



# Banyule Bug Newsletter

## August 2012



### BUGS IN THE COMMUNITY

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### Bugs become more community involved

Recent times have seen the Bug combine with community groups and council in a common goal to promote cycling in the area.

One such group was "Transition 3081".

Transition 3081 began on April 25<sup>th</sup> 2011 with neighbourhood garden working bees and it quickly moved to establish a monthly food swap at Olympic Village shops. The group's name includes the postcode of Heidelberg West, Heidelberg Heights and Bellfield, a label which is commonly used to identify the region. In due course cycling with its low environmental impact has also become part of its story.

While weather let the day down a bit, quite a few people turned up a lot of them the already converted.

A talk was given by the Bug on the benefits of cycling with a group, and also minor repairs were carried out on a number of bikes

using tools from their extremely well equipped tool room.

This group is definitely dedicated to using cycling as the preferred mode of transport. This was obvious in the number of modified bikes such as the one in the photo above. This bike is used to transport the children to school as well as family outings.

This group in its concern for the environment also incorporates recycling wherever possible one example of this is the panniers below made from recycled canvas and sourced from



Castlemaine Vic.

Shopping carts also featured on the day as did tandem, battery and folding bikes.



The Bug also attended an event on Wednesday July 4 when a number of Banyule Bug members lead a small group from NEMI on a short bike ride

Allan Garbett reports

There were some 8 people in the group and they were keen to experience a moderate ride. We made our way to the Darebin Creek Trail and headed north. It was a very pleasant ride with no mishaps and by the time we reached Settlement Road, the decision was made to turn back. The ride was appreciated by all.

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### *Rumour File*

Rumour has it that a certain member of the Latte group turned up for the ride the other week minus a bike We understand Whittlesea is a bit of a distance but!!!

## Leadership

### Issues???

Recent events in the Lycra Group have posed the following question

What are the properties of a good leader????????? Rumour has it that on two consecutive occasions one of our most "trusted leaders" who, prides himself on his leadership qualities lost members of the group. As luck would have it after noticing this discrepancy both these riders were located. However the leader in question still maintains that luck had nothing to do with it. It was his leadership skills that were responsible for locating the missing riders. Seems a good leader is only responsible for finding people

From our Lycra correspondent.

## Lycra News

### Broken Bollard

### Causes Mishap

An argument with a broken bollard on a recent Tuesday ride nearly ended in dire consequences for the Lycra group, resulting in one of their riders being taken to hospital with a dislocated shoulder, as well as a fractured shoulder bone, causing him to lose considerable time off work. The bollard which had been broken off with approximately 100mm left protruding above ground was not visible to the rider who was at the back of the group. The riders at the front fortunately had more time to react.

Consequently he hit the protruding piece and was thrown over the top of his bike. We hear he is doing OK and recuperating well



### **Welcome Back Anne**

Good to see Anne back on the Sunday morning rides after a six week break. Amazingly the break has done nothing to lower her fitness levels.

### **Brian Still Absent**

Brian still not able to ride with us, the old knees are causing him a bit of a problem, (the joys of playing football in the younger years) Miss the political debates he causes when he is riding.



# Bugs attend rally

Jim ,Maurie,Kathy and Maureen attended the rally held outside Parliament house to protest at the cut in funding for bicycle infrastructure. Despite inclement conditions hundreds of riders from other groups also attended this rally .A mockup of a bicycle track was unfurled to the steady chant of "Bike budget bring it back "Only time will tell the effectiveness of this rally



## Pick me up for your bike

Kickstarter – you ask for US\$3,500 to launch a product, and you get US\$19,584. Gotta love it. Walnut Studiolo, a small design studio in Portland, Oregon, was founded to create leather accessories for bicycles. This



time, their Frame Handle makes a bicycle easier to carry up and down steps or over obstacles by providing a grip at the correct ergonomic angle above the bike's center of gravity. The result is you have a comfortable grip for lifting with your whole body, just like a suitcase. Your comfort while carrying is enhanced, and you have more control over your bicycle in close quarters.

Thanks to Les and Gizmag

## Annual General Meeting

At Watsonia Library at 7.30pm Tues 7<sup>th</sup> August. All positions to be declared vacant. Nominations being taken for the election of office bearers. If you wish to be involved in the running of your club contact Leigh Jukes. Information and nomination forms have been distributed to all members. Also on the night door prizes, a great supper and a "surprise"

Memberships are also up for renewal

1st installment Allan Garbet

Not many years ago, the land over which the trail runs was thriving sheep and vegetable growing land. Most of this has gone now and is being overtaken by development. Keep a look out for the alpaca and goat Farm which is on the eastern side of the trail. This was the only farming to be seen apart from the occasional horse.