

# Chainlinks

How to pick up three  
people and their baggage  
on a bike



# Editorial

The petrol price seems to have reached that mysterious tipping point for public opinion: cycling is now a serious option to explore, not just in New Zealand but in the USA too. In this issue you can read about reaction to our press release on fuel prices, on the changes for bikes on public transport, and the continuing work around the regions to make cycling safer.

The last issue of Chainlinks got a few strong reactions. Land Transport NZ pointed out that having indicators fixed to your bike is not legal in NZ. How this prohibition meets their stated objective "to allow the vehicle to be operated safely under all driving conditions and not endanger the safety of other road users" I have yet to ascertain: expect an in depth look at this in the next issue. In the meantime it is perfectly legal to have indicators fixed to yourself or your clothing. Further, it appears to be legal to *not* signal at all when the construction and equipment of a cycle makes it impractical (Road Rules 2004, SR 2004/427 3.10 (7)); for instance when both brakes are required, which means both hands are engaged.

The Automobile Association took exception to the tone of the item on KiwiRAP, assuring CAN that they are "trying to make our roads more forgiving and safe for all users". But I am still unclear how KiwiRAP intends to get

input from other road users, such as cyclists. Making roads safe for cyclists is no more straightforward than making them safe for cars or trucks — if they do not have people with the know-how to cater for cycles in their process, it's hard to see how they can do it well, and cyclists are likely to continue to be an after-thought. See the photo at right for the Christchurch City Council's idea of catering for cyclists, and on page 7 for a cycle facility TransitNZ chose to give Tasman riders.

There was also reaction to my surprise at the money, time and energy going into counting cycle helmet use, and the lack of interest or energy going into any other cyclist safety measures. There is not doubt that anyone coming off their cycle and hitting their head is going to be profoundly grateful for their cycle helmet. But it doesn't make you more visible on the road, it doesn't persuade buses, trucks and cars to give the legally required 1.5 m, it doesn't make you visible at night. It reduces your chance of brain damage not your chance of being hit. None of us want brain damage, but neither do we want to be crowded or hit by other road users, and it would be a very fine thing if the dedication, time and money applied to counting cycle helmets was applied to measures that make the roads safer for cyclists so we are not thrown off, not just making our brains safer when we are. ■



This Christchurch cycle lane crosses the tram lines and goes underneath the parked cars. Read more about bikes and trams on p19.

## Letters to the editor

### Cars can't see you

This pic is perhaps not quite in the same vein as the photos of Crap Cycle Lanes that you would like (actually, it's a very good cyclepath), but I get a chuckle out of the sign every time I ride past it.



clear winter sunshine  
driver sees me but does not care  
cyclist must bail out    guy chapman †

The sign is at the bottom of the "Bridleway" cyclepath that meanders through the bush from Khandallah to Kaiwharawhara in Wellington.

I know that new technology going into cars will give them the ability to "see" ahead, but really, is it necessary to remind cyclists that this technology is not quite here yet?

Surely a sign just saying "blind intersection" would be more appropriate.

Regards,  
Gary Gibson

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# Getting children out of cars and onto their bikes

Mark Leishman

Palmerston North Intermediate Normal and Ross Intermediate Schools have made the wearing of Hi-Viz vests compulsory for cyclists, after the success of the iMove promotion that is having a significant and positive impact on the transport behaviours of the region's youth.

Funded by LTNZ, and administered by Sport Manawatu, the iMove promotion has proved a catalyst for many schools to implement Road Safe strategies.

More than 50% of New Zealand students are transported to and from school. These trips almost doubled between 1990 and 1998 while at the same time general use of bicycles for commuting purposes has declined. As rates of childhood obesity rise, numerous initiatives have attempted to address the issues — one of the most enduring and successful of which is the Manawatu-based iMove promotion.

According to Marie Leishman of Palmerston North Intermediate Normal (PNINS), "iMove allowed a gradual transition by introducing students and their parents to the concept of cyclists wearing Hi-Viz vests under the umbrella of the whole iMove concept. Encouraging students to choose to be part of the promotion and then issuing them with a free vest was powerful. No persuasion was involved. They were simply the uniform of the promotion."

Leishman adds further that "it was also an eloquent statement by local government that they value safety enough to fund it in such a practical way. After two years of iMove, the inclusion of vests in our school uniform



PNINS students head for home, resplendent in their new uniform vests.

has been seamless and easy. Quite simply, people are now accustomed to seeing our cyclists wearing them."

During an iMove promotion, participating students are encouraged to cycle to school on "iMove Thursdays" for 4 weeks. Students cycling (whilst wearing a vest) are issued a voucher which they place in a weekly prize draw for various incentive prizes: drink bottles, cycle shop vouchers, reflective 'slap bands' and even bike lights. This positive reinforcement obviously works, as in the Manawatu it is not uncommon for iMove schools to see up to 1/3 of their roll cycling on iMove days!

Getting children out of cars and onto their bikes has numerous benefits, among them improving fitness and health, relieving congestion at the school gate, and helping to cut our energy use and vehicle emissions. This is not lost on iMove coordinator Mark Leishman: "We're committed

to promoting sustainable and safe land transport for life and this is a great way for children to learn good habits early on."

These successes highlight the results that can be achieved with a consistent message, supported by a collaborative approach by schools and their communities.

"We are really lucky here in the Manawatu to have enthusiastic support from numerous health promotion agencies," adds Leishman. "We have all sorts involved. From Roadsafe Central to Sport Manawatu staff, Police education officers, Whakapai Hauora, Public Health Unit, Primary Health Organisations and Public Health Nurses — all lend a hand." And it is that support that continues to produce outstanding results.

The next iMove month in Manawatu is November. ■

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the answer my friend  
is not blowing in the wind —  
it's riding a bike jaberwock †

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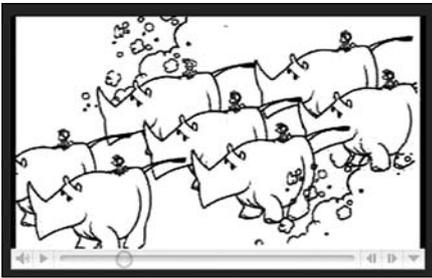
eight years old, just learned,  
moulton mini, single speed,  
ten miles, with proud mum  
andy scaife †

# Government news

## Cycling and walking strategies: a hot topic for local government

A search of recent activity on government websites revealed dozens of city and district councils working on their walking and cycling strategy documents. It's wonderful what the incentive of some central government funding can do!

In Central government, **Land Transport New Zealand** has launched a new advertising campaign focusing on travel choices — the first of their sustainability campaigns. You can see it on their website, featuring a herd of rhinoceros! <http://tinyurl.com/5w2q6t>



The Land Transport webpage is one of the better starting points for finding information on government initiatives, and general resources, and safety information for cyclists. <http://tinyurl.com/6bjydz>

**Transit New Zealand** has developed its own supplement to the key reference document for the design of cycling facilities in New Zealand, *The Guide to Traffic Engineering Practice Part 14 – Bicycles 2nd Edition (1999)*, (GTEP Part 14 for short) published by Austroads. The supplement is to account for the fact that some of the original document is too specific to Australian traffic regulations, traffic signing and road markings.

