



Banyule BUG Newsletter

November
2025

***Our thanks to the
Office of Anthony
Carbines MP, state
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Access Restored

Yarra has restored the community's access to Darebin Creek, after removing a gate installed by Alphington Grammar across Old Heidelberg Road in 2019. The gate has since blocked public access to Darebin Creek and the revitalised \$18m Darebin Trail. ([Return](#)) For greater detail follow the ([Link](#))



© New pedestrian crossing at Old Heidelberg Road in Alphington

It is with the greatest of pleasure that Banyule Bicycle User Group announces our latest "Life Members". Alan Preacher (left) and Leigh Jukes (right), pictured with Maurie Abbott. This honour was conveyed at our "Awards Night" for the long contribution to the club Congratulations to both both Leigh and Alan.



Promise of Spring (Return)

Sure signs of spring are when the birds are swooping, the snakes are slithering and the bus are in rge blossom. Here we can see a collection of BUG's collecting under the blossoms.



Old is New Again (Return)

Occasionally posts from overseas arrive in my news feeds. This one from Thailand caught my attention. A young man displaying his new bike. Take a good look. It might be a new bike, but it is a very old configuration.

The adage “hold onto your old stuff. It will one day be new again” is true.



E-Bike train travel ([Return](#))

With the announcement that the Metro Tunnel will open for passengers in early December the necessity of a decision on proposed e-bike train travel restrictions has come into focus.

Now that major construction of the new underground railway stations has been completed, and the summer timetables for the introductory services released, public and media interest is building rapidly.

Millions of Melburnians will be keen to take a look at the new stations and to use the trains for a visit to the city.

The question that currently has no answer is: “Will there be any e-bikes on those trains?”

From BN. Full story here. ([Link](#))



Mountain Bike Fans ([Return](#))

Great news for mountain bike fans ready to swap their skis for the bike in the coming months – Mt Buller is adding new trails to the network and work is about to start!

As the spring snow melts into the Delatite and Howqua Rivers work is set to start from 24 October adding to the 60km network of bike trails in resort with the new trails expected to be open for riding by Easter, and possibly sooner if weather permits.

To get your heart pounding, here is a video of the existing trails. ([Link](#))

Read all about it here. ([Link](#))

From our BUG Committee ([Return](#))

*** Banyule BUG members can purchase a new BBUG riding jersey for \$45, what a bargain! Short or long sleeves available, limited sizes. Please contact John Perkins if interested:**

pohnjerkins@gmail.c

*** Banyule BUG combined ride and Christmas picnic is on Tuesday morning 9th December, 2025 to Ruffey Lake, Doncaster East.**

Many thanks from SueG

Bicycle Network (Return)

Have you ever considered becoming a member of Bicycle Network? There are many sound reasons to becoming a member -Insurance cover, advocacy, riding tips, trail notes etc. There are a number of price levels ranging from individual to family.

Learn more about the benefits of membership here. [\(Link\)](#)

Rider numbers on the rise BN (Return)

More Australians are riding bikes for transport, according to the latest active travel participation survey.

Bike riding for transport has risen by more than 10% in 2025, the national survey reports, with commuter trips now 20% of all bike travel.

Riding as part of a public transport journey is also up, now at 5% from 2.3%.

Riding to get to the shops is at 12.5% up from 7%.

The survey was last undertaken in 2023 and has been regularly conducted every second year since 2011.

Originally a cycling-only survey, the 2025 count included walking for the first time. Some 12,000 Australians responded to the survey.

Read more about this interesting survey here. [\(Link\)](#)

From our website (Return)

Riding the Rhine: Europe's first certified long-distance cycle path

This is a story well worth your time reading and if you have the time, cash and inclination, worth considering for your next overseas cycling adventure.

“Spanning 1,450km from the North Sea to the Swiss Alps, the Rhine Cycle Route is 87% car-free, culturally rich and surprisingly accessible.” Read the full story here. [\(Link\)](#)



And here is a short video of what to expect (maybe) as you cycle the full length from the Swiss Alps to Holland. [\(Video Link\)](#)

Naked Bike Ride Protest (Return)

The cyclists of Portland Oregon (USA) took to their bikes to voice their anger at the latest immigration moves in that country. It was a cold and wet day, but a very large crowd took part in the event.

This video is from You tube and you may have to confirm your age (via Google) to view it. ([Link](#))



Guide To Storing Electric Bike Batteries (Return)

This information is from an American site ([e-bikes.org](#)), but is relevant to Australia.

