

Bendigo Mountain Bike Club
Presidents Report January 2018



The Value of Community

The passing of Jason Lowndes - at the age of 23 on the cusp of what would have been an outstanding professional career – does not make sense to any of us. People are upset, frustrated and angry. The service for Jason drew together a huge number of the Bendigo community – galvanising people to reflect on a life lived with passion, energy and selflessness.

Indeed, one of Jason’s last acts was to record a promotional video for the Golden Triangle Epic – more than happy to donate his time to assist the Bendigo Mountain Bike Club. It is right that we take time to reflect on his passing – and what this means to us as individuals as well as a cycling community.

More recently, Graeme Lowndes has articulated his desire to promote and support the “A metre matters” initiative:

“I really want to push ‘a metre matters’,” he said.

“A couple of minutes won’t change your life if you are in the car behind someone on a push bike; you run him over and it can change your life too.” (Bendigo Advertiser 4/1/2018).

The Bendigo Mountain Bike Club has a role to play in advocacy for cycling safety – many of our members ride road bikes – as well as cycle to singletrack in the bush using local road networks. It falls to us to assist with making change – by supporting initiatives such as “a metre matters, the Amy Gillett foundation and being vocal about providing a safer environment for us, our partners, family and friends.

This last weekend saw another example of community – with a large turnout at the Spring Gully Trailhead to begin construction of the “Community Loop”. Donations of equipment from Bobcat of Bendigo, local residents stopping to chat and say “great job” and watching all the various users of this space reminds us that we are well and truly on the right track (single of course!).

Well done to all.

Stuart MacGregor

President

Bendigo Mountain Bike Club