



## Cycle Aware Wellington (CAW)

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### Windy Wheels newsletter

**November 2003**

#### Bike to Work day plans double the fun

Bike to work on Wednesday 18 February and help yourself to a free breakfast!

Cycle Aware Wellington and Wellington City Council invite all cyclists to pedal on down to Civic Square between 7 and 9am for a free feed, entertainment and prizes. Once a year we gather to celebrate all the good things about biking. It's quick, cheap, healthy, zero-polluting and loads of fun.

This time we want you to bring a friend along so we can double our numbers. In 2003 we fed 450 bikers on a windy day, so for 2004 we plan to double the fun. A show of numbers helps us lobby for better and safer cycling in Wellington.

Anyone who is interested in helping out in any way please contact Marilyn at [marilynnorthcotte@hotmail.com](mailto:marilynnorthcotte@hotmail.com)



Bike to Work Day 2003

#### Cycling Skills for the City

Are you a city cyclist or thinking about it? Does riding in traffic put you on edge? Increase your confidence and develop your skills on and off the road, from basic bike maintenance through to safe riding practices and finish off with a group ride around Wellington! Bring your bike, your helmet and lunch.

The next course being held is at Wellington High School, Room W8.

Dates: 2 Saturdays, 15 Nov and 22 Nov, 9:00am - 2:00pm (2 weeks)

Cost: \$48.00

Tutor: Marilyn Northcotte, tel. 938 5885, [marilynnorthcotte@hotmail.com](mailto:marilynnorthcotte@hotmail.com)

Enrol now to ensure your place on this practical and useful course.

#### Dr Bike operates again

Three CAW bike doctors (Marilyn, David and Robert) and helpers held a clinic at the Kidsafe Wheel Day in Civic Square on Sunday 9 November. The event was organised by the local Kidsafe Week coalition (which includes Regional Public Health, the LTSA, Police, ACC, Sport Wellington, WCC and Greater Wellington).

The weather was great, but a postponement from the previous weekend probably affected the turnout. Still, a fair number of kids (some with cycling parents) took part in the various activities, including bike decoration, skills courses and a quiz.

Congratulations to the coalition on a great effort. We're looking forward to the next Wheel Day planned for Bike Week 2004. In the meantime, David and Teresa are taking Dr Bike to the Spring Green Bike Rally in the Wairarapa on 16 November.

If you're interested in becoming a bike doctor, contact Robert Ibell on 385 2557. CAW provides training and pays for expenses. The bike checks are straightforward, and the clinics can be a lot of fun...



Dr Bike keeps your bike in good health



Best-dressed competition



A young cyclist gets guidance on traffic skills.

## CAW November meeting report

### Submission on the National Walking & Cycling Strategy

The Ministry of Transport is consulting on the National Walking & Cycling Strategy. Kate will co-ordinate the CAW submission. There is a public meeting about the Strategy on 5 December at Turnbull House. More info at [www.transport.govt.nz/business/land/getting-there.shtml](http://www.transport.govt.nz/business/land/getting-there.shtml)

### Waterfront access

Lou and Patrick are checking with WCC and Wellington waterfront Ltd on cycle access and parking around the waterfront.

### CAW's Technical & Planning Group

WCC is changing traffic layout at **Wellington hospital**, prior to the new hospital building being designed. We looked at preliminary plans, and identified some concerns but also some good things e.g. extra set of lights. Robert is writing our submission.

**Island Bay roundabout** - there is concern that the deflection of entry points is wrong, and will encourage speeding. Also the cycle lanes should be marked and coloured up to the Give Way lines at the roundabout. Jane is writing a submission.

## Wellington Regional Cycle Forum

The latest meeting of the Cycle Forum was held on 4 November, with Jane Dawson attending.

**Opus Consulting** reported on a research project they are doing on 'Balancing the needs of motorists and cyclists'. The first phase of the programme is an experiment into understanding the effects of line markings and other road obstacles on cycle stability. This work has been completed.

The second phase concerns observations of cyclists as they manage roadside hazards and conflict with general traffic. Opus observed volunteer cyclists over two 10km courses in Upper Hutt and videoed them as they negotiated raised pavement markers, narrow bridges, reduction of the shoulder, gravel, debris and raised utility access covers, and other obstacles.

