



SPOKE

ADVICE – ADVOCACY - ADVENTURE

AUG - SEP 2009

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President's Report 2009

It is very gratifying to report that the growth of Bicycle Tasmania experienced over the last few years continues unabated, it is safe to say that in many ways Bicycle Tasmania has never been as strong and healthy. The most notable strengths continue to be a sound finances and a membership base that continues to grow.

Such strength provides the potential for Bicycle Tasmania to be more and more pro active in promoting and encouraging recreational and transport cycling.

Our normal activities continue with valet bike parking at the Taste of Tasmania and the Treadlightly and Tulip Festival at the Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens. I am sure I am repeating myself in reiterating the immense value of providing valet bike parking at major events such as these. From the broader community message of cycling instead of driving for day to day journeys to raising the profile of Bicycle Tasmania to it simply being a very social occasion for all involved. It is also now one of Bicycle Tasmania's major and reliable sources of income.

The Big Ride and major State Bike Week events such as the Tour de Femme and Century Ride continue to experience an increase in participation too.

Looking forward over the next few years, despite the strength and profile of Bicycle Tasmania there are many challenges if we wish the organisation to continue providing an invaluable service to members and be active in promoting cycling.

In theory with the increase in our membership and behind that, in comparison with only a few years ago, a growing and vibrant local cycling community we should be over run with volunteers to support our day-to-day administrative tasks and event activity. Unfortunately this is not the case with the same small number of active members taking on an increasing workload as the Bicycle Tasmania develops. This is a fundamental weakness that is undoubtedly restricting our activities. There is much that could be done, for example - increasing the number of major events where we provide valet bike parking, establishing AusCycle the new National cycle training scheme in Tasmania and simply providing a wider range of rides on our calendar.

There are currently two like-minded organisations that are interested in affiliating with Bicycle Tasmania, this has the potential to increase our membership by a minimum of 25% and expand our activities into areas of the State where we currently do not have a high profile, but again will increase the administrative burden.

Behind the scenes there is continuing work on a member database system to enable us to be more efficient in managing the increasing membership. I am sure future Membership Secretaries will be very grateful when this system is up and running.

I realise we all lead busy lives but to repeat that well worn phrase “many hands make light work”, becoming more a more active Bicycle Tasmania member does not mean taking on a big commitment.

The growing cycling culture in Hobart was recognised by Bicycle Tasmania by presenting the 2009 Clips Award to Healthy Transport Hobart for organising the successful and positive Courteous Mass rides in Hobart on the last Friday of every month. I encourage every cyclist in the area to come along on a regular basis. Keep up the good work Liam and Katie.

There is no question particularly in the last year that there has been a fundamental change in the way Tasmanian Governments both Local and State view cycling, increasingly seeing the positive contribution it makes to our society. It may be some time before these attitudes are reflected in the provision of infrastructure or initiatives but as these develop the role of Bicycle Tasmania as an advocate for all cyclists becomes even more critical.

Before I conclude I must in some way try to recognise the incredible amount of work and commitment shown by the long standing Executive of Linda Baldock, Ambrose Canning, Andrew Heard, Wayne Kelly and Andy Semmler. Bicycle Tasmania simply would not be where it is today with out them. There are of course many others who have been involved as valet bike parking attendants or offering invaluable help at major events. Of particular note is the work Derek Pennington contributed coordinating the Taste valet parking volunteers early this year.

Is it extremely evident that increasing the amount of cycling, particularly for regular urban journeys, is crucial to ameliorate the growing environmental and health problems in our society. Despite the challenges of adequate volunteer input I am absolutely confident that Bicycle Tasmania will play a very important role in supporting such growth into the future.

Tim Stredwick
2008/09 President

Results of Annual General Meeting

Unfortunately there was very little change in the composition of the executive and committee after the recent AGM. Tim Stredwick has stepped down as president after the best part of a decade of tireless work and this has left a big hole to plug. For the time being the executive are considering what options they have for scaling back work; what non-core-business can be stopped; what initiatives may have to be put on hold. Two new people have offered to help, thanks John and Chancal. As Tim mentioned in his last Spoke editorial there are plenty of jobs, big and small, once off and ongoing, if you feel you can help at all.

