

Cycle Action eNews



October 2009

Cycling is an integral part of a vibrant and liveable city

That was the message [Joel Cayford](#) conveyed at the [Cycle Action Auckland](#) AGM held at [Bike Central](#) in September. Joel encouraged Cycle Action to continue with the excellent work it has been doing in promoting cycling in Auckland and in the media. He also emphasised the effectiveness of letter writing to the media as an advocacy tool.

This excellent work is guaranteed to continue with the election of an extremely competent committee led by the newly elected Chair, **Mark Bracey** and supported by Barbara Cuthbert (Deputy Chair) and Barbara Insull (Secretary). Mark has been active within the organisation for many years and is looking forward to making a significant contribution over the next 12 months.

Mark has first hand knowledge of cycling issues because he has been cycling all his life. He is able to recall riding a bike as a normal part of life while growing up in Auckland. He laments the fact that his own children are currently missing the experiences of freedom and independence that cycling offered to him when he was growing up.



The Cycle Action committee would also like to acknowledge all the members and friends who have expressed support over the last week. As unfortunate as it is for the cyclists injured in the [Tamaki Drive crash](#), this incident has highlighted the barriers to turning Auckland into the first class city that Joel Cayford describes.

Please take the time to read this edition of eNews to see what events are happening and how you can help.

We've got some **FREE** offers for you too – read on to the end!

Support Cycle Action Auckland to

get more people on bikes, more often.

Tamaki Drive Safety

Cycle Action is working with CAN and BikeNZ on [Tamaki Drive issues](#) and the [1.5 petition](#). Our thoughts are still with Greg Patterson who was so badly injured on Tamaki Drive, and with his family, the other injured cyclists, and their cycling companions from the [Pickled Pedallers](#). Cycle Action has asked to be included in the Auckland City forum to discuss Tamaki Drive safety.

Frock to Veer – the movie

6.30pm , Wednesday 14 October, Academy Cinema.

This Cycle Action fundraiser is showing one time only at the Academy. Tickets only \$15 at [Bike Central](#) or go to <http://www.caa.org.nz/veer.html>.

[Frocks on Bikes](#) will be frolicking to the movie – wear all your bling for the Red Carpet ride from O’Hagens Irish Bar on the viaduct up Queen Street to the Academy for the Veer movie.



Details at: <http://frocks on bikes.wordpress.com/auckland/>.

Guys – you don’t have to wear a frock (unless you really want to). But it is an opportunity to get out of lycra into stylish street clothes for a gentle ride with the girls – and to make a statement.

Frocktober

This is the month to get out your ordinary bike and dress with style – a la Copenhagen – and show Auckland there are lots of different bike users on our streets.

They are raving about NZ frocks on bikes in the US!!



<http://charlestoncyclechic.com/2009/06/18/from-all-the-way-across-the-planet-new-zealand-rocks-with-frocks-on-bikes/>

Check out what cycle chic represents to the cycling movement – you’ll love it!!

<http://www.copenhagencyclechic.com/2008/04/cycle-chic-manifesto.html>

[Frocks on Bikes](#) has been nominated for the ‘Best Cycling Promotion’ for the CANDO Cycle Friendly Awards.

350 Big Bike Ride

A good reason to be in Auckland for Labour weekend - the 350 Big Bike Ride.

As part of a global day of climate change action Cycle Action is supporting a mass ride for all cyclists.

Meet at Britomart Sq at 1.30pm Sat 24 October for an easy, safe (with marshals) and scenic 12km ride to Takahi Reserve in Mt Eden.

You can stay on for 350 Maunga Action up Maungawha/Mt Eden starting at 3.30pm.

Followed by the 350 Festival at Takahi Reserve from 5pm.

For more details check out the actions on www.350.org. There are currently 1859 actions registered in 145 countries which are going to be displayed live on massive screens in NYC and broadcast around the world.

Let's not miss this opportunity to get out on our bikes and show that Auckland can be a cycle friendly city.

Please print off the [poster](#) and forward on this notice about the 350 Big Bike Ride to all your cycling networks.