The third phase is a survey of parents who drop their children at school, and those who allow them to cycle, in an attempt to estimate the size of the concern for safety of the road environment as an impediment to school children cycling. The report will be available by June 2004.

**Wellington City Council** reported that signage for cyclists will be improved around the airport area, and that the Island Bay cycle route will be upgraded next year. Kapiti Coast's Road Safety Co-ordinator reported that they had 150 children turn up for their cycle skills day, and that a video is being made about 'defensive cycling'.

**Porirua City Council** have produced a map identifying walking tracks in their area, and which ones are also OK for cycling. It will go up on their website, and be available in hard copy. They are still awaiting approval from Tranzrail to go ahead with the bridge at Pukerua Bay, to extend the Ara Harakeke path.

The Wellington Region of the **Police** are working to bring down urban speed and enforce intersection give way rules.

**Transit NZ** are sealing the path between Pukerua Bay and Paekakariki, but are only signposting it for northbound use as there isn't enough room for opposing cyclists to pass. Plastic markers have been removed from the cycle path at Pukerua Bay, as they were getting knocked over and laying across the cycle track.

The **Wellington Veteran Cycling Club** had prepared a long list of things getting worse for cyclists over the last few years, like on road space for cyclists diminishing so that where once cyclists were able to ride two abreast, now there is little room for a group to ride single file, and drivers (both private and truck) operating with little concern for other road users.

**BikeWise** are going full steam ahead with planning for National Bike Week, and are running the Business Bike Battle again.

**Green Bikes** in Porirua now have coin-operated locks for the bikes - put in a \$2 coin, and get it back when you return the bike. They are looking at where to situate them.

The **Wellington Regional Council** had 25 submissions on its draft Regional Cycling Strategy, and all except 3 were supportive. It will go to the Regional Land Transport Committee in March 2004. The Council has contracted a project manager to run Road Safety Week in the second week of February, and has sourced extra funding to help with it. A 'Share the Road' campaign, based on the Waimakariri "don't burst my bubble" programme, will be run that week, which is the week before Bike Week.

### Pedaling a couch across Canada



Two Norwegians take their couch out for a spin. Check it out at [www.bikeforest.com/cb/index.html](http://www.bikeforest.com/cb/index.html)

### Events

#### Round Taupo

Saturday 29 November, [www.cyclechallenge.org.nz](http://www.cyclechallenge.org.nz)

#### Spring Green Bike Rally

A 27km ride through beautiful countryside at Gladstone, Wairarapa has been arranged for Sunday 16 November. Start and finish are at 11am, at the Gladstone Sports ground, which is on Gladstone Road.

The route is on flat to undulating country roads, with one climb of about 100 metres over 3 km. It's scenic. At the start riders are given a quiz sheet and the answers to questions are all found on the route. Correctly filled forms go into a draw to win a bike. Entry forms can be downloaded from [www.greens.org.nz/office/posters/BikeRally.pdf](http://www.greens.org.nz/office/posters/BikeRally.pdf) If anyone would like to share transport over there, please phone Paul Bruce on 972 8699.

#### Stall at Eastbourne Carnival

Want to improve biking conditions along the Eastbourne bays? CAW will have a presence at the Eastbourne Carnival on Sunday 30 November. If you can help between 10am and 3pm at a stall outside the Eastbourne supermarket organised by Neil Newman, contact him on 939 1133.

#### Next CAW meeting - Christmas Party and Slide Show

Let's celebrate! CAW will provide nibbles and juice, and Marilyn will entertain us with stories of her cycling trip in Newfoundland. BYO refreshments.

When: Tuesday, December 2, 2003, at 6pm

Where: Senior Citizens Room at the City Library on Victoria St. Take the steps up to Clark's cafe and then turn left to go past the lift doors.

**CAW**

Cycle Aware Wellington, [www.caw.org.nz](http://www.caw.org.nz), PO Box 11-964, Wellington

Secretary: Geoff Thomas, [geoff.thomas@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:geoff.thomas@vuw.ac.nz), tel 463 6247

*Windy Wheels* is edited by Patrick Morgan, ([www.morgan.net.nz/contact.php](http://www.morgan.net.nz/contact.php)) tel 389 9393

The deadline for the next issue is Tuesday 9th Dec 2003.

**CAN Cycle Advocates' Network:** [www.can.org.nz](http://www.can.org.nz)

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