## World Environment Day 5 June

Government agencies supported World Environment Day <http://www.sustainability.govt.nz/wed> and made suggestions for school and community activities <http://tinyurl.com/5nczse> (pdf).

This sustainability website has a page on transport with information about reducing fuel use, choosing the right car, and minimising vehicle use.

Cycling isn't very prominent at first glance, but if you look hard enough there are links to several sites with cycling information and resources.

## New Cyclist Skills Training Guideline

A new Cyclist Skills Training Guideline (version 1) is now available on the Land Transport NZ website to help interested parties plan and develop cyclist skills training programmes in their region.

This is a key initiative in the *Getting There— on foot by cycle* Implementation Plan. The guide, which comprehensively outlines a consistent 'best practice' approach to cyclist training, caters for a range of trainees learning in either a school or an adult training environment. It also includes a number of outcomes to ensure that demonstrated ability is achieved at each skill level. As additional areas of work need to be developed, a low key, staged promotion is planned to enable systems and processes to be put in place to manage the development of high quality programmes throughout the country. The first step is to raise awareness of the guideline, then to support and encourage interested parties, where appropriate, to develop programmes based on the guideline. Land Transport NZ aims to begin a national roll out in 2010.

<http://tinyurl.com/6bjydz> (pdf).  
Further information: Gerry Dance, Senior Policy Advisor (Networks)  
[Gerry.Dance@landtransport.govt.nz](mailto:Gerry.Dance@landtransport.govt.nz)

## Bike Wise Programme Review

Land Transport New Zealand is currently undertaking a review of the Bike Wise Programme. The aim of the review is to examine the current programme goals, format and outcomes, and determine whether these are still appropriate. The review will also look at ways the programme can be improved and enhanced.

very dangerous,  
bicycles and poetry —  
someone could get hurt 905 †

The Bike Wise Programme has been running since 1995, and currently comprises Bike Wise Week, Go By Bike Day, Bike Wise Battle and the Mayoral Challenge. Responsibility for coordinating the programme passed from the Health Sponsorship Council (HSC) to Land Transport NZ in mid-2007. This transition provided a timely opportunity to complete a review.

The review started in conjunction with the delivery of Bike Wise 2008 and will be completed by the end of May 2008. The following areas are being examined as part of the review:

ined as part of the review:

- the aims of the Bike Wise Programme
- the key messages Bike Wise is promoting
- the timing and length of Bike Wise Week
- the type and level of support provided nationally to Bike Wise coordinators
- the Bike Wise website
- schools involvement in the Bike Wise Programme
- the options for/desirability of combining cycling and walking promotions
- the impact of Bike Wise on long term behaviour changes.

As part of the review Land Transport NZ has undertaken interviews with a variety of key stakeholders to discuss suggested improvements and also get feedback on proposed programme changes.

Once the review is complete, the information will be used to determine the future look of the programme. Any changes to the programme will be signalled to key stakeholders groups via existing Bike Wise and Land Transport NZ communication channels by the end of June 2008. ■

# The Green Green Limousine's Maiden Voyage

Steven Muir

It was a brisk morning on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May when Steven Muir from Cycling Church set off from Central Christchurch to the airport on his bike, with an extra bike bolted onto his bike trailer.

This was the first-ever voyage of the green green limousine, an airport pickup service primarily aimed at promoting the wonders of bike trailers (particularly the ones Steven constructs himself) and reducing the carbon footprint associated with travel.

On arriving at the airport Steven removed the spare bike from the trailer, replaced the front wheel (which was removed to bolt the front forks to the



Steven's bike, with spare bike on board the trailer, arriving at the airport

trailer), locked the bikes, and went to meet Nandor Tanczos from the Green Party who was arriving for a talk at Lincoln University. Nandor travels lightly with only a small backpack, so a small trailer with a single recycle crate



Front fork attachment bracket, home made from 10mm threaded rod.

wheels spinning around flying past automobiles the bike is freedom  
nicole mcmorrow †

was used to transport the luggage, with panniers for a few snacks.

After supplying gloves and discussing Nandor's helmet exemption they set off at a leisurely pace, on the 20 km ride to Lincoln. The first stop was only a few meters down the road at the Totem Pole where a demonstration of support for the Anzac Ploughshares activists was occurring. Fortunately parking on this busy corner was no problem for the bikes and Nandor had a bit of a chat before setting off around the unpleasantly busy Russley Road, through Hornby to

Prebbleton. A great off-road cycleway from Prebbleton to Lincoln made this the most enjoyable part of the ride and they arrived at Lincoln University around one and a half hours after departure— a very good effort from Nandor who doesn't do huge amounts of cycling. The Recreation Centre kindly supplied



The tandem limousine with suitcases and one Dahon folding bike.



Nandor and Steven arriving at Lincoln University

a free shower for Nandor to freshen up for his talk.

Following the talk Nandor set off in a car for several other engagements around Christchurch while Steven returned home with the spare bike back on the trailer, getting his daily quota of exercise with 50 km or so of riding.

There are several other forms of the green green limousine depending on the number of people to be picked up and their amount of luggage. The most impressive limousine is a large suitcase-carrying trailer which can be towed behind a tandem bike with up to three folding bikes in the trailer. Visitors to Christchurch can ride on the back of the tandem or one of the unfolded folding bikes to their destination within Christchurch. Up to three large suitcases (or four smaller backpacks/suitcases) can be easily placed into the plastic bins on the trailer. One local person can thereby pick up three or four visitors depending on the amount of luggage. ■

# International snippets

## High petrol price gets US commuters on their bikes

As US petrol reaches \$4 per gallon, bike commuting is increasing, by as much as 33% in Huston in one month, NBC reports. News video: <http://tinyurl.com/54m39p> (MSNBC)



## UK facility of the month

The designers of this shared use path on Ringwood Road in Poole put a great deal of thought into avoiding conflict between the different users (in this case cyclists and large trees). The cycle side of the path is cambered at 30°, causing cyclists to swerve away from the trees. Also, note how the trees are carefully tilted to give more clearance at handlebar height. Steve Parlour, Warrington Cycle Campaign.

## Aussie cyclists mowed down in hit-and-run

About 50 cyclists were involved in a hit-and-run crash in Sydney in May. A motorist who was “worrying” the rear of the pack overtook, pulled in front and slammed on his brakes, giving the riders no time to stop.

“Everyone slammed into each other ... there were broken bikes — wheels busted and wheels snapped — and people lying on the road.”

As if that wasn't bad enough, there were “jeers and taunts of several drivers (more than 3 separate drivers that one rider noticed) making their way past the aftermath of the accident, despite the fact that a police car and two ambulances were on the scene treating seriously injured people.” Dylan Welch and Dan Emerson, SMH; <http://tinyurl.com/3ea77r>

## Switzerland launches the world's largest active-travel trails network

Switzerland Mobility describes a “standardised signposting program for its human-powered national and regional recreational trails. This integrated trail system ... features more than 100,000 signposts; 20,000 km of interconnected hiking, cycling, inline skating, canoeing, and mountain bike trails; and accessibility from more than 18,000 different stops on Switzerland's public transport network.” <http://tinyurl.com/3vnluo>

## UK ladies who brunch

To encourage mums to cycle to school with their children, ‘Project in Derby’ held free ‘Biking Brunches’. Activities included simple cycle maintenance and cycle skills, accompanied by coffee and muffins, and a school lunch. This was followed by a short cycle ride arriving back at school just in time to enjoy the cycle home with their children.