Elected Positions

President - *no nomination*

Treasurer - Andy Semmler

Membership Secretary - Ambrose Canning

Secretary -

Public Officer - Heather Jagger

Other Positions

Auditor - Peter Franklin

Webmaster - Wayne Kelly

Newsletter "Spoke" Editor - Linda Baldock

eNewsletter Editor - Wayne Kelly

Social Rides coordinator - Ian Terry and Chancal Foxen

Bicycle Federation of Australia Representative - David Edwards

Kingborough BUG Representative - *no nomination*

Hobart BUG Representative - Ambrose Canning/ Andy Semmler

Glenorchy Bicycle Committee Representative - Chancal Foxen

Clarence Bicycle Committee Representative - Ambrose Canning

Brighton BUG Representative (currently no organisation)

Constitution Changes

Attendees at the recent AGM voted unanimously to accept changes to the constitution in the following areas:

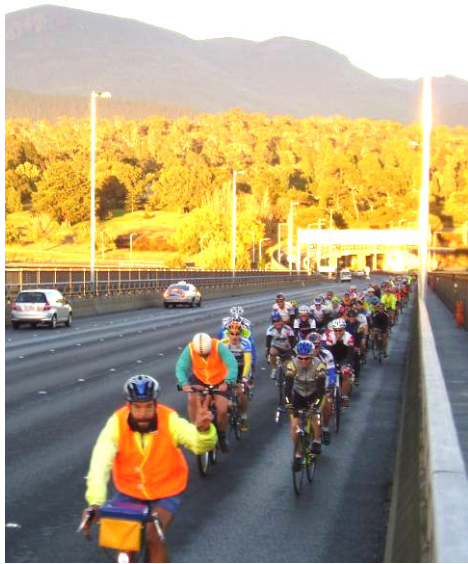
- changes related to Affiliated Groups
- changes related to Audit Exemption in future years
- incorporation of headings, general "tidy up", removal of reference to HPV/ MTB

In relation to Audit Exemption, members voted to retain our current auditor for this financial year. People agreed that the wording changes gave us the flexibility to use an auditor or not, to save a little money, but felt an independent auditor was a worthwhile safeguard.

Andrew Heard

Tim Stredwick – Thanks For Everything

- President of BT since 2000 except for two years.
- Spoke editor for 6+ years with countless editorials and articles.
- Brought the Tasmanian Bicycle Council "back to life" as Tasmania's peak cycling advocacy organisation which he currently chairs.
- Lobbied for and got the ferry charges applying to bicycles on the Spirit of Tasmania ferries reduced.
- 2005/06 Cyclingsouth Cadence Award winner to services to cycling.
- Organiser of Cycling 25 initiative to get 25 people to commit to riding to work.
- Represented BT on the Tasmanian Road Safety Task Force.
- Represented BT at Hobart Bicycle Advisory Committee.
- Run Cyclingsouth Adult Rider Course for many years.
- Passionate instructor for Teach-Your-Toddler-To-Ride sessions.
- Increased participation by 100% from Bike Week 2008 to 2009.
- Obtained for first time \$30,000 of State funding for Bike Week 09/10.
- Tireless volunteer for countless cycling events – Bike Week, BIG RIDE, National Ride-To-Work day, bike valet parking, Home Expo, Adopt-A-Highway cleanups.
- Instigated event based bike valet parking in Hobart.
- Road safety campaign.
- Leader/ organiser of countless social rides including Bruny Island overnight rides, and inspiration for many cycle tourists.
- Contact point for Kingborough, CSIRO, Hobart Royal, DPIWE, Tamar Bicycle User Groups, Southern Pedals, North West Recreational Cyclists, Safer Roads.
- The voice on Tim Cox's ABC Radio Cycling Talkback segment for many years.



Push on Timbo.

Andrew Heard

A Boost for Sustainable Transport with new Bike Lanes for Hobart

Hobart's on-road bike lane project on Argyle and Campbell Street is a high-quality urban bicycle lane facility that follows on from the successful trial on-road bicycle lane installed in Argyle Street in late 2007. The project undertaken by the Council (*Hobart City Council*) is a component of the Hobart Principal Bicycle Network and also forms part of the Hobart Regional Arterial Bicycle Network. The Council in partnership with the Australian Government Roads to Recovery Program and the State Government via the Trails and Bikeways Program at Sport and Recreation Tasmania have all provided funding towards the project.