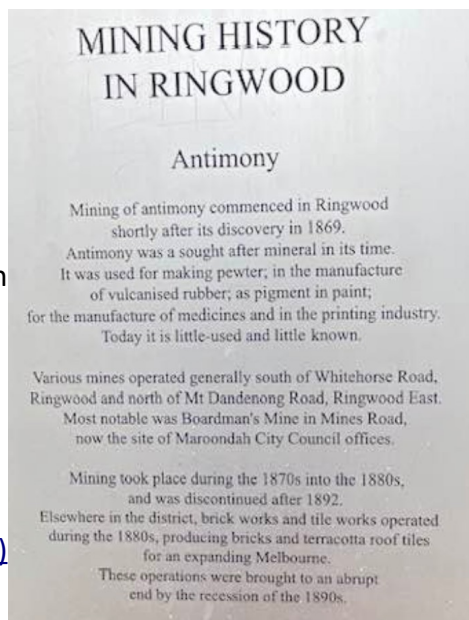
The battery is arguably the most critical component of your electric bike. So proper battery storage is crucial to ensuring it retains performance, remains safe, and stays in the best shape possible during extended periods without use. This e-bike battery longevity guide will help you understand the dos and don'ts of battery storage, where to keep an e-bike battery and discover e-bike battery health tips. ([Link](#))

A Ride in Time (Return)

The Lycra group recently cycled to a very historic and perhaps, not well known, site of Melbourne's history. The Antimony mine at Ringwood.



This mine operated around the turn of the century and produced antimony for use in a number of industrial purposes. ([Link](#))



A cycle trip to Fernshaw 1882 (Return)

The style of writing and the description of this bike trip to Fernshaw makes for interesting reading. It would have been a tough trip.

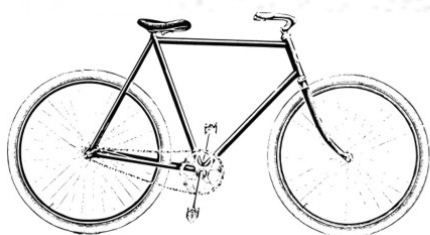
2932 x 2112 = 6.19 MP , 930 KB [2 / 2] 100%

Evelyn Observer December 1882

A Bicycling Trip to Fernshaw

A BICYCLING TRIP TO FERNSHAW.

On Saturday Messrs. Bell, Burston, and Stokes, of the M.B.C., left Melbourne at half-past 1 for a trip to Fernshaw. The road was rough and rutty to Ringwood, after which it improved slightly, and Lilydale was reached at a quarter-past 4 p.m. After this the road was good for three miles, then it became extremely bad, repeated dismounts had to be made, and it was considerably after 6 o'clock when Healesville was reached. The next seven miles were very hilly, but the beautiful scenery was an ample reward to the travellers for the hard work they had to undergo, and the small but picturesque township of Fernshaw was reached at 8 p.m. The next morning they retraced their way to Healesville, and then branched off for Yarra Flats. The road, however, passed over a succession of hills all the way back, the views obtained from the tops of some of them, especially from the Christmas Hills, being very fine. Melbourne was reached at 8 p.m. The distance covered altogether was about 100 miles.



Collins Bridge (Return)

Temporary closures on Main Yarra Trail

The Collins Bridge over the Yarra River at Gipps Street will be closed intermittently over the next month.

Contractors for Parks Victoria are finishing up works on the major new ramp connecting to the Main Yarra Trail at Collins Bridge.

They are scheduled to complete works at street level, including drainage, kerbs, footpaths and road surfacing.

This will require closure of Collins Bridge at several stages, with riders diverted onto the detour route.

Closure dates, subject to weather and between the hours of 9am–4pm are:

- * Tuesday 28 October
- * Wednesday 29 October
- * Monday 17 November
- * Wednesday November

The Bridge is otherwise open.

Detour signage will be in place at Gipps Street, Yarra Bend Park, Johnston Street and Walmer Street Bridge in advance of closures.

The main ramp and retaining wall have been completed. Some landscaping and planting works will continue.

The new facility is expected to be open to bike riders and walkers by early December.

Rainbow Bridge (Return)

The new “Rainbow Bridge” is now open to cyclists and pedestrians. The trail follows Dynon Rd and makes for a safe link between West Melbourne and Moonee Ponds Creek.

This video shows the full length of the new trail from Wet Melbourne. [\(Link\)](#)

Here are a group of Banyule BUG cyclists trying out the new bridge.



I hope you enjoy reading the articles in this edition of our newsletter and equally enjoy your cycling as the weather improves. Also, hold in your thoughts the cyclists who have been injured, or sadly killed, while cycling on our roads.

Send your contributions for our next edition to

allang@bigpond.net.au