Who's who in Cycle Action?

Pippa Coom and the Auckland Energy Consumer Trust election

We wouldn't normally be promoting an election via a Cycle Action newsletter but the involvement of our own Pippa Coom, Cycle Action membership secretary and Great Urban Rides sponsor, and her reasons for standing as one of five trustees of the Trust make this election campaign unique.

Next Friday if your name is on the power bill in Auckland, Manukau, parts of Papakura or on Waiheke Island you will be able to vote. The Trust recently distributed a \$320 dividend from its 75.1% ownership of Vector.

Pippa worked as a lawyer at Vector until April when she started volunteering full time for Cycle Action and other



350.org.nz



community projects. She is standing as an independent candidate with the support of her local community group [Grey Lynn 2030:transition community](#). She is also lucky enough to have Barb I and Barb C as her campaign managers and Cycle Action right behind her as she is using the campaign to raise awareness about sustainability issues. We really hope you will support Pippa as it would be fantastic to have a community representative on the Trust. For more information check out [Pippa's website](#) which also has links to the Cycle Action and Frocks on Bikes websites.

Introducing our newest committee member: Leigh Marshall

“I joined Cycle Action in 2008 after a bad crash with a car (yet another incidence of a car driver failing to observe a stop sign) spurred me to actively campaign for something I was quietly passionate about. I am a dedicated cycle commuter and (slow) recreational cyclist. I am keen to do my bit to make Auckland and Aucklanders more friendly and supportive for cycling and cyclists.”

For a list of the primary Cycle Action contacts, visit <http://www.caa.org.nz/contact.html>.

Nextbikes back in action

It's great to see [Nextbikes](#) bike rentals back on Auckland streets after a winter break.

The first 30 minutes of every ride is free if you register or upgrade by 15 November.

The super comfortable European styled bikes come with helmets, locks, chain guards, 3 easy gears (so no grease) and a basket for carrying goodies.

Once registered the first 30 minutes is **FREE** each day, then \$4.00/hr up to a maximum of \$16.00 for 24 hours.



Nextbikes are rented with a quick call to 09 909 9090 or online and payment is made with a pre-registered credit/ debit card. Nextbikes are available 24/7 and can be picked up and dropped off on any main road indicated on the website map. Simply lock them securely and give them a second phone call to confirm the exact street address. Nextbike relocate them regularly. Visit www.nextbike.co.nz to find the closest bike and more info! These bikes are great for those living, commuting and recreating within the CBD, Parnell, Newmarket, Mt Eden, Kingsland and Ponsonby areas.

The first 20 Cycle Action people to register will receive 1 day **FREE** rental credit to their account in addition to the 30 min **FREE** per day.

You must register and enter this code (855855) by Nov 15. If you are already registered with Nextbike simply login to your account and enter the voucher number.

before the cycleway restarts at Myrtle Street, south of Western Springs. That wouldn't be too bad - except that this section of Kingsland is very undulating. Not every cycle commuter wants to climb extra hills every morning and evening, especially if there could be better options!

The new path will join these two separated sections directly along the motorway alignment, making it a straight run, and much more level - with a nice row of Pohutukawa trees to be planted along the path too. Cycle Action was asked by NZTA for comment on the design plans, and we are very positive about them (thanks to the Agency for enabling us to have input). Let's hope that this project takes the next hurdle (getting construction funding) as soon as possible!

Road Safety - "Safer Journeys 2020"

Cycle Action recently participated in the discussions on the future road safety strategy of New Zealand. Issues we highlighted are the continuing danger of driving, walking or cycling on our roads. In terms of deaths and injuries, New Zealand is more than twice as unsafe as Sweden, one of the leading European countries. And we are slipping behind in reaching some of our own road safety targets, even though they are not nearly as ambitious.

With this in mind, Cycle Action criticised that the discussion document for the new road safety strategy seems to further de-emphasise those targets. And while Cycle Action is strongly supportive of the "High concern" initiatives aimed at issues like drunk driving, or the safety record of younger drivers, we are shocked that the document relegated "walking & cycling" safety to the "Medium concern" priority initiatives even before inviting comment!