The development of the Argyle and Campbell Street bicycle lanes has included Australian Standard coloured surface treatments at points along the route where there is a higher likelihood of motor vehicle interactions with cyclists. Whilst these treatments have been used for some time on the mainland, this is the first time that the coloured surface treatments have been used for bicycle lanes in Tasmania.

The project involves bicycle head-start storage areas at intersections. These storage boxes have been placed in front of the left turn lane on Argyle Street and the right turn lane on Campbell Street to improve the safety of cyclists.

There is also a lane separation strip in sections where road widths have allowed. The separation strip adds an additional buffer to protect cyclists and provides another visual cue for motorists to maintain their distance from cyclists. Whilst vehicles are permitted to cross the bicycle lanes to access parking and driveways it is important that motorists, when crossing the bicycle lanes to access left or right turn lanes, cross on the broken white line areas. Crossing the lane separation strip before the broken area can make it difficult for motorists undertaking the correct maneuver.

A number of designs have been considered for the connector between Argyle Street and Campbell Street and a design of this link is currently being finalised.

Cyclists now have two options at Burnett Street when travelling south along Argyle Street. Cyclists will be able to re-enter the traffic lanes on Burnett Street and cross into Campbell Street where the on road lanes will re-commence. Alternatively, cyclists may cross at the pedestrian signals and use the footpath on the southern side of Burnett Street before rejoining the on-road lanes in Campbell Street.

The Council will soon be considering options for development of improved cycling and walking facilities along Sandy Bay Road following the first phase of the Council's community consultation.

The Council has produced a draft Sustainable Transport Strategy and will be considering a final draft in the coming months. Construction of the Argyle and Campbell Street bicycle lanes forms part of the Council's Draft Sustainable Transport Strategy. Further information is available at www.hobartcity.com.au

Taken from *Hobart City Community News*, August 2009

This year we are providing bike parking at the Tulip Festival (Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, first weekend in October, upper and lower gates) and Sustainable Living Tasmania's Home Expo (Princes Wharf No. 1, first weekend in November).

The proposed timetables are:

- Tulip Festival: Sat 3 Oct 10am-1pm and 1pm-4pm
Sun 4 Oct 10am-1pm and 1pm-4pm
- Home Expo: Sat 7 Nov 10am-1pm and 1pm-4pm
Sun 8 Nov 10am-1pm and 1pm-4pm

Could you please respond to Patsy Jones (patsycj@ozemail.com.au) with an indication of which day(s) and time(s) at each event you would be prepared to do? I can't guarantee providing your preferred time but it's a starting-point! I would like at least 12 volunteers for the Home Expo (because we will be staffing the Bike Tas stall as well as the parking), and 16 for the Tulip Festival, so have a look at your diaries and let me know how you can help.

Patsy Jones
Ph: 0409 950 327
Or 03 6223 7694

New Benefits for Being a Bicycle Tasmania Member

As a BT member you now have access to growing library of cycling books and magazines. BT has donated this library to Sustainable Living Tasmania - <http://www.sustainablelivingtasmania.org.au>.

The current list includes (among others):

- Australian cyclist (2003...)
- Bicycle parking manual : Danish Cyclists Federation
- Bike repair & maintenance for dummies
- Canberra cyclist / the magazine of Pedal Power (ACT) Inc.
- Audax Australia Checkpoint magazine (2009...)
- Cycle touring in France : eight selected cycle tours
- Cycle touring in Spain : eight detailed cycle tours
- Cyclecraft : the complete guide to safe and enjoyable cycling for adults and children
- Cycling past 50
- Bicycle Victoria "Ride On" magazine (2004...)

- Touring Tasmania: a comprehensive guide to Tasmania's touring routes including 20 full colour maps with notes
- Where to Ride (copies for Adelaide, Melbourne, Perth, South East Queensland)
- Camping Guide to Tasmania
- Free Camping in Tasmania

The collection has only just begun but will be expanded over time. Suggestions for items to buy are most appreciated. You may even want to donate your old cycling books to the library as a couple of our members have already done – you can always borrow them back at any time.

BT is a member of SLT.

