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## E-Bikes on the move

### E-bike fires prompt train ban – (From BN)

Thousands of e-bike riders could be deprived of their rights to take their bikes on trains following moves by state governments to outlaw e-bikes and e-scooters from trains because of the risk of battery fires.

Such a ban would result in a major disruption to the day-to-day lives of many Australians.

E-bikes have rapidly increased in popularity in recent years and now comprise a fundamental part of our transport mix. ([Link](#))

### Coroner highlights e-motorbike issue (From BN)

A Victorian coroner has drawn attention to the major regulatory failure which is threatening the future of e-bike transport in Australia.

Many of the so-called e-bikes in our bike lanes and along our shared paths are not e-bikes at all – by law they are electric motorcycles.

The bikes have been modified to be more powerful and travel faster than the law permits, they are often controlled by hand-operated throttles and the riders don't have to pedal at all in many cases. ([Link](#))

## UKRAINE

Niamh Robinson

An injured Ukrainian soldier stranded for several days behind enemy lines managed to escape after being delivered an e-bike by a drone.

Footage shared by the Rubizh brigade appears to show an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) winching the bicycle down to the wounded man, who was reportedly surrounded by Russian forces, before he cycles away at speed.

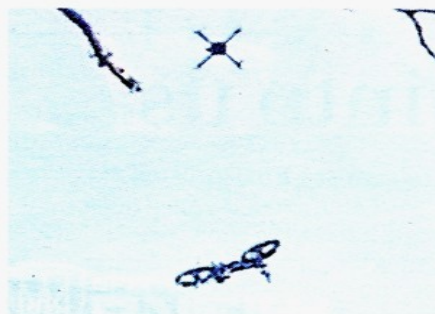
The brigade said three of its troops had been killed by enemy fire during the operation around Siversk in northern Ukraine, leaving the remaining soldier to hold down the position alone.

Speaking to camera, the soldier, call sign "Tanker", said: "Our drones covered us from above as best as they could. Then they threw two gas cylinders straight into our hole and a lighter. We caught fire."

Sustaining a leg injury in the attack, the remaining soldier was unable to evacuate without assistance.

"Every day, I was surrounded, from all sides. I fought back as best I could," he said, adding he was stranded there for four or five days.

The brigade's Mykola Gritsenko said a rescue team could not reach the wounded soldier without risking



The e-bike is winched down.

its own safety. "It was impossible to drive up with equipment because the enemy was everywhere. He couldn't get out on his own either because he had to walk 1.5 kilometres to the nearest position.

"In his condition, with his injuries and lower limbs, he simply wouldn't have made it."

It was at this point the brigade decided to airlift an e-bike to the wounded soldier using a drone.

Drones have become an integral tool in Ukraine's armoury during its war with Russia, allowing troops to navigate behind enemy lines without risking soldiers' lives.

But while the remotely operated technology is generally loaded with explosives and used for offensive purposes, there is little evidence of it being used in evacuation situations.

The Battalion Freedom Force brigade said two attempts to deliver the bike to the wounded servicemen were unsuccessful, with the vehicle first being shot down and then the drones' motors burning out.

But a third effort proved successful, with the soldier making it 400 metres on the electric bike before hitting a remote mine and being thrown into the air.

He limped a further 200 metres before being met by his comrades and pulled to safety. A second e-bike was then delivered to the wounded soldier, which he rode for 15 minutes until he reached a safe zone and could be evacuated.

"To carry out this operation, they had to calculate the right time of day, the right weather conditions that would allow him to do it," Gritsenko said.

"The weight of this electric bike itself reaches almost 40kg."

This latest footage emerged as Russia launched a wave of drone and missile attacks on Kyiv overnight, killing 16 people, including a six-year-old boy and his mother, Ukrainian officials said.

