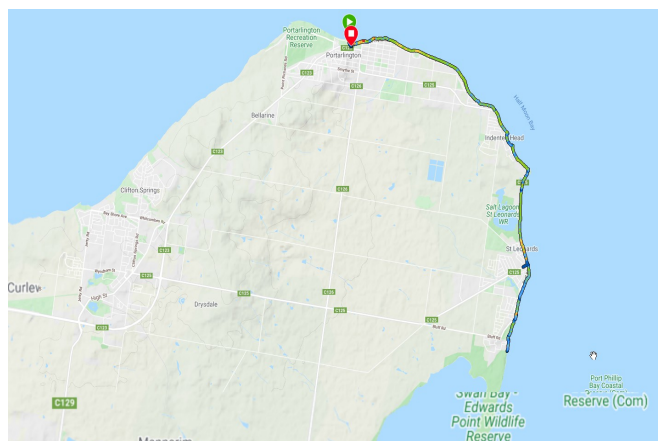
### Apple Pie Ride

There is a very well populated ride known by the above name. Not just by Banyule BUG riders, but nearly every cyclist knows of it. To be more accurate. It is a circuit ride along the Koonung Trail, Mullum Trail and Yarra Trail. The ride is almost completely on trail, depending on the route taken. One route is along Park Rd to the Mullum. The other route joins the Mullum from the Koonung trail. Now, the "Apple Pie" bit comes in because a stop is almost mandatory at "Petty's Orchard". Lots of great food available here – including the best apple pie in the known universe.

Here is a group of wonderful cycling ambassadors enjoying the fruits of this ride. You can join this ride by arriving at Warringal park on most Thursdays at 0900 when the ride leaves. Hope to see you there some time.



### Portarlington Ride



'Force 8: Gale' were the weather conditions Les B was hoping for in our recent ferry trip from Docklands to Portarlington. Just trying to relive his Navy days.

Fortunately for the rest of us, Thursday 1st April was sunny and mild with smooth seas. Eight intrepid members of the Latte group had a delightful day on ferry and bike.

We arrived at Portarlington around 10.45 am and then followed the beach bike path to St Leonards for lunch; we returned to Portarlington for the 3:45 ferry back to Docklands. We cycled an easy 30 Km.

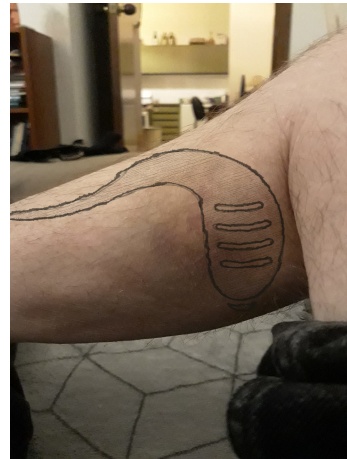
A very enjoyable day, visit the Port Phillip Ferries website to find out more.



Portarlington from the ferry



Always be on your best behaviour when riding your bike. You never know who you might meet. Photograph was taken during a regular group ride in San Deago. Not sure? Think of a galaxy far, far away.



Arnold completed an impressive 75k ride (Williamstown and back) and noticed severe bruising. Here is his leg receiving the very best of medical attention.



**THE IRONY IS STRONG IN THIS ONE**

I guess the intemtion was good!

That's it for April dear riders. Keep cycling and keep safe. Our roads are dangerous places.

Please think about a contribution for our next issue and email to [allang@bigpond.net.au](mailto:allang@bigpond.net.au)