The procedure for borrowing an item is as follows:

- Search the collection online at <http://www.sustainablelivingtasmania.org.au>
- Click the Quick Link “Online Environmental Resource Library”.
- Click the “Advanced Search, More Options” button.
- In the “Search On” group change the “Branch” to Bicycle Tasmania then click the Start Search button.
- Check the item is not already on loan.
- At the moment the online reservation system is not operating so you will need to reserve books in person.
- Visit the Sustainable Living Tasmania office, 1st floor, 71 Murray Street.
- Find the BT item want to borrow (they are all located together).
- Take it to one of the friendly SLT staff and indicate you are a BT member.
- Quote the BT membership number: 1357
- Show your personal/ current BT membership card, for example #09/303 (quoting a number is not sufficient).
- The bar code will be scanned and a separate entry will be written in a BT log book.

You can only borrow BT items, not items from the general SLT collection, although you may want to consider becoming an SLT member anyway.

NEWS FLASH – a new member has donated their whole collection of 150 bicycle related books and maps to our library and are in the process of being catalogued. Thank you Rodger.

Andrew Heard

National Ride to Work Day on 14 Oct 2009 - registrations now open

If you've never ridden your bike to work before then Wednesday 14 October is the day to start. If you're a regular rider register and be counted. See <http://www.bv.com.au/ride-to-work/> to register and find out about free cyclists breakfasts.

Thousands of regular and first-time riders from all states and territories will participate in National Ride to Work Day this year.

There will be 2 community breakfasts in Hobart this year:

Hobart Waterfront - CyclingSouth will again organise a Hobart breakfast for people commuting to the Hobart CBD by bike from 6am to 9am at Mawson Place

Rosny Barn - Clarence City Council is hosting a commuter breakfast at Rosny Barn behind Eastlands from 7am to 9am.

Hobart CBD breakfast on the waterfront

At the Hobart Waterfront breakfast at Mawson Place (Corner Davey and Argyle St) Andy Muirhead from ABC local radio will be broadcasting live from 6am. There will be lots of **free food and hot beverages** thanks to Bakers Delight, Vaalia yoghurt, Bananas Australia, Hobart City Council & CyclingSouth. **Cycle Angels** will be on the main cycle routes into Hobart to provide

support and encouragement.

The **Trek prize bike** will be on display with the winner announced on 21 October. Everyone who registers is eligible to win. There will be activities such as **Crank Virtual Reality Cycling** where you can have a go at riding some of the world's great cycling routes and ABC is providing **helmet hair repair**.

The final version of the **Hobart Regional Arterial Bicycle Network Plan** will be on display. Thank you to everyone who provided feedback on the draft. The CyclingSouth member councils will also have some of their latest bike projects and plans on display. There will be other stalls such as **Bicycle Tasmania** - join and get insurance coverage while riding and, **RACT Bike Assist** to get you back on the road when your bike breaks down and plan your next cycling holiday with **Island Cycle Tours**.

At 7.55am everyone will get into formation for the **great aerial bike photo**.

Eastern shore breakfast at Rosny Barn

Clarence City Council is hosting a breakfast at Rosny Barn behind Eastlands adjacent to the golf course (off Rosny Hill Rd). There will be giveaways and goodies for commuter cyclists who attend.

Taken from <http://www.cyclingsouth.org>

State MTB strategy out for comment

The state MTB strategy is now available in draft form for comment, I'd encourage everyone to at least take a quick look and send through some comments- this document represents the next 5 years of Tasmanian mountain biking so it's important to get it right.

The Strategy can be found here: <http://www.development.tas.gov.au/sportrec/mtbplan> (*ed-Individuals and organisations wishing to provide comment on the Draft Mountain Bike Plan have until 11 October 2009 to provide their submissions.*)

Thanks and Happy riding,

Simon French
President
Hobart Wheelers/Dirt Devils
www.dirtdevilsmtb.com
simon@dirtart.com.au
0438 310 984

Cyclists will be given green light to ignore one-way signs

The Times 17 Sep 2009



Cyclists will be permitted to ride the wrong way along one-way streets under a change intended to encourage more people to give up their cars or use them less.

The Government will announce today that cyclists will be permitted to ignore no-entry signs: a practice already followed by many, including David Cameron, the Conservative leader.

The Department for Transport is authorising a trial in the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea, Mr Cameron's home authority in West London, in which a small plate saying "Except cyclists" will be attached to poles carrying no-entry signs.

If the trial is successful, the department intends to extend the policy to the rest of Britain and permit thousands of one-way streets to become two-way for bikes. It believes that long diversions around one-way systems are a significant deterrent to new cyclists, who might be less confident about breaking the rules.

