



Registered Charity No. CC36909

October 2011

## **Chair's report**

### **CAN's achievements for 2010/2011:**

In spite of what was felt at this time last year that we were going to have a difficult year ahead, CAN has continued to make a strong contribution towards the goal of getting more New Zealanders on bikes more often. What helped considerably was that we received before the end of 2010 a substantial donation and this was able to be used to fund the salary of Patrick, our Project Manager through 2011 plus keep an office presence in Wellington. That has been a great outcome and one which met the desires expressed at the 2010 AGM.

The distressing number of cycling related deaths on our roads during November 2010 resulted in CAN being involved in a number of areas:

- A significant number of media interviews.
- The developing relationship with BikeNZ's board members was accelerated as we agreed on common messages that should be put forward through these media contacts.
- The coroner's inquests that have been able to be held since then have had submissions developed and/or presented by CAN members.

In addition, just before the end of 2011, CAN and BikeNZ were approached by the New Zealand Transport Agency to respond with a joint proposal to undertake further project work for them. This resulted in joint work over the holiday period in order to come up with a response and negotiations continued through to the end of February. A contract for the Safer Cycling Programme was signed in early March with BikeNZ as the head contractor to NZTA with a Memorandum of Understanding between CAN and BikeNZ to deliver 3 sub-projects on behalf of the NZTA:

- A Cycle Instructor Training Programme.
- A Road User Group Workshop Programme.
- A "Share the Road" Campaign Programme.

The cycle instructor training work has been led by BikeNZ and the other two programmes have been led by CAN. We have employed Jena Niquidet in Auckland as the project manager and her enthusiasm has ensured that the Road User Group Workshop and the Share the Road programmes have progressed well and to date, NZTA's feedback has been very positive.

### **Other significant achievements include:**

- The CAN Do 2010 in Petone during October 2010: essential face-to-face networking and training for 50 cycling advocates from around New Zealand.
- CAN Cycle Friendly Awards 2010: rewarding best practice, awards presented by Mayor Celia Wade-Brown.
- A higher media profile: both pro cycling and safety messages; multiple media releases by CAN over the past year; CAN members also featured on national radio, television, internet and major newspapers.
- Chainlinks and its purpose was the subject of vigorous debate at the 2010 CAN Do. The committee found that there was enough support for it to be published in hardcopy. So the publication of Chainlinks has continued but the number of issues has dropped back to 3 per

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year. Chainlinks has continued to be a high quality publication with Miriam Richardson, Claire Pascoe and Stephen Wood ensuring that the magazine is full of interesting articles and it looks great.

- A "Stop at Red" campaign funded by the Road Safety Trust aimed at reinforcing the message of gracious cycling and endeavouring to make all road users respect each other, refer to the resources at [www.stopatred.org.nz](http://www.stopatred.org.nz).
- CAN's Being Cycle Aware workshop has been delivered in Nelson to both bus drivers and cyclists.
- CAN members and other stakeholders continue to benefit from networking, training, resources and support provided by CAN's staff and volunteers.
- CAN's financial system is in the process of being transferred to the Xero online accounting system. This will allow more flexibility in where those responsible for the finances can be based and provide the ability to spread the treasurer's work load.
- Assisting Patrick for his overseas trip after his being awarded a Churchill Fellowship to study cycle skills training.
- On-going planning for the Walking and Cycling Conference to be held in Hastings during February 2012.
- Submissions to central and local government on:
  - The Government's Policy Statement on Land Transport 2012/13 to 2021/22
  - High Risk Rural Roads Guide
  - Christchurch City Council's Draft Central City Plan
- Working more closely with Cycle Action Auckland including submitting an Expression of Interest in running the 2012 BikeWise Programme for the NZTA.
- Regular meetings with the Ministry of Transport, New Zealand Transport Agency and Living Streets Aotearoa.

### **Priorities for 2011–2012:**

The Safer Cycling Programme project work for NZTA is to be completed by the end of June 2012 and it is important that the good work to date is carried through to meet all the contract milestones. In the meantime we will be exploring what can be proposed to NZTA for extending the work into 2013 that meets both their priorities and our desire to make it easier for people to ride their bikes.

The project to complete the transfer to the online Xero accounting system and working through how those involved with the financial side will work with the new system will be a priority as well as setting the budget for the 2012 year.

The continuation of the project manager's role into 2012 and having an office space within Wellington will also be an early topic for the new committee to address. Ensuring this will mean CAN's ability to assist the existing local groups will be more effective.

We will need to continue the restructuring process agreed to at the 2009 AGM to ensure good governance and reduce the chance of over-burdening those who volunteer. Recruitment, retention of members and the maintaining of regular contact with external stakeholders will be an on-going focus.

The style, look and usability of the CAN website is being looked at and a decision will need to be made on how far to progress this. In the meantime other issues that have taken a back seat with regards to communications will need to be progressed, e.g. making Chainlinks available online as web pages and hence "searchable" and exploring better links between our website and social media.

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## Thanks

I would like make a special acknowledgement of the following for their work during this year:

- Jane Dawson for taking over the treasurer's role at short notice. We are grateful that she has carried this work out while having many other things going on outside of CAN.
- Patrick Morgan, Alex Revell and Jena Niquidet who have been our wonderful staff who have worked on our behalf.

Thanks very much to the Committee for their great work throughout the year, juggling this with their busy lives. Three members are not re-standing: Gaz Sanvicens, Glen Koorey and Adrian Croucher. Both Glen and Adrian have been long term members of CAN's management and their contributions have been substantial. Their efforts made the work of being on the committee a pleasure and their presence will be missed.

Lastly thanks to CAN members at the front line of cycling advocacy around New Zealand: working with councils, businesses and the community to achieve new cycling infrastructure, safer traffic speeds, improved cycle parking, cycling skills training and education programmes. Your commitment and financial support inspire us all.

Your on-going efforts help make New Zealand a better place. We couldn't do it without you.

Graeme Lindup  
CAN Chair  
Cycling Advocates' Network  
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