We need to move out of the vicious circle in which fewer and fewer cyclists and pedestrians encounter more and more drivers unaware of how to behave around them, thus further discouraging walking and cycling. Thus, improving cycling and walking safety will lead to more people choosing to walk and cycle, recreating the well-documented "safety in numbers" effect that New Zealand has lost in the last decades.

Symonds St/Grafton Bridge

Great news – the roadworks are complete on Symonds St and Grafton Bridge in preparation for the Central Connector bus service. Pedalling up Symonds St past the University is now much easier than before, so long as the buses behave themselves. As well as sharing the bus lane, cyclists have a little bit of cycle lane here and there, and advance stop boxes. Coming down the hill it's still a bit tight opposite the Engineering School, but have you seen the dinky little cyclist arrow that allows cyclists to hang a left into Alfred St? Amazing how just a bit of paint can make cyclists' life so much easier.



Grafton Bridge is now motorist-free between 7am-7pm weekdays, which makes it a joy to cycle along, just sharing with buses and motorcycles.

Thanks Auckland City – a great job.



Shore News

Lake Rd petition

North Shore City is considering removing the popular Lake Rd cycle lanes because they hold up traffic. **WHAT??** Yes, says Councillor Ken MacKay, we can't have 300 cyclists holding up 30,000 motorists. Anyone spot the flaw in Ken's logic?



Sign the [petition](#) to retain the cycle lanes, and read more about the Lake Rd cycle lane saga [here](#).

Please forward the petition link to your friends, family and cycling contacts, especially if they live on the Shore.

East Coast Rd

We continue to have concerns about East Coast Rd north of the Forrest Hill roundabout, and have yet to receive a promised safety audit. Our enquiries with Council staff have revealed they believe the new alignment to be adequately safe for cyclists given the generous lane widths.

So for those of you who have regularly ridden this route for a few months now, how do you feel? Have you had any close calls? Would reinstatement of the shoulder lane (or even better, an on-road cycle lane) improve safety? Let [Steve](#) know and he'll compile for feedback to Council.



Google Maps Project

Cycle Action Committee member Steve Southall is continuing to work with ARTA to develop a set of Google Cycle Resource maps for the entire Auckland Region. Launch date isn't far away.

We're still seeking cyclist feedback for cycle friendly (and not so friendly) locations anywhere from Wellsford to Pukekohe, including the Gulf Islands. If you missed the email that went out to Cycle Action's Members and Friends a while ago, contact [Steve](#) for a list of instructions on how you can add to the map. If you're already comfortable with adding information to Google Maps, jump straight to the input map [here](#).



Marine Events Centre

The Marine Events Centre will be a classy exhibition building in Halsey St, near the Viaduct, and used for fashion week and similar glitterati events.

We submitted on the project and went to speak to the resource consent hearing to make sure cycles were included in the planning. We need to cater for those elegant models strutting their stuff with gorgeous Paris 'step thru' bikes, families visiting the Boat Show, and students working as temporary 'wait' staff who will turn up on their everyday bikes!

You'll be glad to hear that we had a win, thanks to a sensible Hearing Commissioners' panel - 5 staff secure cycle parking and shower facilities will be provided and 24 public cycle parks. Plus, a yearly review will be done and more cycle parking spaces provided if the demand is shown to exist.

We'll remind you nearer the time to make sure you get down there on your bikes to use these facilities.

The world-class city catering for cycles comes one step closer !!

Ding Dong Bike Bells

A new classy 'ding-dong' bike bell was heard from Barb Cuthbert's bike at the recent Frocks on Bikes Ponsonby Rd event and at the CAA AGM. The bell was widely admired, and a few have been acquired (at \$30 each) by an exclusive group of Cycle Action members.

12 more bells are available, and can be obtained by a lucky few by linking to

<http://www.devonport.net.nz/dingdong.htm>



Goina, (the seller of the bells) will donate \$8 to the Samoa Tsunami relief fund for every bell sold. She also wants to organise a charity ride to raise more money for the fund, so let her know if you can help her with this.