## Automated bike park in Tokyo

A woeful lack of available parking spaces at most Japanese train stations is a real problem. In some places legal parks are impossible to find and private security guards are known for performing periodic sweeps where bicycles are tossed in the back of a truck and impounded. At about \$US1 per day or about \$US18 for a month, a multi-level parking spot is a lot cheaper than the impound fee. [Japan Probe] <http://tinyurl.com/6kwu62> ■

downhill bicycling forty, fifty miles per hour should have fixed brakes jonathan neske †

## Racing along the Great Divide

Former CAN staff member Simon Kennett has big plans for life after CAN. He is the first New Zealander to have a go at an extreme ride: a race across the United States from the Canadian border to Mexico.

The Great Divide Race is a self-supported, solo race following the 4000 km Great Divide Mountain Bike Route. Traversing Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico, the route demands more than 60,000 metres of climbing along its length. Competitors carry all equipment necessary to negotiate the backcountry, restocking on food and other supplies from the small towns along the route.

if my wheels were square or triangles; trapezoids; life would be harder quetzalcoat! †

Simon says he expects to take about 20 days, riding up to 20 hours a day. To help with motivation, he is raising money for the medical charity, Doctors Without Borders/Médecins Sans Frontières.

Simon has planned his training, nutrition and equipment carefully. His Giant hardtail bike weighs just 14kg — including all the gear he needs.

“A big thanks goes to CAN for kitting me out with riding tights and a watch,” he says. “The alarm rings for up to 30 minutes so I can be sure I won't be sleeping too long.”

The Great Divide Race



starts on 20 June. Follow Simon's progress, check out his gear, and offer him support at <http://greatdividekiwi.blogspot.com>

# NZ Roundup



## Extension of New Plymouth's coastal walkway gets the go-ahead

About 4 km of pathway, including a 70 m shared cycle/pedestrian bridge over the Waiwhakaiho River, will be created to extend the Coastal Pathway from Waiwhakaiho through to Ellesmere Ave in Bell Block.

Costing about \$3.1 million, it will increase the walkway's length from 7 km to more than 11 km. Land Transport New Zealand is contributing 61% of the project's cost, possibly the most money to be spent by LTNZ on a single cycling initiative so far.

<http://tinyurl.com/6njxkg>



the new sky of dawn  
an orange glow, frozen breath  
quick steel bike humming  
kangstank ↑

## New Taupo track opens

The new mountain bike track, W2K, developed by Bike Taupo, was opened by Conservation Minister Steve Chadwick at the end of April to great acclaim. W2K is a shared cycle and walking track that runs from Whakaipo Bay to Kinloch.

## Fulltime walking & cycling coordinator for ARTA

The Auckland Regional Transport Authority has agreed to re-establish this position, starting on July 1.

## Support for bikers at Christchurch International Airport

There is a bicycle assembly area outside the arrivals hall, and they now sell boxes (\$20) to package your bike for a flight.

## Bikes ride free on Wellington trains

Bicycles will be allowed on Wellington trains for free from July 1 in a bid to encourage people to use public transport.

## Bikes fly free on Air NZ

Air New Zealand lets you to take your bike, in addition to the 20 kg allowance, provided it is correctly packed. There's no need to let down tyres, but remember compressed gas cannot be carried on a plane, which rules out some bikes and bike equipment.

<http://tinyurl.com/3ngu2q>

## Free bike trailer hire in Christchurch

Four light-weight, two wheeled, aluminium bike trailers, designed to carry two recycling crates are available for a month's free hire from Steven Muir of Cycling Church. If people like them they can buy one or a kitset.

This is an opportunity to tow a cycle trailer and see how easily they can handle significant loads. Fear of the unknown is a major reason, Steven believes, why so few people are using trailers. "People are unlikely to make or buy a trailer if they've never had the chance to use one."

They can be used to carry groceries, ladders, tools, fruit pickings, kayaks, windsurfers, kite surfers, library books, bikes, billboards, musical instruments, pets, garage sale treasures, pinecones, firewood, etc.



This is NZ, in the Tasman area, installed by Transit NZ

I sail down the road  
wind at my back, pushing hard  
there's no turning back

kath ↑

Steven is also keen to give advice to anyone building their own trailer and can provide the quick disconnect ball joint hitch (1/2") which he has imported from the USA. See p5 for the bike trailer in use.

[thepope@cyclingchurch.org.nz](mailto:thepope@cyclingchurch.org.nz)  
03 3658238

## Cyclists soon to speed up in the Mackenzie Country

The Mackenzie District Council is planning on lifting a bylaw that bans riding a bicycle at more than 16 km/h. At the same time they seem likely to make it legal for an unmarried woman to run a public billiards saloon.

## Posties get higher visibility clothes

New Zealand Post is rolling out a new range of high visibility safety gear to help keep cycling posties safe. The yellow fluorescent helmets, vests and panniers are brighter than before and designed to increase postie visibility.

In the last 12 months 43 posties got hit by vehicles leaving driveways. Posties, and those delivering newspapers or leaflets, are the only people given dispensation to cycle on the footpath under the Land Transport Act.

## Recycled bikes for kids

80 bikes collected by Sport Hawke's Bay are being made roadworthy by engineering students at the Eastern Institute of Technology for children who either do not have a bike or are taking part in Active Fami-

*Continued p8*

# Back country gold

Stephen Wood

The Dunstan trail from Dunedin to Central Otago was used by miners in the gold rush. There's a large section that hasn't been developed into a modern road and so is a great back-country bike trip.

I set out one early January afternoon to ride the trail, through Alexandra and Galloway, and up over the Raggedy range. At the top, the sight of a large water race seems incongruous somehow, belittling the climb. It was late in the day, I descended to Moa Creek and called into a farm which I knew had cottage accommodation. I couldn't find anyone, so decided to carry on up to Poolburn dam and camp, which took me to 8pm! I'd only done 50km, but the gusty westerly had been a tiring crosswind at times.

From Poolburn dam, the trail only climbs a little more to get to South Rough Ridge and then there is a big descent to the upper Taieri. On the valley floor, part of the original trail is closed to the public, so I took a detour to get across to a lunch stop at Styx, which maps call Paerau. There's an old "jail" there that was an overnight lockup for gold bullion.

The climb up the Rock and Pillar range looked daunting, and took me an hour and a half. Then there was a great rolling stretch of classic Otago highland. It was a wonderfully wild landscape, schist outcrops, tussock and spaniards, but it wouldn't be a good place to be in bad weather. I passed the Loganburn reservoir (formerly the Great Moss Swamp) and a huge tower like a radio mast, installed to monitor wind for a proposed windfarm.

A drop down to lower country brought more challenging riding, a long succession of climbs and descents. It had already been a big day but I decided to push on to Clarks Junction in the hope of a bed and a hot shower. I wasn't disappointed — the pub had a room for \$20!

