**PRESS RELEASE – 5 FEB 2021**

Orange community cycling kicks off with support from Cadia's Community Partnership Program

Orange community cycling kicks off in 2021 with support from Cadia’s Community Partnership Program “Get back on your bike!" is the call from Orange local cycling enthusiasts.  The Orange Bicycle Users Group or 'Orange BUG' is kicking off their 2021 calendar of social rides from Saturday 6 February 2021.

BUG rides are provided free by local cyclists to new or casual riders in Orange to help you get to know the neighbourhood, meet new people and explore the regional tourism opportunities on bike.

This year the Orange BUG has been given a grant from Newcrest Mining Cadia Valley Operations through its Community Partnership Program to support and host rides that promote healthy activity and tourist attractions in the region.

“Since September last year, we have been hosting rides that feature different themes and experiences such as the Orange wetlands, Orange Botanic Gardens, historic villages and local architecture. With the support from Newcrest are expanding our ride program to provide rides to locals and visitors on a more regular basis.” said Peter Rodgers, BUG President.

“With a nod to our supporter Newcrest, our first ride in 2021 is a Mining History Ride from Spring Hill to Lucknow. This ride is on Saturday 6 February and is hosted by a local geologist and BUG Ride Leader, Martin Scott, and includes a visit to Wentworth Mine Museum.”

Cadia’s General Manager, Aaron Brannigan, said Cadia was pleased to be supporting the Orange BUG with their expansion plans.

“The Orange BUG provides a great opportunity for people to get active while exploring some of the regions many attractions and we are pleased our support will increase the number of rides available to both locals and visitors to the area.”

Orange BUG is supported by Bicycle NSW and is focused on providing safe, inclusive, regular rides for local and visiting cyclists. The rides are free to anyone with a working bike and can cater for all levels, including beginners, with different paces and distances.  Newcrest funding helps the BUG to train ride leaders and design rides that incorporate business and tourism activities.

For more information about rides head to www.orangebugs.org or join the Orange BUG on Facebook. (Photo: Orange BUG Sunday Cycle around Wetlands Loop) Media invitation: Media are invited to attend the finishing point of Saturday’s ride, Wentworth Mine, corner of the Mitchell Highway and Emu Swamp Road at 10:30am Saturday 6 February with representatives from Orange BUG and Newcrest available. (END)