



'the heart of NZ cycling'

Bike Manawatu

C/- Sports House

Sport Manawatu

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Our vision: To grow cycling in the Manawatu

John van Lienen

Chairpersons report 2018

To all Bike Manawatu Members

Last year I opened my chairpersons report reiterating the power of any great club often comes down to the loyalty, unity and passion that all members have toward their club and each other. We see this illustrated by the unwavering loyalty of devoted club members and fans of many great clubs across the world on television, social media or live.

Remarkably at Bike Manawatu this kind of loyalty is shown regularly by our members both on and off the bike which is openly visible and appreciated by all cyclists.

Acts of kindness like staying to help people who have had an accident or health issues or the frequent bike puncture or mechanical issue. This does not go unnoticed.

Even more impressive has been the unselfish support of members trying to help others achieve milestones on their bikes. One such case is Nicky Webster who suffers long term ill health and loved being a club member riding a bike with friends who benefited her wellbeing along the way. One day Nicky shared her goal with her riding group after a coffee that she wanted to conquer the Apiti loop. No easy feat. The group banded together and over time supported Nicky to help reach her goal. Isn't that what club friendships and loyalty is all about.

Bike Manawatu is a highly respected cycling club that has built an incredibly successful and proud history across New Zealand for the next generation. Yet we are still in our infancy and all of us have a duty to continue to work towards building our culture and this great club.

Thank you's are an important part our club ethos and our Bike Manawatu board would like to acknowledge and publicly thank those past and present members who have helped get this club to where we are today.

I would like to also acknowledge our new board. Mike Craine, Tim Lloyd, James Denholm, Andrew Ward, Michelle Turner, Megan Blatchford-Peck, Dan Mckay. This is an incredible group of experienced and enthusiastic people who are serving the club extremely well. Each board member is responsible to oversee a different aspect of our clubs activities.

This has given the club a team approach to board governance in areas such as Events, NZ Cycling, Financials, Sponsorship, Marketing and Social media.

Our newly appointed Club secretary Keryn Paekau has added a new professionalism to the important role of administrating Bike Manawatu and she is an integral part of our team. Keryn is fast learning the sport of cycling and is thriving in the role.

Bike Manawatu recently relocated with Sport Manawatu to modern open plan multi sport services premises in Queen street Palmerston North where Keryn can be contacted in person or by email.

Club members have the benefits of a dedicated board who have achieved many smart initiatives which are an ongoing work in progress. Equally the incredible volunteer network of people who organise and run all recreational and competition track and road events for our members are invaluable and for which we thank you all.



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As a non profit organisation the board and club secretary have worked tirelessly together to produce a financially sound balance sheet for the club. Stretching all resources Bike Manawatu this year worked hard to bring the first ever International UCI event to the Manawatu-The Gravel and Tar Classic. The Global audience this event attracted was phenomenal and the Gravel and Tar Classic received high praise from cycling purists nationally and Internationally.

Celebrating success is an important part of sport. In the last 12 months some incredible results by club members on the Track and Road at both national and international level. These will be recognised at our annual prize giving.

We acknowledge club riders who have represented New Zealand and produced some outstanding results to highlight the depth of talent Bike Manawatu has been nurturing under the watchful eye and guidance of local schools, coaches, parents and supporters.

We acknowledge those people; Campbell Stewart, Michaela Drummond, Jordan Castle, Alex West, Emily Shearman, Carne Groube, Joel Yates, Matty Hartley-Brown, Dillon Simpson, Libby Arbuckle, Connie O'Brien and Angus Claasen. Also club member Robert Stannard who represented Australia.

Some remarkable standout highlights for three of our members who represent Bike Manawatu on the world stage were;

This year Campbell Stewart won Sport Manawatu junior sportsman of the year and at 19 years old represented New Zealand at the World Track Championships in the Netherlands and the Commonwealth Games where he won two silver medals. Campbell has recently secured a contract with Team Wiggins and will soon be off to the UK and Europe to ride for them.

Michaela Drummond also won SportsManawatu junior sports women of the year and at 19 years old represented New Zealand at the World Track Championships in the Netherlands and the Commonwealth Games where she had a top 10 finish in the scratch race. Michaela races in the US for the DNA cycling team.

