

the know

New bikes

Mercedes' Smart scooter

IN 2010, MERCEDES-BENZ revealed a tentative step into the two-wheeled market in the form of an electric scooter concept made under its subsidiary Smart brand.

Over the next couple of years the project progressed, and by 2012 Mercedes confirmed that the bike would be in showrooms by 2014 – but it wasn't.

However, not all is lost, because with its German rival BMW now in the electric scooter game, and the technology for electric bikes taking huge strides forwards, don't write off the idea of a Mercedes-made

scooter just yet.

These pictures are the design patent images for what would have been the production scooter. The single-sided front end of the concept is swapped for a conventional fork, while the iPhone-based instruments of the show bike are replaced with a proper, standalone dashboard. The swingarm on this model is also different, with a hub-mounted motor clearly visible instead of the concept scooter's solid rear wheel with the motor hidden inside.

Watch this space...

BEN PURVIS



Soon you might actually be able to afford a Merc



AMCN's Fiat Ducato Maxi Professional van getting put to good use for a great cause

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Bringing the warmth

THE DISTRIBUTION PHASE of this year's AMCN Winter Jacket Drive has swung into action and is now providing Australia's homeless community with a little extra warmth for the long winter still ahead.

Melbournians and Sydney-siders don't often see eye to eye, but there was no argument that both cities were bloody cold last week

as the annual Warmth Rides departed from each capital's respective Indian and Victory Motorcycle dealerships.

The Sydney ride once again headed under the Kings Cross railway overpass at Woolloomooloo where riders were greeted by a grateful group who had endured a long, freezing night trying to stay dry. As the small but enthusiastic gathering

of volunteers assisted the Missionbeat team with getting everyone into jackets donated by AMCN readers, participants of the inaugural Melbourne Warmth Ride headed over to Mission Australia's Synergy operation in North Melbourne for a first-hand look at some of the vital work that goes into making sure youth on the margins don't fall over the edge.

If you are still holding onto a jacket you would like to donate, the final event on the 2016 Winter Jacket Drive calendar is the Sydney Homeless connect event on 7 July at Sydney Town Hall, so you might just have time. Mission Australia and AMCN will be on hand from 11am distributing jackets to those in need.

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