The obvious choices for getting home were north to Middlemarch and the



railtrail, or east to Dunedin, from where I could bus home. Instead I decided to head south, through Lee Flat, and climbing up from there to head towards Lake Mahinerangi. The weather changed, and I was now riding into a squally southerly, including sleet! I crossed the lake via the causeway and bridge and pushed on, powered by willpower and barley sugars. It was mid-afternoon when I got to Lawrence. As I sat in a cafe drying out and refueling, I debated my next move. I'd only done 50km compared to yesterday's 80, but it was still wet and cold, and Lawrence was the only town for a while with a campground. Decision made — I'd stay put.

**As I sat in a cafe drying out and refueling, I debated my next move**

Because I'd stopped short of plan, I had a 100km day to get home, but at least it was fine and calm. I started early and made good time over the hill to Beaumont on SH8. There, I was able to leave the road and head up a track beside the Clutha, along an old rail route. I encountered cattle on the track and at one point came across a bull, fortunately a placid one. I had a lunch stop on the road, and on reaching Roxburgh decided on another one. It was good to have had a break on flat roads for a spell as the road then climbs well above the river at Fruitlands before dropping down to Alexandra and Clyde. ■

Note: With all touring, time spent on gear choice, maps and local knowledge beforehand is invaluable.



*NZ Roundup continues from p7*

lies fitness and activity programmes. Bikes have already gone to Waipukurau and Hastings; Wairoa is next.

## Get Across by 2011

### Auckland Harbour Bridge update

The campaign for the walk/cycle way on the Auckland Harbour Bridge is a joint initiative by Cycle Action Auckland, Walk Auckland and supporters. We've found a real synergy working together and it's meant detractors find it more difficult to write us off as 'the Lycra brigade'.

In May we travelled to Wellington to give a presentation to the Transit Board. We got a surprisingly open reception from the board and they passed the following resolutions:

- receives the very good presentation from the Cycle Action team of Bevan Woodward, Andy Smith, Dr Jan Pearson and Celia Wade-Brown and requests the Chairman to write thanking them for taking the time to present to the Board;
- requests that the outcomes of Stages 1 and 2 of the current Auckland Harbour Bridge Walking and Cycling Study be reported to the Board following completion of each stage;
- requests the Chief Executive to ensure that Cycle Action are involved in the further development of the current Auckland Harbour Bridge Walking and Cycling Study."

We also asked to meet with Transit Chair, Bryan Jackson and CEO Rick Van Barneveld — a very useful meeting which proves the saying: 'ask and you shall receive.' We are now meeting with MPs to gain their support for 'Get Across by 2011'.

Support it: [www.getacross.org.nz](http://www.getacross.org.nz) ■

# Gemini Cycle-Friendly Awards 2008

Kiwis are being asked to put forward their favourite cycling projects or cycling champions for the Gemini Cycle-Friendly Awards 2008, sponsored by Gemini Bicycles and supported by the Ministry of Transport.

Started by the Cycling Advocates' Network (CAN) in 2003, the annual Cycle-Friendly Awards are New Zealand's only event designed to acknowledge and celebrate notable achievements that help promote cycling and create a cycle-friendly environment.

In showcasing good cycling initiatives the Awards play an important part in encouraging cycling and supporting the implementation of the "Getting There" strategy, the New Zealand Transport Strategy and other government initiatives such as health and physical activity (e.g. HEHA), transport, energy and the environment. They also demonstrate to key decision-makers (e.g. the Minister of Transport) the amount and breadth of activity in New Zealand that promotes cycling.

Since 2006 the Awards and the individual categories have had naming-rights sponsorship. The Gemini Cycle-Friendly Awards 2008, supported by the Ministry of Transport, for achievements in the last year, are made in 5 categories (examples are indicative only).

**Avanti Award for Best Cycle Facility Project** for the transport infrastructure project that has had the most significant impact on promoting cycling and a cycle-friendly environment.

E.g., new cycleways, cycle parking facilities, or general roading projects that assist and encourage cycling.

More: <http://www.can.org.nz/awards>  
Co-ordinator, Gaz Sanvicens,  
021 0231 5758 | [awards@can.org.nz](mailto:awards@can.org.nz)



**Land Transport NZ Award for Best Cycling Promotion** for the education or encouragement project that has had the most significant impact on promoting cycling and a cycle-friendly environment.

E.g., publicity campaigns, school education programmes, or promotional cycling events.

**Land Transport NZ Award for Cycle-Friendly Commitment by Business** for the private company that has made significant strides to encouraging and supporting cycling by its staff and customers/clients. This category includes both general businesses and those directly involved in the bicycle industry.

E.g., cyclist parking/changing facilities, employee support and incentive programmes, and company "pool" bikes.

**ViaStrada Award for Cycle-Friendly Commitment by a Public Organisation** for the public or government organisation that has made significant strides in the past year in encouraging and supporting cycling by its staff and the public. This category includes all central or local government agencies, and public organisations such as health boards, universities or airports.

**Roger Boulter Consulting Award for Cycling Champion of the Year** is designed to recognize the contribution made by individual New Zealanders to the promotion of cycling. ■

## GEMINI CYCLE-FRIENDLY AWARDS 2008 NOMINATIONS OPEN

Put forward your favourite cycling projects or people for each category

### BY FRIDAY 8 AUGUST

- Avanti award for best cycle facility project
- Land Transport NZ award for best cycling promotion
- Land Transport NZ award for cycle-friendly commitment by a business
- ViaStrada award for cycle-friendly commitment by a public organisation
- Roger Boulter Consulting award for cycling champion of the year

#### Eligible projects:

those undertaken or completed between January 07 and June 08.

#### Entry forms and more info:

<http://www.can.org.nz/awards>  
Cycle-Friendly Awards Co-ordinator,  
Gaz Sanvicens, 021-023 1 5758,  
[awards@can.org.nz](mailto:awards@can.org.nz)

**Early (valid) nominations by 25th July**  
go into the draw for a **\$150** Ground Effect  
gift voucher.



## AWARD PRESENTATION 3 OCT

Friday 3 October  
Canterbury Provincial Buildings  
Stone Chamber, Christchurch

Presented by the Minister of Transport,  
the Hon Annette King

Sponsored by Environment Canterbury

Winners receive a "bicycle-bell" trophy  
and a certificate.

### Sponsors



# The new CAN website: sneak preview



It's not ready yet – but you can have a peek at it. Here are some links to a few parts of the new website that you can start using from now.

## Media Releases:

<http://cms.can.org.nz/media>

A collection of the most recent media release put out by CAN. The releases are also available by RSS feed from:  
[feed://cms.can.org.nz/media/feed](http://cms.can.org.nz/media/feed).

## Library Catalogue:

<http://cms.can.org.nz/library>

CAN has an interesting specialized library, covering all things cycling – and it is available for members who wish to borrow books and other materials. ■

## WHAT IS AN RSS FEED?

Watch for the RSS icon, you will be seeing it more often in the future.



RSS allows you to easily stay informed by retrieving the latest content from the sites you are interested in. You save time by not needing to visit each site individually. You ensure your privacy, by not needing to join each site's email newsletter.