The offensive targeted 27 locations across the capital, including the children's ward of a hospital in Shevchenkivskyi district, they added. The Telegraph, London

**Drones and Bikes in Ukraine (Return)**  
**Wounded Soldier Rescued by DroneBike (Link)**

This Youtube video shows a wounded Ukrainian soldier who is able to ride to safety from behind enemy lines on a bike delivered by a drone. I think it must be the one described in the above article. Quite remarkable. [\(Return\)](#)

**Melbourne Cycling Infrastructure (Return)**

Melbourne cycling infrastructure plan risks getting stuck in low gear if feeder networks not considered: new research A new study highlights how far Melbourne still has to go in becoming a cycling city, warning the state government's plan for strategic cycling corridors must be complemented by local government efforts to make local streets safer for cyclists. From RMIT University [\(Link\)](#)



**The Wheel's Song**

Beneath the sky so vast and blue,  
A whisper hums where tires flew,  
A rhythm found on roads that wind,  
Where freedom greets the open mind.

The pedals turn with steady grace,  
Through countryside or city's pace,  
Each spin a thread in time's own seam,  
A moving thought, a living dream.

The chain, it sings a metal tune,  
To match the sun, or chase the moon,  
Up hills that test, down slopes that cheer,  
With wind-kissed cheeks and vision clear.

No engine's roar, no crowded lane,  
Just heart and breath and quiet gain,  
A dance of balance, flow, and will,  
Where every turn brings quiet thrill.

The trees applaud with rustling leaves,  
The rivers mirror passing speeds,  
The road extends, a ribbon wide,  
A promise waiting just outside.

So ride we must, while wheels are round,  
Through rain or sun, o'er gravel ground,  
For cycling is the soul set free—  
A journey shared by wind and me. [\(Return\)](#)

I have been learning Open Ai and I asked  
for a poem about cycling.

It came up with this. I think its style is  
Octo-rhyming couplets. That is eight  
syllables per line in rhyming pairs.  
(almost)

Not bad for a machine



**Gipps Street ramp – a cumulative post**

From Yarra Bicycle Users Group [\(Link\)](#)

**'Parks Victoria is on track to complete this project by December 2025'** Update

includes access stairs with gate and handrail to be done, planting on north side and pits, pipes in?ground, drainage upgrades, installation of rock walls and works to backfill and compact topsoil on the bank next to The Salvation Army and piling and foundations for the remaining section of ramp. A retaining wall needs to be installed at the end of Gipps Street and then structural supports can be installed. [\(Return\)](#)

This makes interesting reading This group have records  
about these steps going back to 2005.



## **Bendigo Creek Trail** [\(Link\)](#)

As the weather improves and the temperature rises, you might like a country ride. This is an excellent destination.

If you have an E-bike however, travelling by train at the moment is a bit problematic. However, if you can make to Bendigo, this trail is an excellent way to travel more or less North/South through Bendigo. The trail follows the Bendigo Creek from the Crusoe Reservoir to the Bendigo Pottery.

This video of the Northern end of the Bendigo Creek gives a good idea of what the trail is like. [\(Link\)](#)

Perfect for the family, this is a new way to experience Bendigo's unique heritage, history and attractions. Follow the link for more details including an elevation profile. [\(Return\)](#)

## **Say Hello to Your Second Vehicle** [\(BN Link\)](#)

*"An idea whose time has come" refers to a concept or innovation that is ripe for widespread adoption and success due to favorable circumstances, societal needs, or technological advancements. The phrase, famously attributed to [Victor Hugo](#), suggests that when an idea aligns with the spirit of the age, it becomes unstoppable and transformative*

The electrification of the humble bicycle has rapidly expanded the appeal of two-wheeled travel. All around the world, people of all ages are receiving a nudge along as they pedal up hills, take on headwinds and carry cargo home from the shops. Their wallets, their health and the environment are much better for it.



- Read the facts
- Download a booklet
- Latest news on e-bikes

This is a value-packed edition from BN that contains just about everything you need to know about buying and operating an e-bike. Not to be missed. [\(Return\)](#)

