



## Cycle Aware Wellington (CAW)

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### Windy Wheels newsletter

**October 2002**

#### Switched on cyclists

Wellington police ran a blitz on bike lights in August. The focus of the campaign was to increase awareness about the importance of having good lighting on your bike at night. Cyclists with inadequate lighting were issued warnings rather than tickets. By issuing warnings, the focus of the campaign was on awareness and not enforcement. Those issued tickets could escape the \$55 fine if they turned up to a police station with lights fitted to their bike and a receipt showing they bought them.

Bike shops reported an increase in sales of bike lights. Two further campaigns are planned for next year.

#### Trust Me, I'm a Bike Doctor

CAW's free bicycle check service, Dr Bike, is about to get an injection of new blood. Simon Kennett will be running a 4-hour training course for new bike doctors in November.

CAW owns a bike trailer kitted out with a Dr Bike sign and a tool kit. They get taken to bike events where the Doctors Bike do basic checks on bikes using a checklist. Only basic operations are undertaken - owners are referred to bike shops for anything involving complications.

As well as receiving training, bike doctors are reimbursed expenses. Trained doctors are contacted by the Dr Bike co-ordinator to see if they're available when a request for the service is received.

When: Saturday 9 November at 2:00 p.m.

How long: 4 hours approx.

Where: 41 Hohiria Rd, Hataitai, Wellington

What to bring: a bike (the more beat up the better); afternoon tea to share; some basic bike tools if you have them

If you want to attend the training, contact Simon Kennett on 499 6376, [simon@kennett.co.nz](mailto:simon@kennett.co.nz)

#### BTWD - 19 February 2003

I know it's hard to believe, but **Bike To Work Day** is upon us once again. Admittedly we are getting an earlier start than this year's, and we have been having some preliminary discussions with the WCC. We have had a favourable response from them, and can expect some good support from them both financial and otherwise.

It is to this end that I am calling for some interest from Cycle Aware members to form a working party to help organize BTWD. If anyone is interested you can contact Marilyn Northcote [marilynnorthcotte@hotmail.com](mailto:marilynnorthcotte@hotmail.com) or by phone 938 5885.

I look forward to hearing from you, remember ... all offers of help accepted, no offer too small.

#### Teaching the teachers: help wanted

CAW, the Wellington City Council and the Police, are running two Teacher Training days again this year on the 22nd and 27th of November at the College of Education in Karori. It is useful to have a small number of helpers on the day to assist with the rides etc. If anyone is interested in helping out for a few hours, either in the am or pm, on either of those days, please contact Marilyn Northcote by email [marilynnorthcotte@hotmail.com](mailto:marilynnorthcotte@hotmail.com), or by phone 938 5885.

## Regional Cycling Strategy (RCS)

Juliet Reid from Wellington Regional Council (WRC) presented the preliminary work done on the RCS to the October CAW meeting. She asked for input on objectives and targets for the strategy, and for an idea of whether she had captured all the issues that need to be addressed.

The meeting agreed that suggested aims should be

- that cycling is safe, accessible and easy
- to increase the proportion of journeys by cycle in comparison to other ways of travelling
- to reduce congestion levels.

Suggested objectives are

- improve safety
- improve accessibility
- make it a viable, convenient and practical means of transport
- make your cycling experience enjoyable
- improve awareness about cycling
- promote the benefits of cycling
- promote recreational and off-road cycling.

Safety should be from injury, but also personal safety and safety from theft of vehicle.

Access should include improving travel times, e.g. by allowing contra-flow lanes on one-way streets, and improving access to public transport (e.g. bikes on trains, buses, hopefully free) and making it easier to bike to the station.

Enjoyment - what is it? How do we measure it?

Awareness could come through developing a regional network, maps, brochures; promote it as a recreational/tourist activity.

Benefits include health and fitness, environmental, also financial (personal), time savings (faster by bike), national economic (less fuel imported), safety (less cars imposing a risk on others).

Recreational and off-road promotion would ensure that regional parks are used better.

Problem with statistics: census data (journeys to work) are all we have, so there is a need to address that. WRC did a household travel survey last year of about 10,000 households - Juliet will pull out specific data about what sort of journeys were made by bike.

Wellington region has a high percentage of cyclist crashes (as a proportion of all casualties). A large proportion of those casualties are in Wellington City.

WRC is developing a travel demand strategy also.

Key issues were identified as

- low numbers cycling
- benefits of cycling
- over-reliance on private cars
- vulnerability of cyclists
- funding and resources
- air and local pollution
- statistics, lack of (participation, crashes)

- cycleway, lanes and intersection design
- lack of understanding
- enforcement: lights and helmets
- personal security
- links and accessibility
- multi-modal trips
- protection from the elements
- information for potential cyclists
- design and standards consistency

Targets suggested were:

- improve safety
- increase numbers
- increase quality & quantity of facilities
- make cycling experience enjoyable
- reduce travel times
- increase multi-modal trips

### **Rider profile: meet Arie Rozendaal**

Who are the people in CAW and why do we get involved?

*Your name and job?*

Arie Rozendaal, bicycle shop owner, manager and mechanic )Arie's Cycles, Riddiford St, Newtown)

*Where do you live?*

Island Bay, Wellington

*Why do you ride?*

For enjoyment first and foremost, and to keep fit and healthy as well, and last but not least to keep my car off the road as much as possible (to save money and not to pollute)

*What do you ride?*

A Giant mtb with slicks, rigid, 21speed

*What is your involvement in CAW and why?*

I'm a passive (too busy in the shop to be actively involved) moral supporter of CAW. I like the way they actively promote cycling in all its aspects!

*What do you want to achieve? What's your dream (for cycling or otherwise)?*

To be able to semi-retire in the next 5 years and do lots of travelling on the bicycle here and overseas, especially in France, Spain, Portugal and South East Asia

*Favourite ride? (local, NZ or overseas)*

Around the Bays (on road), Miramar Peninsula, and Picton to Farewell Spit (domestically), Rome to Athens overseas

*Anything else you want to say?*

Would love to see many more cyclepaths with more cyclist on them. Don't forget free checkups at my shop for the Taupo ride!

## Book Review

### Classic New Zealand Mountain Bike Rides

Written and published by the Kennett Bros, [www.mountainbike.co.nz](http://www.mountainbike.co.nz), \$30

This fifth edition of the mountain bikers' Bible is the best book ever written - funnier than the Bible and more religious than the Hitch-hiker's Guide to the Galaxy. It describes 404 rides from Cape Reinga to Scott Base, illustrated with maps, altitude graphs, photos and a funky flip cartoon. Fifty new rides are featured. It makes your mouth water to get out there and pedal.

Editor's disclosure: I wrote a couple of chapters of this book.

## Web link:

Former British MP Edwina Currie has recently been in the news for marital indiscretions. But did you know she is also an author and accomplished cyclist? Check out

[http://edwina.currie.co.uk/html/general\\_info.htm](http://edwina.currie.co.uk/html/general_info.htm)

## Events calendar

**Friday 25 October**, Critical Mass, 5:30pm, Civic Square, Wellington

Summer is back and so is Critical Mass. Why wait for the velorution? Start now by pedalling around town and asserting our right to the road.

**Sunday 3 November**, Martinborough Fun Ride, 50 and 100 km rides, entry form at bike shops or phone VIC Cycles 569 9854.

**Saturday November 30** join untold thousands of bikeheads as we ride around Lake Taupo. Entry forms at bike shops, or [www.cyclechallenge.org.nz](http://www.cyclechallenge.org.nz)

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