Most web browsers and email programmes have RSS readers.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you have some time to help us upload content to the new website, we would appreciate you joining our team as a volunteer. Training and technical support will be provided. Please contact André Cymbalista 04 384 7048, [andre@can.org.nz](mailto:andre@can.org.nz).



# ADVANCED BICYCLE LIGHTING

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Halogen/Photon 19 (15 Watt Halogen / 4 Watt LED)



	RUNTIME (HOURS)					
	HIGH	LOW	FLASH	HIGH	LOW	FLASH
Photon 4 Commuter (4 Watt LED)	2 4 WATT	8 1 WATT	8 4 WATT			
Photon 4 Enduro (4 Watt LED)	6 4 WATT	24 1 WATT	24 4 WATT			
Halogen 10 (10 Watt Halogen)	2.4 10 WATT	4.8 5 WATT	—			
Halogen/Photon 19 (15 Watt Halogen / 4 Watt LED)	1.6 15 WATT HALOGEN	3.2 7 WATT HALOGEN		2 4 WATT LED	8 1 WATT LED	8 4 WATT LED

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## Market place



\$45/\$55  
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Reflective pack cover  
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- 2 :: Send cheque to CAN, PO Box 6491, Auckland  
:: Include order, contact and delivery details.
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I bought a new bike  
carbon, ti, magnesium –  
tether it down nights  
ivan the terribly polite †



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GET THE GRIP 

# Recruitment drive attracts 825 new members

Patrick Morgan

A sweet idea has brought 825 new members to CAN.

CAN staff and volunteers attached recruitment postcards, with lollies taped to them, to parked bikes. CAN's former networking coordinator Simon Kennett says he got the idea from a Bike Wise Business Battle promotion. CAN members also handed out the postcards at biking events this summer.

Two cards were drawn as spot prizes, with prize packs going to two 'born again' riders. Prize packs included a fluoro pack cover, CAN t-shirt and a 19-function Crank Bros multi-tool.

Bridget Helean joined CAN at a Bike Wise Week event in Timaru. She describes herself as a recreational rider who took up cycling a year ago for fun and fitness. She says, "I've always been keen on walking, but you can cover a lot more ground on the bike." She hadn't cycled since she was a child.

Wellington rider Bethany van der Poest Clement uses her bike to get to work and ultimate frisbee games. She says it takes her about half an hour to ride home from work, and it puts her in a good mood. "I used to catch a lift home with my husband, and sometimes was in a bad mood if I'd had a hard day. But you can't be angry when you're on your bike!" She joined CAN at Cycle Aware Wellington's Go By Bike Day in February. "I'm excited to have a bright pack cover, as I'm sometimes nervous on Wellington roads," she says. Bethany completed cycle skills training with CAW members Marilyn Northcote and Patrick Morgan last year. ■



New CAN member Bethany van der Poest Clement with her prizes

I took it apart it won't go back together I'm no mechanic †

# Squeaky Wheel

A voice for South Canterbury cyclists beginning to squeak...

"Squeaky Wheel: A voice for South Canterbury cyclists" was set up in 2007. Check out the great logo. Spokes Canterbury is helping Squeaky Wheel by making webspace available on their site.

In June members will be speaking to the group's first submission, on the Timaru District Council's 08/09 Annual Plan. Squeaky Wheel members met with Timaru District Council Staff (Land Transport Manager, Project Engineer, Road Safety Co-ordinator, and Parks & Recreation Director) to introduce core group members and discuss plans for cycling projects in South Canterbury. Council is keen to update their Active Transport Strategy to include more on outcomes and



measurement of success. A Geraldine Active Transport Strategy is currently being drafted.

Squeaky Wheel has ten core members (including a Spokesperson, Submissions Co-ordinator, and Webspace "minder") and 60 newsletter subscribers. Regular meetings have been set up at the Timaru Community House for the first Tuesday of each month. ■

Contact: Wendy Whiting  
wendyandgerald@callsouth.net.nz

riding through spring time  
peach orchards – imagine a  
world of pink popcorn  
jonathan neske †

# Get used to petrol price hikes

CAN's media release on fuel price got strong reactions around the country. Axel Wilke, exec member and technical advisor to CAN, gave 4 radio interviews, including Morning Report, and received a number of emails, both supportive and critical of CAN's policy.

There's no doubt the provocative headline grabbed attention: how much of CAN's message people got is more debatable — the cost neutrality of "fuel tax up income/business tax down" was lost on some. But the increased media attention to cycling as an alternative to cars can only be good — CloseUp (TV1) did a spot on a family that commutes by cycle (CAN members in Wellington) since the press release.

CAN's severest critics, who are cyclists themselves, do not see a possibility of a future that has safe cycling routes supported by public transport at convenient times. One rural-town-community

respondent, who cycles 22km a day to work on the open road, sees roads being too narrow and imagines public transport being patchy at best for a small community. CAN's other severe critic thinks of the physically less able, and can't imagine a public transport service that would meet their needs.

These are understandable viewpoints, and we need to make sure that such issues are addressed as the system adjusts to increasing fuel prices.

CAN also got accolades for its stance: "keep pushing the message". Until NZ ends its love affair with cars, transport will keep on being a problem, fuel prices will keep on being a threat, carbon emissions will stay high. So many reasons to cycle! ■

pedal, pedal, go!  
pedal, pedal, pedal, go!  
i love to cycle james†

# CAN Do

3 – 5 October  
Christchurch

The weekend includes CAN's AGM, workshops, training, rides, plenty of food and drink, and a chance to catch up with fellow CANners from around the country. CAN offers financial help so all local groups can get someone to the Do.

More:

Patrick Morgan | [patrick@can.org.nz](mailto:patrick@can.org.nz)

## Patrick Morgan: CAN's new Networking Project leader

CAN has appointed cycling advocate and author Patrick Morgan as manager of its Networking Project team.

CAN Chairperson Robert Ibell says CAN has been fortunate in attracting talented people. "Patrick's expertise as an advocate, communications professional, project manager and cycling trainer makes him especially well-suited to leading the Networking Project team. A high level of self-motivation and a range of practical skills are required, all of which have been demonstrated through his professional and personal achievements."

Patrick has been an active member of Cycle Aware Wellington since 1994, at various times managing the newsletter, website and acting as treasurer. He has also worked as a communications professional and project team leader in institutional and community-based projects.

He is particularly interested in everyday cyclist training, gaining an instructor's certificate in London in 2007, and has recently started a trainer development programme in New Zealand.

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## CAN in the media

Cycling Advocates say "Get used to petrol price hikes" 11 May

As well as the "get used to it" message on price rises, CAN called for increases in fuel taxes, offset by reductions in other taxation, as an urgent measure to encourage more sustainable transport use. See p13 for reactions.

<http://tinyurl.com/5e4tqm> | CAN policy

<http://tinyurl.com/5gj4ox> (pdf 169mb)

Invest in cycling as fuel prices rise 27 May

It has never been more urgent for government and business to invest in cycling. "Getting There — on foot, by cycle" strategy is an excellent foundation, but local councils need to shift up a gear. <http://tinyurl.com/6nhopl> ■



He is based in Wellington and leads Project Officers Fiona Whero in Christchurch and Anne Gummer in Auckland.