This is the first time that the department has permitted an exception to the no-entry rule. Existing cycle "contraflow" lanes require authorities to build separate entrances for cyclists so that they do not have to break traffic rules. The cost of building these entrances, though, has deterred all but a tiny number of authorities from creating contraflow lanes.

Hackney Council in East London pioneered the introduction of contraflow lanes and now has the highest rate of cycling of any London borough.

Sadiq Khan, the Transport Minister, said: "The pilot contraflow cycling system will help to reduce journey times for cyclists while allowing them to travel safely and legally on the most convenient routes. If this pilot is successful then councils across the country could be offered the opportunity to use similar measures on their roads."

The Times revealed last year that Kensington & Chelsea was seeking permission to operate a pilot scheme. Daniel Moylan, the deputy leader of the Conservative-controlled council, said then that he was persuaded of the need to make the change after noticing that hundreds of cyclists a day were ignoring no-entry signs on Thackeray Street, which his home overlooks.

He said: "If this is what cyclists want to do and they can do it safely, then we see it as our responsibility to adapt the legal position to allow them to do it legally.

"We are recognising the reality that cyclists prefer to take the shortest route through quieter streets. The alternative of having a policeman standing on the road to catch cyclists would be foolish and unworkable."

Chris Peck, policy officer of the Cyclists' Touring Club, said: "We've been campaigning to allow two-way cycling on one-way streets for years and we are delighted that finally the Government is permitting a sign that is easy to understand. It is a safe and sensible option that is standard in all other European countries, so we can't believe it has taken so long to be accepted here," he added.

A report by the club said that it might be necessary to reduce the speed limit to 20mph on some roads with contraflow lanes to avoid the risk that cyclists will feel intimidated by oncoming traffic. It said that the lanes improved safety because they were usually on quiet residential roads and allowed cyclists to avoid using the busier main roads.

In March last year Mr Cameron was recorded on film cycling the wrong way down Dawson Place, a one-way street in Kensington & Chelsea. He said afterwards: "I know it is important to obey traffic laws — but I have obviously made mistakes on this occasion and I am sorry."

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article6837656.ece>

Council News

Clarence Foreshore Trail at Bellerive Bluff – construction to start soon. The detailed design has been completed and the project is due to go to tender. Construction of the missing section of path alongside Victoria Esplanade between Gunning St and Bellerive Beach is expected to commence shortly. Public consultation was carried out to make Victoria Esplanade one-way in order to create additional space for the trail.

Cycleway at Hobart Waterfront – Fishermen parking to be relocated. Work is expected to commence soon on stage one of the improvements to Franklin Wharf. The Waterfront Authority will relocate the fishermen's car parking which currently creates a bottleneck for path users, especially when a vehicle is double parked. This will improve access for pedestrians and cyclists along the busy section of path adjacent to Davey St between Zero Davey and the Muir's car park entrance.

Kingston bypass update- Multi-lane roundabouts and cyclists don't mix very well so it has been a difficult project to advocate for improvements for cyclists at Huntingfield. Experienced and competent cyclists will be assisted by the inclusion of green bike lanes in the roundabout where they have priority but are on their own when it comes to crossing slip lanes and exit lanes from the roundabout. There will be some improvements for local cycling movement between Kingston and Huntingfield and new subdivisions on the western side of the bypass. For more see:<http://www.cyclingsouth.org>

Taken from *Cycling South Newsletter #42 - Sept/Oct 2009*

Bicycle Tasmania BIG RIDE

Bicycle Tasmania's BIG RIDE is on Sunday 15th November. The format is the same as in previous years. There are two rides to choose from:

Channel Loop via Sandfly, Huonville, Cygnet, Gordon and Kettering - 106km
OR Tinderbox Loop via Howden and Blackmans Bay - 35km

Both rides start at 9am from the Margate Dru Point picnic grounds. They also end at the picnic grounds where there will be food and drink provided as part of the entry fee (or free to BT members).

The Around The Channel route is one of the best day rides in Tasmania, with stunning coastal and mountain views. It is slightly shorter and a bit hillier than the Bike Week Century Ride so offers a similar challenge for those wanting a full day out on their bikes. The entry fee will include a food and drink stop at Woodbridge.

The Tinderbox Loop route provides a shorter option for those who do not fancy a 100km day. It is suitable for families though riders must be over 14 years old. Children in bike seats, trailers or on tandems and trailer bikes are very welcome. This route provides some great views over the Derwent, Storm Bay and NW Bay and although a shortish ride, it *does include some real hills* and the lovely Tinderbox Beach.