## **Melbourne E-Bike Attack** [\(Link\)](#)

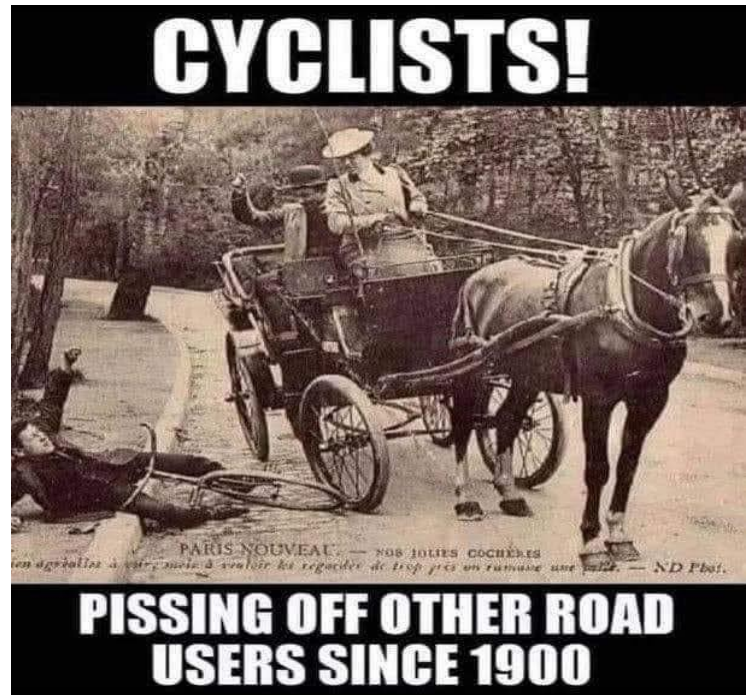
### **From 7 News** [\(Link\)](#)

This is the madness and mayhem playing out on the streets and in the parks of Melbourne. It is terrifying for those victims involved and has resulted in serious injury.

It is very important for the thousands of sensible people who use E-Bikes on a daily basis, like our club members, to speak out where we can and differentiate between the legal use and illegal use. As is often the case, the innocent and guilty are lumped together.

***Recently, in my local shopping strip, I witnessed an elderly E-Bike rider being berated by a member of the public for riding an E-Bike.***

So, where you can, raise your voice in defence of the innocent. We might all be losers. [\(Return\)](#)



### Gipps St Ramp/Steps



All the elements appear to be in place at Gipps St Ramp with landscaping and final touches to be done.

The long awaited opening is nigh. It has been many years since the replacement of the steps was first announced.

14 AUGUST 2025

### **E-bike train ban encounters the Opposition**

*The State Opposition has announced it will oppose the proposed ban of e-bikes on trains.*

*Shadow Minister for Public Transport, Matthew Guy, said it made no sense to encourage people to use e-bikes and e-scooters but outlaw them on public transport.*

*"E-bikes and e-scooters are now an important part of sustainable alternative transport," said Guy.*

*"Banning their carriage on trains and trams and limiting their broader use is a gross over-reaction to a very small number of incidents involving this mode of transport, across international rail networks."*

*The state government's proposed e-bike ban <https://bicyclenetwork.com.au/newsroom/2025/07/24/e-bike-fires-prompt-train-ban/> follows incidents in Melbourne and other cities involving e-bike batteries overheating on trains.*

*The proposal is currently out for public consultation <https://engage.vic.gov.au/public-transport-regulations>.*



*Guy suggested the proposed ban was not a solution to this problem and would go against the government's own commitments to encouraging active transport.*

*"Given the mobility and flexibility e-bikes and e-scooters provide to a growing number of Victorians, the government should be encouraging their use in a properly regulated and sustainable active transport market, not limiting their use to short distances from people's homes," he said.*

*"The Liberals and Nationals are committed to working with industry and safety experts to ensure a sensible, well-regulated framework for the use and carriage of e-bikes and e-scooters."*

*Bicycle Network encourages bike riders to make a submission to the consultation so that a full range of views can be considered.*

*We are working closely with industry partners and governments to quickly implement rigorous federal and state regulation that ensures that only fully standards-compliant e-bikes and their batteries are permitted on Australian roads.*

*Without the worry of these risk sub-standard bikes, there will be no reason for the train ban. [\(Return\)](#)*

### **Skeleton Creek Trail [\(BN Link\)](#)**

This is good news for users of the Skeleton Creek trail. A 3 km stretch has now been sealed which makes it a seal ride all the way to Williams Landing along both sides of the creek. Spoilt for choice as both sides are excellent trails.