CAN's Networking Project helps start and support local cycling groups. Affiliated groups now total sixteen nationwide. The project aims to help with the implementation of the national walking and cycling strategy 'Getting There' by improving the ability of bicycle user groups to take part in local and national decision making processes.

Patrick says he's got big shoes to fill. "Simon Kennett did a great job getting this project underway, and I'm keen to build on that. It's a great opportunity for me to align my personal and professional goals."

"Getting more people on bikes seems like a no-brainer, but there are significant cultural, funding infrastructure barriers. But like setting off for a long ride, persistence will get us there." ■



Stephen Wood

Chainlinks

contributions manager

My first cycling was in England. When my family emigrated to New Zealand I was 10 and owned a bike with 24" wheels, drop handlebars and 5 speed derailleur gears. I didn't do much cycling until I went to Canterbury University, where a bike suited a student on a budget. I was at University for most of the eighties, marrying and separating, but also dabbling in cycle touring and advocacy. When I headed overseas on my first research job it was to the Rockies in Colorado.

I returned to work at a NIWA atmospheric research site in Central Otago and that's where I am still. In my time off I cycle on daytrips and tours, including some great back country trips. My work involves regular trips to Antarctica where I met my wife Robyn. Robyn gave up a career in Auckland, so we've recently made a move to set up a boarding kennel and cattery, one of her dreams. This has been hard work but is going well. One bonus for me is that I'm closer to work and have returned to cycle-commuting. That got me interested in advocacy again, I joined CAN and it didn't take long before I had another role as Chainlinks contributions manager. I've really enjoyed getting this issue of Chainlinks together. ■

i like to cycle.  
but i do not write poems.  
not usually.

james †

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- **Research**: Andrew Macbeth
- **Media/Communications/Marketing**:  
Stephen McKernon
- **Information Centre**: Thomas Schwarz
- **Digital Strategy**: Andre Cymbalista

## REPRESENTING CAN

- **Cycling/Walking Steering Committee (HSC)**:  
Robert Ibell
- **LTNZ Research Reference Group**:  
Andrew Macbeth
- **Getting There**: Jane Dawson, Andrew Macbeth,  
Stephen McKernon, Thomas Schwarz
- **Cycle Skills Training Advisory Group**:  
Illona Keenan and Jane Dawson.

For phone numbers: [can.org.nz/contact](http://can.org.nz/contact)

# Exec annual meeting at Anzac Weekend

## Illona Keenan

There were seven tents and a full house at Nicki's house at Te Oka, on Banks Peninsula, for a weekend focused on where CAN has got to, what the challenges are, and shaping the next few months. Five came via the Little River Rail Trail, the rest in a car pool from Christchurch.

There was great news of the Digital Strategy, new staff, new groups, work on policy, attending meetings with government, and media campaigns. There are a number of things happening that are working well, and some gaps and challenges. The main challenge was everyone being time-poor, highlighting the need to get more people involved in key CAN activities and make better use of our members, and improving the synergies between local and national issues.

Exec members chose specific goals for the next quarter and plan to seek help from people who identified themselves in the recent CAN survey. Such activities include: converting draft policies into 'proper' policies, inducting new members, getting local groups involved and talent development.

To lessen the carbon footprint of the weekend, all of the Exec took time out on the Saturday afternoon to plant native trees that Axel and Nicki had organised as a thank you gift for the use of the house at Te Oka. Nicki's family have been revegetating an area for a number of years and it was great for CAN to make a contribution to this.

critically massed cars  
beep their silly horns at me  
think I'm in the way sharon w †

It was fabulous to do something physical after all that talking. Nicki was impressed at how many hands did indeed make light work: it didn't take too long to get all those trees into the ground.

The weekend was a great opportunity for the Exec and staff to find out more about what people are up to, so we can take that information back to the local CAN groups and improve cycle advocacy around the country.

My role was official cake baker so I thought that I would provide a recipe for you all. Especially useful when weekend brain power is essential.

## Panforte

160g runny honey  
155g caster sugar  
125g whole blanched almonds  
125g hazelnuts  
500g plump fat raisins  
1 tablespoon orange zest  
1 tablespoon lemon zest  
1 ½ teaspoons ground cinnamon  
1 ½ teaspoons mixed spice  
125g plain flour, sifted  
2 tablespoons cocoa

Preheat the oven to 160°C. Grease and line a 25cm springform cake tin with baking paper.

Melt the honey and sugar gently in a saucepan and slowly bring to a simmer. Simmer until combined – a few minutes. Set the mixture aside. Combine the other ingredients in a large bowl. Add the honey and sugar mixture and mix well - requires getting your hands dirty. The mixture will look dry.

With wet hands, press the mixture into the prepared tin, packing it down tightly. Bake for 45 minutes until top is lightly browned and crunchy.

Cool, remove from the tin and cut into small pieces. ■

the road goes upwards  
conversation stops, puff, pant  
the silence of hills  
steve airey †



# Regional groups

## What's happening in Hamilton.

The hot dry summer we have experienced this year might have been tough on the farmers but it has been great for cycling. Our annual cycle counts have seen a 10% increase in cyclists entering the CBD. Since then the price of petrol has broken through the \$2 mark and even more bikes are being seen around town. Unfortunately council intransigence in providing safe river crossings for cyclists into the north end of town is proving to be a major barrier to others who are keen to get on their bikes. Cycle Action Waikato used the recent HCC annual plan process to highlight the current inadequacies.

Cycle network projects are continuing to appear with 5 of the 17 due this year currently out for public comment. These 5 are all retrofitting streets in the north-western sector of the city and will serve to link the riverpaths with some of the major industrial employment areas.

CAWaikato members were present at a memorial tree planting at the Hamilton Lake. Suzie Stephens, an American, wandered the world on a bike and had spent time in NZ. She was killed by a bus in America and her mother is now travelling to those countries that Suzie visited to plant trees and meet local cyclists. She calls her project "Suzie's forest".

June will see the annual 'lights on bikes' campaign undertaken again this year. CAWaikato members will be assisting HCC staff, Hamilton police and a local cycle outlet in providing free lights to cyclists. A focus this year will be on secondary schools.

John Meeking

## Cycle Aware PN

Cycle Aware Palmerston North (CAPN) has a new lease of life with a rejuvenated core group following a very successful cycling forum in November attended by about 40 city cyclists and some of the new city



CAPN queries design of new Te Awe Awe St cycle lane in PN

councillors. Forum topics included on-street cycle lanes, off road cycle lanes (in particular Feilding to PN, for which there is growing support from Manawatu District), and cycle storage facilities.

In April we hosted Vive le Vélo — a public talk by our local cycling hero and Palmy postie, Colin Anderson, about his 1200km Paris-Brest-Paris ride. which attracted about 80 people. If you ever have the opportunity to hear Colin, or support his fundraising, then DO!

In early May we spent an afternoon having a direction-setting workshop — capably facilitated by Robert Ibell and Jane Dawson. One of the very positive developments in recent months has been building links with recreational cyclists — especially Manawatu Masters Cycling Club.