Both rides include food at the finish and full support.

Payment details are yet to be finalized.

Calendar of Upcoming Rides and Events

*Note that Bicycle Tasmania insurance covers **members only** on social rides.* There is a ride fee for non-BT members to cover administrative costs.

Please contact the Ride Coordinator listed for a particular social ride if you intend coming on the ride otherwise it may be cancelled.

Let the Ride Coordinator know if you wish to assist with a ride or have a suggestion for a different ride that should be in the calendar for 2009.

Bicycle Tasmania Launceston - Westbury Ride.28km.

When Sunday, Oct 4, 2009

Description Come along on this lovely ride, along quiet level roads, to watch the Tour of Tasmania Criterium in Westbury. START Prospect Vale Park 10.00 am, Hadspen 10.25, Carrick PO 10.45, Hagley PO 11.15, Westbury Village Green 11.30. Route details here <http://www.bikely.com/maps/bike-path/347711>. Contact Anna Povey for more details. Ph 03 6334 6633 fovey@intas.net.au

Judbury BBQ Ride

When Sunday, Oct 11, 2009

Description Judbury BBQ ride - the old Bike Tas favourite. 22km return with lunch in the park by the river at Judbury. Games in the tree house, the swings or the oval. Contact Ian Terry (6234 9979 or ianterry@netspace.net.au).

Family / Social Ride Deloraine area

When Sun, October 25, 10:00am – 1:30pm

Where Deloraine Montana

Description Meet at Train Park Deloraine 10:00am Loop ride back to Deloraine via Montana. Gravel roads involved. approx 35-40k Co-ordinator : Tony Cullimore 0419 387 556 Please call on Sat 4th to confirm ride is still on.

Intercity Cycleway Family Ride

When Sunday, Nov 1, 2009

Description Ride the Intercity Cycleway - about 30kms return. Great for kids on their own bikes. Contact Andy Semmler (asemmler@bigpond.com or 6224 6261).

Bike Tas BIG RIDE

When Sunday, Nov 15, 2009.

Description Channel Loop via Sandfly, Huonville, Cygnet, Gordon and Kettering - 106km
OR Tinderbox Loop via Howden and Blackmans Bay - 35km

Pipeline Track to Wellington Falls

When Sunday, Nov 29, 2009

Description Ride the Pipeline Track and walk to Wellington Falls - one day we will do this one without it snowing. Maybe today! Great for kids on their own bikes. Contact Andy Semmler (asemmler@bigpond.com or 6224 6261).

The Annual Bruny Island Tour

When Dec 12 – 13 2009

Description Another old favourite - the annual Bruny Island tour, camping at the Neck and checking out the cheeses at the Bruny Island Cheese Co. Contact Ian Terry (ianterry@netspace.net.au or on 6234 9979).

How to Contact Bicycle Tasmania

Email address: info@biketas.org.au

Postal address: Bicycle Tasmania c/o GPO Box 1814, Hobart, 7001

Executive committee:

President: ~~Tim Stredwick~~, president@biketas.org.au

Secretary: Andrew Heard, secretary@biketas.org.au

Treasurer: Andy Semmler, treasurer@biketas.org.au

Membership Secretary: Ambrose Canning, membership@biketas.org.au

Other Representatives:

Web master: Wayne Kelly, webmaster@biketas.org.au

Ride to Work Coordinator: Tim Stredwick, tstredwick@velosmith.com.au

Social Rides Coordinator: Ian Terry, rides@biketas.org.au phone 62 664582

Bicycle Federation of Australia Representative: David Edwards

Cycling South Committee Representative: Tim Stredwick

Tasmanian Bicycle Council Representative: Tim Stredwick

Clarence Bicycle Committee Representative: Evan Evans

Kingborough Bicycle User Group Representative: Richard Nichols, rn2019042@gmail.com

Hobart Bicycle Plan Advisory Committee: Ambrose Canning

SPOKE Editor: Linda Baldock, newsletters@biketas.org.au

Bicycle Tasmania will be holding its next meeting at the 1st floor above EcoHaven 71 Murray St, just down from the State Library. There is off-street bike parking available at "near ground floor" just inside the Sustainable Living Tasmania door. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 5.30pm unless otherwise advised.