Cycling Conference and CAN Do

After the NZ Cycling Conference, 12 & 13 November (see <http://cyclingconf.org.nz/2009/programme>)



is the CAN DO – <http://can.org.nz/2009-can-do-november-14-15-new-plymouth>

CAN DO is a cycling advocates workshop in New Plymouth, weekend of 14 & 15 November. Anyone can go and it's always great fun. Six Cycle Action committee members are going this year – car pooling possible - cheap backpacker accommodation and only \$70 to register with a great three day ride afterwards - Mon 16 to Wed 18.

We're looking forward to cycling New Plymouth's award-winning coastal route too.



Awards

Bevan Woodward has received an award from The Oranga Kaupapa Trust, established to recognise worthy efforts of people in our community. Bevan is well known as a Cycle Action committee member, FAST chairperson, [GetAcross](#) organiser, Regional Land Transport Committee member and tireless worker for sustainable transport. Bevan has also been nominated for 'Cycle Champion of the Year' in the CAN DO Cycle Friendly Awards. Congratulations Bevan!



Next Cycle Action Monthly Meetings

Diary these dates now.

October

Wed 28 October at 7pm for coffee and cake, downstairs Freeman's Bay Community Centre (see [map](#))

“What Auckland can learn from Aussie”

Barbs Insull & Cuthbert and Kirsten Shouler will report back on the best bits from the Melbourne Bike Futures conference.

November

Wed 25 November 7pm

Christmas strawberries, cake & bubbles and discussion on Manukau matters with Steve Patton, Senior Transport Planner, MCC.

Venue to be announced.

Steve says: Manukau City Council wants to hear from cyclists on road maintenance issues & potholes and glass in the cycle lanes. Phone MCC on 09 262 5104.

February

Wed 24 Feb 2010

We hope to repeat our **‘Using your bike for transport’** session during Bikewise month. Contact us if you would like to be involved as a contributor or a learner. Don't forget to challenge your workmates to try biking to work in February for the Bike Wise Battle.

Final message

Summer's coming and hordes of cyclists will be taking to the tar seal!

It's time to mentor a new cyclist to ride safely on Auckland's city streets, or find a mentor to brush up on your own cycling skills.

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To find out more and about Cycle Action go to www.caa.org.nz

Please consider the environment before printing this newsletter (or turning that ignition key)



PRESENT THE VOUCHER BELOW, AND RECEIVE TWO DELICIOUS COFFEES FOR THE PRICE OF ONE, AND AUTOMATICALLY ENTER THE DRAW TO WIN A TREK 7.1 CITY BIKE!

BikeCentral is your new inner city Trek bicycle store, conveniently located at 3 Britomart Place (old Kiwi Tavern Building).

We are excited to carry a full range of 2010 model bikes and accessories in store.

To celebrate this, we would like to invite you to go in the draw to win a new Trek 7.1 city bike (Retail \$759), just in time for summer!

To go into the draw, simply present the below 2 for 1 coffee voucher in store with your completed contact details. Enter as many times as you like, just remember to bring in a completed entry form.

Cycling is a fantastic way to commute to work, its a great way to get fit, destress and see the city.

See www.bikecentral.co.nz for more details. Good luck.

Bicycle Park
 Shower & Lockers
 Coffee & Food
 Bicycle Hire
 Bicycle Repairs

WIN

TREK 7.1 CITY BIKE
VALUED AT \$759

2 FOR 1 COFFEE

VOUCHER

Simply present this voucher and receive 2 delicious coffees for the price of one and automatically enter the draw to win a Trek 7.1 City bike!

Enter as often as you like, valid until 29/11/09
Prize drawn Monday 30/11/09

Entry form details:

Name

Phone

Email

Keep me up to date with BC/Trek specials.

3 Britomart Pl Telephone: 09 365 3768
info@bikecentral.co.nz, bikecentral.co.nz