



PROGRESSION PLAYGROUND

BMX FREESTYLE IN LOGAN

JULY 2024 – JUNE 2025





ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Logan City Council acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways across the City of Logan. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. They hold the memories, traditions, cultures and hopes of Australia's First Peoples.

LIVING MUSEUM OF LOGAN

Welcome to Living Museum of Logan. It is a place to experience the stories of Logan's diverse communities, and hear, see and read stories from the people who have made the City of Logan what it is today.

Displays in the museum acknowledge the city's past, illuminate the present and help imagine the future. Living Museum of Logan is a place for communities to tell their own stories in their own words through arts and cultural expression. It provides opportunities to raise awareness, build upon respect and provide a unique visitor experience.

STORIES TO EXPLORE

Living Museum of Logan provides a changing program of displays co-curated by Logan's community with museum staff.

Cover image: Browns Plains Skate Park was constructed in 1989 as part of Logan City Council's initiative to provide skate facilities within the City of Logan. Chris James, 2023, Cooper Brownlee.

Left image: Sally Terare (Butchulla, Bundjalung), Wander free, 2021, Stencilled StreetBond™. Wander free is a contemporary design that shows how the flora, fauna and environment of the area are interconnected. It also shows how each of us connect with nature. The artwork is a playful statement that featured temporarily as a large-scale artwork in the plaza area of the Kingston Butter Factory Cultural Precinct.



PROGRESSION PLAYGROUND: BMX FREESTYLE IN LOGAN

The sport, culture, and industry of BMX freestyle has evolved through the DIY (Do-It-Yourself) ethos that embodies urban street culture and the ingenuity of creating something from nothing. Freestyle riders push the boundaries of what is possible on a bike without the conformity and rules of traditional sports.

The true definition freestyle is being in the moment. To be free and to do what you want to do without judgement or criticism. It is this freedom that has enabled freestyle to be not only a sport, but a way of living. Freestyle allows for constant evolution both individually and collectively.

Progression Playground highlights the evolution of Logan's BMX freestyle scene from the early years to today's new generation of riders. This exhibition shines a spotlight on the essence of the sport, tied together by community and self-expression. This Rider Owned – Rider Run ethos has allowed freestyle in Logan to be one of the world's most progressive playgrounds.



DID YOU KNOW:

Tim Wood was Queensland's first rider to successfully land backflips.

In 1993, Tim constructed a customised ramp to launch himself into Logan's Karawatha Quarry. The water provided Tim with a soft landing to perfect the trick. That same year Tim performed the backflip in competition at Beenleigh BMX Complex.

Today, the backflip is recognised as foundation trick used in most disciplines of freestyle riding.

Image left: Queensland's first freestyle competitions were organised by Woodridge bicycle store Discount Bicycle Specialists in 1985 and held in the carpark of what is known today as Logan City Centre. Tim Newton, 1985, Steven Smith.

Image top: Courtesy of Tim Wood



COMMUNITY

Mark Schneider, moved from Townsville to the City of Logan in 1996 to be closer to the ramps at Beenleigh BMX Park. Two years later he organised the Heavy Metal Heroes competition series, and in 2003 co-founded and the Beenleigh BMX Stunts Association (BBSAI). The BBSAI prevented Beenleigh BMX Park from demolition, and provided substantial funding to build new ramps.

Image above: Mark Schneider, 2008, Chris Polack.

Image right: Beenleigh rider Ryan Guettler was one of the early Australian riders to make a successful career as professional freestyle rider. Ryan at Shailer Park skate park, 2004, Chris Moore.





CULTURAL HUBS

“Now is the time to change the perception of how these facilities are viewed. BMX and skate parks are not just sport and recreational facilities; they are community and cultural hubs for people who choose to live a different way of life.”

— Ross Lavender

Image right: Kayla McCormick is one of the new generation of female riders to ride freestyle in the City of Logan. 2024, photo supplied by Logan City Council.



UNITED

Over the past 25 years, most of the Australian riders who established international professional freestyle careers either grew up or rode in the City of Logan. Today BMX Freestyle is an elite sport. BMX and skateboarding are now represented in the Olympic Games.

