



Banyule BUG Newsletter

Christmas 2022

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

Christmas Gathering

A very large number of Banyule BUG members and friends attended the annual Christmas gathering held alongside the Yarra River at Studley Park. Some cycled there enjoying the opportunity of a bike ride. Others perhaps walked, living close by. While some arrived by car.

Was it the camaraderie that drew them like moths to the flame? Was it the need for exercise? Or perhaps it was the call of the wild? No! It was, perhaps, the food. Once again a wonderful Christmas fare unfolded, as if by magic, on the banks of the Yarra.

A great Christmas gathering.

Merry Christmas everyone.



Bridges of Eltham

You would all be aware of the significant damage caused by the recent flooding of Diamond Creek. Nillumbik Council have done a terrific job in cleaning up the trail and it is now rideable from the Yarra to Hurstbridge. Two bridges in Eltham were significantly damaged and remain closed, with a terrific detour now in place. Nillumbik have released the following.

Eltham pedestrian bridges

Flood-damaged sections of two pedestrian bridges across the Diamond Creek in Eltham will be removed this week.

Other structural components, such as the abutments and footings will be retained at both locations.

The bridges, next to the Susan Street Oval and near the Eltham Skate Park, were too badly damaged in the October severe weather and flooding to be repaired.

Pedestrian detours are now in place via the bridges on Bridge Street, Brougham Street or Diamond Street.

The bridge next to the Susan Street Oval will be replaced with a bridge of similar size and materials. To prevent further damage, it will be raised higher than the previous bridge, above the 10-year flood level provided by Melbourne Water. Design work to reconstruct the bridge is underway.

Nillumbik Mayor Ben Ramcharan said the bridges were unsafe and needed to be removed.

“The October floods had a significant impact on our infrastructure along the Diamond Creek, including our shared paths, bridges and open spaces,” Cr Ramcharan said.

“We appreciate the bridge closures are inconvenient and frustrating for trail users and I want to reassure you that we will be working as quickly as possible to get them replaced.

Cr Ramcharan said Council would be advocating to the Victorian Government to replace the second bridge near the Eltham Skate Park as part of its recent \$32.8 million election commitment to build a new shared-use path along the Hurstbridge rail line from Montmorency to Eltham, to ensure it is delivered as soon as possible.

Please note this is a low resolution image. Higher resolutions are available on request.



Latest press release from Nillumbik Council ([Link](#))

Latrobe Uni Shared Trail

A new trail (extension of existing trail) has been completed through Latrobe Uni. The trail starts where the Darebin Trail splits to cross the creek heading to Latrobe Uni. It continues on circumnavigating the uni grounds eventually leading to Plenty Rd at Polaris corner.

It is a terrific ride and an excellent/different way to reach Bundoora Park where the Darebin Trail is reconnected.

The only problem, and it is a significant problem, is crossing Plenty Rd. For one or two cyclists, it can be done safely. However, a large group would have issues navigating the two lanes and tram tracks safely. There is simply not enough room for bikes at the holding thresholds. It takes a least two cycle of lights to cross Plenty Rd into the Park

It would be possible to ride on the road and use the right turn arrow and turn into Bundoora Park. This I would not recommend.

The following is a link to my FB page of a video showing part of the ride. It doesn't show the Plenty Rd end. Latrobe Trail ([Link](#)) Garmin Route ([Link](#))

Ride Report

The Latte Group had a terrific ride recently to a destination new to us – Pentridge Jail. This destination has a grim past, but it now houses a host of units/flats and shopping complexes. It is neat, interesting and well worth a walk around. The quality of the masonry work (bluestone blocks) is to be admired. Fully recommended as a destination.



Early Ride notification

Save the Date! Lilydale to Warburton ride

Wednesday 22nd March and Thursday 23rd March 2023 - club ride from Lilydale to Warburton and return; along the beautiful rail trail. All welcome. About 40 kms each way.

Join us for this ride and stay the night in lovely Warburton; meet the group for a counter dinner at the local watering hole and Thursday morning breakfast / coffee at one of the local cafes.

Come for the overnight trip or just make a day trip and cycle with the group until lunchtime (likely to be around Woori Yallock).

The trail starts near Lilydale railway station.

No need to do anything at this stage, just **'save the date'**. More details next year in BBUG newsletter, including information on accommodation options.



From our club President

Christmas greetings to all members of Banyule BUG. I hope that you each have a wonderful and safe Christmas season.

Banyule BUG cycling activities continue except that there are no Sunday club rides on Christmas day or New Year's day as you will be all at home opening presents, coping with a mild hangover or at least having a sleep in. Some will have scurried to the beach. Except for those days it's activities as normal.

Early 2023 dates for your diaries:

Informal club dinner at Godfathers restaurant in Briar Hill - **6.30 pm Monday 16th Jan**
Committee meeting - **Wednesday 8th Feb** (venue and time TBA).

Best wishes to all of you. Happy Christmas and a happy and healthy new year.

Peter Gurney

President Banyule BUG

Bike Theft

It is said that the very best lock for your bike (next to sitting on it) is the "Eye Lock". Keep your eye on it.

This BN article is worth a read. [\(Link\)](#)

I did have a discussion with the previous BN CEO, about a month before he departed, re stolen bikes. Promoted by the tandem couple's bike being stolen from Southbank.

Discussed the option to include a tracking device. Like find my phone.
Looks like there are several devices in USA.

Should members be reminded?

Maurie



Merry Christmas to you all.
Safe cycling. We will see you all
on a trail in 2023.