***You might be interested in knowing how the creek was named. During the dry season the creek used to dry up to a series of waterholes. The numerous dry tracks left behind resembled the outline of a skeleton. Its first name being Skeleton Waterholes – later Skeleton Creek. [\(Return\)](#)***

### **Altona Williams Landing Bbug Ride [\(Link\)](#)**

***From an historical ride.***

***Skeleton Creek starts at 1.02 on the video along the north/east trail***

### **Double, Double, Toil and Trouble**

***The Lycra Groups ride recently to Cob Hill comes with a look at this historic area via a very interesting video. Well worth a look.***

***A Shakespearean introduction to get us in the mood for today's \*double dip***

***\*1. Super Sinuous Sunday\****

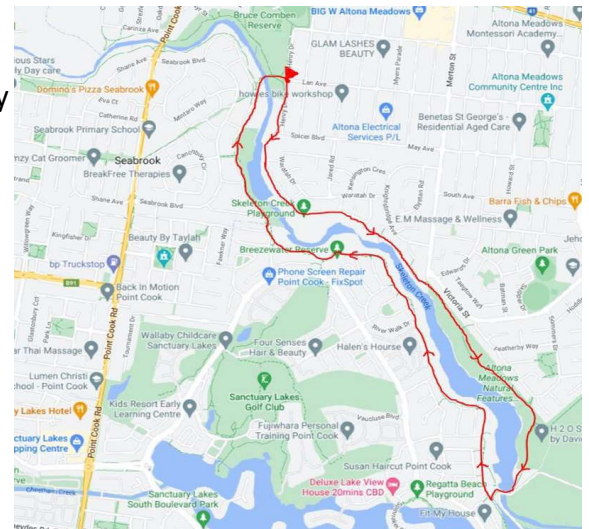
***Your Lycra Rides program might suggest that Sandridge Beach is on the menu this weekend. But - it's not! Sandridge-By-The-Sea was visited last weekend, switching with Coburg-By-The-Cobbles. Which means that Ralph***

***\*Show***

***Me The Koffee\* Nardella will lead your visit to Coburg Hill, famous for its links to the Kodak Company for many years. Who remembers Kodachrome and Ektachrome film rolls, ISO settings, Box Brownies and more? All processed here, at a huge complex that employed thousands of people over the years.***

***Museums Victoria has a fascinating history of the place \*online***

***<https://share.google/kQTmZ782HotWJdi1r>\*. [\(Return\)](#)***





*This about sums it up. The battle is about to begin*

### **Great Vic Bike Ride**

The Great Vic is on again in November under a revamped format. Less packing up with two day stays in one location. If you enter now you will receive -

**Great Vic Bike Ride**: Enter now for a free jersey.

Sign up to the Great Vic Bike Ride for camping, camaraderie, and coastline, and get your hands on your exclusive, and absolutely free event jersey.

Drawing inspiration from Victoria's famous coastline, the 2025 Great Vic event jersey ushers in the return to the Great Ocean Road in style. Don't miss out, register now.

SIGN UP BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE [<https://bicyclenetwork.com.au/rides-and-events/great-victorian-bike-ride/>]

**Have you ever thought of becoming a member of Bicycle Network? There are a number of good reasons why you should. Follow this link. <https://bicyclenetwork.com.au/membership/premium-membership-2/> (Return)**

### **Lithium battery fires**

Given the current debate swirling around e-bikes and trains, the following article from John P is well worth a read.

Folks,

The review into possible bans on ebikes in Victorian (and NSW) public transport systems is creating a fair bit of heat. John P has offered an \*interesting link

[<https://cybershack.com.au/consumer-advice/lithium-ion-battery-fire-advice-for-renters-home-and-strata-owners-guide/>](https://cybershack.com.au/consumer-advice/lithium-ion-battery-fire-advice-for-renters-home-and-strata-owners-guide/) \*to

information on "\*the hazards of Lithium-ion batteries and how fires resulting from them may impact your insurance". \*A little scary but well worth reading through. (Return)

*Enjoy the promise of warmer  
weather and contribute your  
adventures to the next newsletter  
via*

*[allang@bigpond.net.au](mailto:allang@bigpond.net.au)*