## Kick the Carbon Habit: World Environment Day in PN

With the focus on energy, waste and transport, cycling was a major focus of the event in Palmerston North. We contributed to the city's goal of clocking up 40,000 km of walking and cycling in the week leading up to June 5.

CAPN also assisted with a promotion of commuter cycling. This involved profiling commuter cycling across the years — from antique BSAs to the latest Dutch bikes.

Christine Cheyne

## Bicycle Nelson Bays

Bicycle Nelson Bays has lots planned for the upcoming months including:

- running 'Upcycle', a cycle confidence course for adults, in Richmond with a plan to start it up again in Nelson too
- planning for a Bikefest in conjunction with Nelson City Council for Bike Wise week in February 09. The Bikefest is to celebrate utility cycling and get people to try out different bikes etc.
- forming a group to develop an off-road cycleway network across the whole top of the south
- helping Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council's World Environment Day initiative. Councils want as many people as possible to cycle, walk, take a bus (free) or carpool and are putting on free breakfasts at various locations around the region
- getting our own webspace on the new CAN website to be launched soon.

Bicycle Nelson Bays recently submitted on the Council's Annual Plan. The Tasman District Council is currently reviewing their Active Transport Strategy and Bicycle Nelson Bays is looking forward to having input into this much-needed review.

We are rapt the Nelson Regional Land Transport Committee is not planning to pursue either of the options to put more lanes of traffic between Stoke and Nelson and instead is planning to invest more in active transport, public transport, and travel demand management.

Email Richard to join us: [bnbnelson@gmail.com](mailto:bnbnelson@gmail.com)

sly tectonic shifts  
yesterday there was no hill  
in front of my house duffy †

## What's up on the South Island's West Coast?

The South Island's West Coast is an iconic cycle tourist route that attracts individual and group riders through the summer months. Local people also choose to commute or ride recreationally, and more work will be done in the future to determine what the numbers



Cycle touring on the West Coast

country roads, scenic  
mile after mile after mile  
my own l.s.d.  
dale hartzler †

of cyclists actually are. Bike West Coast is a virtual advocacy group for commuter and recreational cyclists, with 56 members to date, where members can post messages and discuss ideas. To join, email [BikeWestCoast@yahoo.com](mailto:BikeWestCoast@yahoo.com). We are keen to know what you think the cycling issues are for the Coast.

The four West Coast Councils and Transit NZ are undertaking a Regional Walking and Cycling Strategy to be completed by end of July 08. The Strategy provides regional co-ordination and direction for West Coast walking

## Congratulations Bike Taupo!

"I would like to thank Bike Taupo for their tremendous efforts — their group demonstrates the passion that is at the heart of many achievements carried out by ordinary everyday New Zealanders." Steve Chadwick acknowledging Bike Taupo's work on the new Taupo track W2K.

and cycling initiatives. Local councils and agencies will then produce the plan for implementing the strategy in each of their districts. To develop the Strategy, a steering group has been set up consisting of three district and one regional Council, Transit NZ, Community and Public Health and Land Transport NZ. The steering group reports to the Regional Land Transport Committee and current work is focused on community and stakeholder group consultations. These were held recently in the three main centres (Westport, Greymouth

*Regional groups continues p18*

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Wellesley, Auckland

## Contact the local group nearest you

### Bike! Whangarei

Paul Doherty 09 436 0033  
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### Cycle Action Auckland

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### Kapiti Cycling [kapiticycling.org.nz](http://kapiticycling.org.nz)

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[kapiticycling@kapiticycling.org.nz](mailto:kapiticycling@kapiticycling.org.nz)  
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### Cycle Aware Wellington

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[www.caw.org.nz](http://www.caw.org.nz) [info@caw.org.nz](mailto:info@caw.org.nz)

### Nelson Tasman Bicycle Nelson Bays

Richard Butler 03 539 0355  
[bnnelson@gmail.com](mailto:bnnelson@gmail.com)

### Bicycle Lanes in Paradise Golden Bay

Victoria Davis 03 525 9298  
[moonbow@goldenbay.net.nz](mailto:moonbow@goldenbay.net.nz)

### BikeWalk Marlborough

Paul Millen [pmillen@xtra.co.nz](mailto:pmillen@xtra.co.nz)

### Bike West Coast

Jack O'Conner 03 768 0775 027 438 6285  
[bikewestcoast@yahoo.com](mailto:bikewestcoast@yahoo.com)

### Christchurch Spokes Canterbury

Matthew Cutler-Walsh 03 385 6306  
[spokes\\_chch@can.org.nz](mailto:spokes_chch@can.org.nz)  
[www.spokes.org.nz](http://www.spokes.org.nz)

### South Canterbury Squeaky Wheel

Wendy Whiting 03 688 9630;  
[wendyandgerald@callsouth.net.nz](mailto:wendyandgerald@callsouth.net.nz)

### Spokes Dunedin

Dick Martin 03 453 6667  
[dmartin@ihug.co.nz](mailto:dmartin@ihug.co.nz)

# Supporting Organisations

21CT

Abley Transportation Engineers  
Adventure South Ltd  
Auckland City Council  
Auckland Cycle Touring Association  
Auckland Regional Transport Authority  
Avanti Plus Cycles Mt Eden  
Canterbury District Health Board  
Central Otago District Council  
Crank It Cycles  
Cuthbert Ashmore Consultants Ltd  
Cycle Touring Company Ltd  
Cycle Trading Company  
Dunedin City Council  
Engineering Outcomes  
Environment Canterbury  
Francis & Cambridge  
Greater Wellington Regional Council  
Ground Effect  
Hamilton City Council  
Living Streets Aotearoa  
Makara Peak Supporters  
Massey University  
Mountainbiking Otago  
MWH NZ Ltd  
Natural High  
Nature's Highway  
Nelson City Council  
North Shore City Council  
Pacific Cycle Tours  
Palmerston North City Council  
Papakura District Council  
Pedaltours  
Rotorua District Council  
Rotorua MTB Club  
SafeKids  
Sport Waikato  
Tasman District Council  
Taupo District Council  
Triathlon NZ  
Ultimo Clothing  
University of Canterbury  
US National Center for  
Bicycling and Walking  
ViaStrada  
Vorb  
Waimakariri District Council

*What's up on the West Coast?, continued*

Hokitika) where people from agencies to cycling/walking clubs were well represented.

Everyone agreed that the West Coast is a rich playground when it comes to walking and cycling resources. With more work on coordinating information between agencies and planned promotion, it could be even easier for people to get active and get involved with cycling activities across the region. Like other places around NZ, the West Coast has its fair share of road safety issues. In particular, rural roads that have no shoulder and a high speed environment can create a significant barrier when it comes to cycling and walking. Having more education targeting both drivers and cyclists is needed to help promote the message of 'sharing the road'.

Economic development and tourism are important factors with a walking/cycling strategy. Most people felt there were lots of opportunities to develop off-road facilities that could provide an alternative to using the state highways and at the same time be a resource for people of all ages and abilities to get active and gain cycling skills. Initiatives such as the West Coastal Pathway look at providing a resource that works for walkers and cyclists within easy reach of urban facilities, and off-road alternatives to tourist destinations such as Fox and Franz Josef glaciers are also being explored by the Department of Conservation.