Logan Martin, who grew up in the City of Logan, won the inaugural Olympic gold medal for the Cycling BMX Freestyle Men's Park event at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

As a community and a culture, freestyle continues to embrace the core values of the Rider Owned - Rider Run philosophy. We are riders of all ages, genders, sexualities, ethnicities, riding disciplines, and generations. Our home is your local BMX and skate park. Now is the time to change the perception of how these facilities are viewed. BMX and skate parks are not just sport and recreational facilities; they are community and cultural hubs for people who choose to live a different way of life. We come together to better ourselves as riders, to share knowledge through movement and creativity, and develop life skills to become better people.



RIDE IN LOGAN

Doug Larsen Park - Logan Street, Beenleigh

Federation Drive Reserve - Federation Drive, Bethania

Highland Park - Eugene Street, Boronia Heights

Waller Park - Waller Road, Browns Plains

Crestmead Park - Gimlet Street, Crestmead

Coffey Park - Coffey Street, Crestmead

Albert River Park - Ramu Street, Eaglby

Chatfield Park - Lindau Street, Edens Landing

Leighton Fields - Loane Drive, Edens Landing

Flagstone Regional Park - Flagstonian Drive, Flagstone

Ison Park - Ison Road, Greenbank

Greenbank Recreation Reserve - Middle Road, Greenbank

Jimboomba Park - South Street, Jimboomba

Village Green - River Street, Logan Village

Tudor Park - Clarks Road, Loganholme

Sturdee Park - Sturdee Street, Loganlea

Marsden Pauline Park - Pauline Street, Loganlea

Wearing Park - Greenhill Road, Munruben

Underwood Park - Underwood Road, Priestdale

Shailer Pioneer Park - Harley Street, Shailer Park

Barbaralla Park - Barbaralla Drive, Springwood

Woodlands District Park - Grand Terrace, Waterford

Tygun Park - Tygun Road, Waterford West

Activity Park - Ernest Street, Windaroo

Oates Park - Oates Avenue, Woodridge

Woodridge Adventure Park - Kingston Road
(Corner of Smith Road), Woodridge



Image: Jayden Fuller at Browns Plains Skate Park, 2022, Cooper Brownlee.



Image: Ross D Lavender at Beenleigh BMX Park, 2022, Andras Pentek.

CURATOR BIO

Ross D Lavender is a BMX freestyle historian and rider with more than 35 years of experience in the Australian BMX. Throughout the 1990s and 2000s, Ross actively competed in local, state, and national freestyle competitions, as an Australian professional rider.

Not only a rider, Ross has also made significant contributions to the BMX community through his work in media and publishing. He has written for various BMX publications, holding positions as columnist for 2020 BMX Magazine and senior writer for REBELYELL BMX magazine.

In 2012, Ross founded Unscene History and the Australian BMX Freestyle Archive, dedicated to documenting and preserving the sporting and cultural history of freestyle in Australia. His dedication to the sport was further demonstrated through the curation of the BMX exhibit Unscene: The History of Brisbane Freestyle at Jugglers Art Space in 2013.

Ross plays a vital role in bridging the gap between the freestyle community, local council, and heritage groups in the City of Logan, advocating to recognise and promote BMX Freestyle as both a sporting and cultural heritage.

His commitment to preserving the history of BMX freestyle culminated in the publication of his first book in 2023, Transition: 40 Years of Beenleigh BMX Park, supported by Logan City Council's Regional Arts Development Fund.