Public and stakeholder feedback surveys have been carried out over May and June to help gather information and to get feedback prior to writing the Strategy.

For more information contact Kirsty Barr: [barrkerr@ts.co.nz](mailto:barrkerr@ts.co.nz) | 03 731 1846

## Spokes Canterbury

Following the great media coverage of CAN's petrol tax / tax shifting policy, Spokes had its own turn in the media spotlight at the end of May. Spokes members featured three times in quick succession on three different TV stations.

On Monday 26 May, TV3 news filmed Spokes member Shirley Wilson cycling to work, and discussed her \$2000 annual savings on car-related costs (including parking) by choosing to cycle most days of the week. Spokes chair Paul de Spa was also interviewed for the story, which ran just after the 6.30pm news roundup and can be accessed on the TV3 website: <http://tinyurl.com/3vzbod>

The next morning a hardcore group of Spokesters gathered in the low lying mist in Hagley Park to be filmed live for TV One's 'Breakfast' weather feature at 7.30am. Tamati Coffey, Breakfast's roving weatherman is doing a series of 'Transport Tuesdays' slots, where Tamati reads the weather on his way to work. Previous weeks have featured the Eastbourne ferry in Wellington, a Walking School Bus in Auckland, and it fell to Christchurch to showcase cycling.

Twelve of us turned up for the pre-dawn shoot, and were filmed from a golf-cart riding through the park while Tamati read the weather (from a page taped to his crossbar!) and chatted with Paul about the benefits of cycling. Unfortunately there's no clip on the TVOne website, but this one about the walking school bus gives you the idea: <http://tinyurl.com/4vg8x9>

In the same week, local channel CTV featured a panel interview on its 'Newsmakers' show, focussing on recently-announced transport funding for Canterbury. The three guests were Environment Canterbury chairman Sir Kerry Burke, Christchurch Mayor Bob Parker, and Spokes chair Paul de Spa. There was lively debate on the wisdom of continuing to spend money four-laning roads, throwing hundreds of millions of dollars at public transport projects but considerably less towards active transport. There are good walking and cycling projects proposed, but



# 2008 dates

## 25 July

Nominate for the Gemini Cycle-Friendly Awards by the 25th and go in the draw for a prize.

## 4-5 August

Double the feet on the street NZ's walking conference Auckland

<http://tinyurl.com/2sscfc>

## 8 August

Nominations close for the Gemini Cycle-Friendly Awards

## 3 Oct

Presentation of the Gemini Cycle-Friendly Awards

## 4-5 Oct

CAN Do, Christchurch

List your event here:  
[chainlinks@can.org.nz](mailto:chainlinks@can.org.nz)

## On wheels with you

Sky throws a cold lasso catching at The Neck

Facing Lake Hawea the air is looser

On the surface small twisters spirit rainbows

trout flash new coin-sides gulls dervish in the gale

I lead off from the top legs whirling dynamos

Thistle spores brush cheeks and eyeballs

You wear your orange jacket like a flaming bat wing

As you pass in a breath the tail wind bears us

all the way uphill

Nicola Easthope



the lion's share of funding is still going elsewhere.

Out of the limelight, Spokes Canterbury has been busy writing and presenting

submissions, including Chch City Council's proposed extension of the tourist Tramway loop — members have concerns about this as there have been many accidents and near-misses with the existing tracks, which criss-cross the roads and endanger cyclists. Spokes set up an on-line survey for people to record these:  
<http://tinyurl.com/3osmvo>

Spokes also submitted on the Annual Plans for Christchurch City Council and Canterbury Regional Council, and attended meetings with Transit and Christchurch City Council on their capital works programmes, and a CBD bike station scoping project.

THE AGM was well-attended — about 28 people with a few new faces and a few Councillors in attendance. The AGM voted on a Spokes Executive to help out with in-between AGM decision making. Paul de Spa was elected Chair, and our new Secretary is Matt Cutler-Welsh. Our guest speaker, Tim Cheesebrough (Christchurch City Council Transport Leader) spoke about his UK experiences, especially with Cycling England, a group which consists of intersectoral government departments all working to make cycling happen in England.

Spokes has about 1000 members but are always keen for more. You can choose to be a supporter receiving a regular Canterbury newsletter or become part of the Core group and get involved in the day to day advocacy. Monthly meetings are at 5.30pm on the last Thursday of the month. Check out our website [www.spokes.org.nz](http://www.spokes.org.nz) if you want to get more involved. ■

a haiku poem  
so tempting to let it rhyme  
just put anything †

† Haiku throughout this issue are from **Cycling in seventeen syllables**

Mike Kruger <http://tinyurl.com/3lxkf9> ■

## On the web

### Recycle to Africa



Raleigh has teamed up with Re-Cycle, a British charity committed to providing simple and affordable transport to developing countries. <http://tinyurl.com/4qvpuw> | [www.re-cycle.org](http://www.re-cycle.org)

### Cycloc

It's simple shape allows you to set your bike in/on it for display and storage. <http://tinyurl.com/483uzl>



### Media plugs bikes as fuel

#### prices rise

Go to Google News and type in 'gas' and 'cycling': you get hundreds of current news stories on the subject of motorists ditching cars for bikes. <http://tinyurl.com/48zwyl>



### WhyCycle

Impartial advice for potential and new cyclists (UK). [www.whycycle.co.uk](http://www.whycycle.co.uk)

### Website for women cyclists

When Laurel-Lea Shannon, a Canadian writer, took up road cycling six years ago, she noticed that most of the cycling information on the web and in magazines is written by men for men. [www.womenscycling.ca](http://www.womenscycling.ca)

### The celebrity cycling guide (UK)

In preparation for Bike Week celebrity riders share their favourite journeys. <http://tinyurl.com/3r5ml6>

### What makes a great bike ride?

UK columnist picks his favourites and asks you to nominate your own. <http://tinyurl.com/59lujx>

[can.org.nz/chainlinks/links](http://can.org.nz/chainlinks/links)

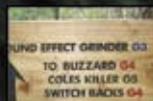
Chainlinks 2 2008 19



Gap Creek, Queensland



Walters Creek



Craters of the Moon, Taiwan



Makara Peak, Wellington



Mt Stromlo, Canberra



Port Hills, Christchurch



Beechworth MTB Park, Victoria



Berrigal MTB Park, NSW



Whare Point, Dunedin



The Heaphy...with back



### Trails for your Treads

Since Adam rode a hard-tail, Ground Effect has provided foot soldiers and cold cash for the cycling revolution. Each year we hand out thousands of dollars from our 'Slush Fund' to help local track builders expand the mountain bike playground. In addition, Ground Effect staff work with other advocates and land managers on local issues and national campaigns like the battle to reclaim access to the Heaphy. **If your club has a worthy project that needs funds to make it real, bang a note to [slushfund@groundeffect.co.nz](mailto:slushfund@groundeffect.co.nz)**

# and \$\$\$ gear for the cycling revolution

Only available directly from Ground Effect. Call free on 0800 655 733 in NZ or 1800 145 333 in Oz.

## [www.groundeffect.co.nz](http://www.groundeffect.co.nz)