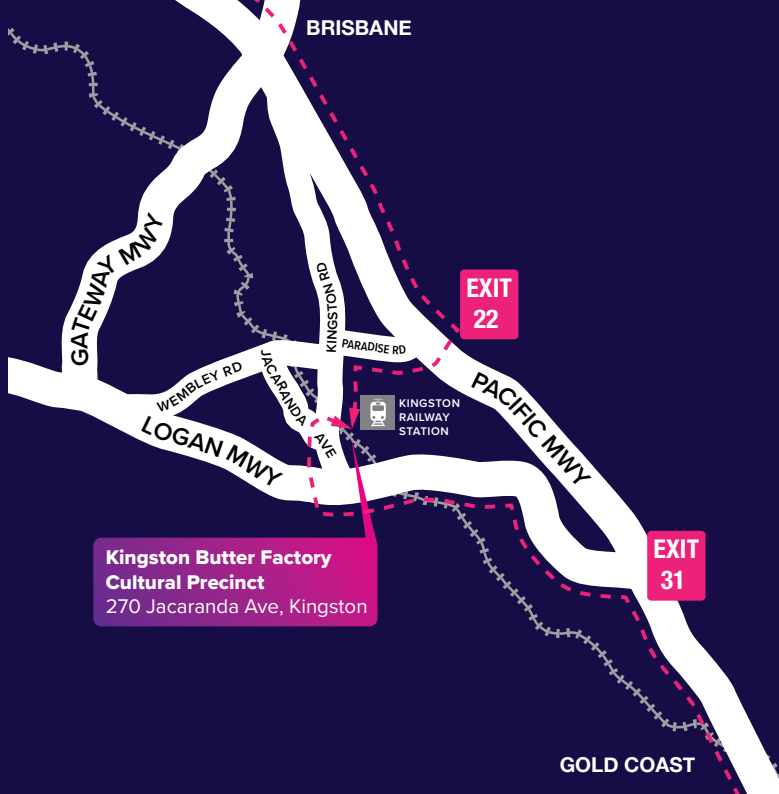
Ross continues to ride today and can be seen regularly down at Beenleigh BMX Park.

Curator: Ross Lavender

Graphic Design: Matt O'Sullivan

Videographer: Troy Charlesworth

Contributors: Clint Millar, Rafael Manning, Phoenix Kolola, Kayla McCormick, Tim Wood, Ryder Wood, Wayne Cant, Cooper Brownlee, Colony BMX, Glen McLaughlin, Paterico Fallico, Steven Smith, Ben Grams, Matt Jarrott, Andras Pentek, Chris Moore, Chris Polack, Mark Schneider, Peter James, Brenden Fickling, Fakington Wilde, Michael Canfield, Carmelo Gilbert, and Logan City Council.



PLAN YOUR VISIT

FIND US

Living Museum of Logan is located inside the Kingston Butter Factory building at 270 Jacaranda Avenue, Kingston, Queensland.

OPENING HOURS

Open Tuesday to Saturday, 10 am to 4 pm and when events and performances are held at the Kingston Butter Factory. Entry is free.

GETTING THERE

By car: Living Museum of Logan is a 35-minute drive from Brisbane off the Pacific Motorway Exit 22, and 45 minutes from the Gold Coast off Pacific Motorway Exit 31.

Parking: Living Museum of Logan is within the Kingston Butter Factory Cultural Precinct which has free onsite car, bus and bike parking available for your convenience.

Public transport: Living Museum of Logan is a short walk from the Kingston train station and bus interchange

ACCESSIBILITY

Accessible parking is available with designated spaces in the car park. Please make sure your pass is clearly displayed when parking in these spaces. Living Museum of Logan spaces and corridors are wide enough to fit wheelchairs and prams. Accessible toilets and change rooms are located on the ground floor of the museum.

BE INSPIRED

Living Museum of Logan offers a range of events and activities, from guided tours and curator's talks, to in-depth discussions and workshops with artists. Visit **loganarts.com.au/livingmuseum** where you will find the latest information. Please check the website for up-to-date information.

GROUP AND ACTIVITY BOOKINGS

We recommend that schools and all groups make a booking, especially if you would like a free tour or talk as part of your visit to the museum.

To make a booking, please phone us on **07 2803 4724**, email **livingmuseum@logan.qld.gov.au** or visit us during opening hours to book in person.



Living Museum of Logan

Kingston Butter Factory Cultural Precinct
270 Jacaranda Ave
Kingston, Queensland 4114

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Contact us:



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livingmuseum@logan.qld.gov.au



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