At 19 years old Robert Stannard now rides for the Australian under 23 team and races including the world champs in Norway. He races for Michelton-Scott now Michelton Bike Exchange and last year was placed 8th in the U23 Giro (tour of Italy). This year he won biggest one day U23 UCI race in Italy and was third in the U23 UCI Tour of Flanders. Next year Robert will ride the World Tour with pro team Greenedge.

These are extraordinary achievements for these young riders and the supportive families for which Bike Manawatu congratulate them on. The future looks bright for them all.

The board wish to extend our appreciation and thanks to everyone one of our valued riders, race organisers, committees, coaches, volunteers, parents, supporters and sponsors for representing this club at all levels of involvement with integrity.

Your effort and commitment is hugely appreciated and something we do not want to overlook and take for granted. Our members are well known for showing respect and responsibility when representing Bike Manawatu at events. Those events include;



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The UCI Gravel and Tar Classic the initiative of Steve Stannard.
Manawatu School Cycling run and organised by Mike Craine, Tim Lloyd and committee.
Kairanga Time Trials organised and run by Mike Craine, Tim Lloyd and James Denholm.
Club road races organised and run by Mike Craine, Tim Lloyd and James Denholm.
Track Cycling organised and run by Ian Gray, Grant Hackett and team.
The Manfeild 6 Hour Challenge organised and run by Mike and Christine Christie-This year to be run by Tim Lloyd and team.
The Feilding Festival of cycling organised and run by Austin Smith and team
The Novice Tour organised and run by Mike Craine and Tim Lloyd
The Manfeild Criterium organised and run by Mike Craine, Tim Lloyd and James Denholm.
The Sunday ride committee lead by Mike Keenan and his committee.

Going back a few years. As newly elected Chairman at my first board meeting I shared some of my goals for the club at the time.

- 1) To bring our Manawatu schools riders and our masters riders together as one so our club could unite and become stronger and more resourceful for events and volunteers. Mike Craine and his schools committee collaborated with our masters riders to start the successful Manfeild Criterium series. Today this is one of our most popular series.
- 2) To provide a social place where all club members could catch up once a month and enjoy each other's company as we did not have club rooms. The Clubs "Happy Hour" was born the last Friday of every month. This worked well for a couple of years. For this to become sustainable will require more planning and variety which a social club could manage.
- 3) To build a sustainable rotational volunteer base so that our club could organise and successfully run an annual calendar of events for our members and other clubs to engage in where volunteers do not get burnt out. This is still a work in progress.
- 4) To add a national Criterium series at Manfeild to our annual calendar. Criterium racing has proved a success with all members and schools across the region including Whanganui, Rangitikei, and Levin.
- 5) For all cyclist to be a financial club member of Bike Manawatu where masters and schools and their families and supporters can help build our club and club culture we are all proud of.

The appeal of our sport is to enjoy your cycling at any level or age but surely not as a lone rider outside of our Bike Manawatu rides and events. Bike Manawatu presents the opportunity of learning to ride, group rides, social events, racing and recreational rides which all form part of growing as a cyclist. The lifelong friendships we make along the way is a big part of a club culture and to see the wonderful banter between members is fantastic.

Bike Manawatu continues a respected association with the Marist Sports Club and their 3000 members. Sport Manawatu create opportunities for our club to learn, prosper and grow with a variety of workshops. Then there's our devoted club sponsors we treasure and need for us all to support. These associations and relationships are the fabric of building long term partnerships. We say a big thank you to those partnerships and associations.



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So for myself after being a Bike Manawatu cycling Dad for five years following my kids around New Zealand. I was invited to join the Bike Manawatu board four years ago and have enjoyed the journey of promoting cycling and events in the Manawatu. Two of those years I have spent as club chairperson with aspirations of uniting the club which I feel we are on the way to achieving. I stand down this term to let a new and energetic board take the club to new level of unity and success which with your help they can achieve.

As we look ahead. Bike Manawatu's first and foremost priority is to promote cycling, rider safety and enjoyment for our members. We are a volunteer based fast growing sport and the buzz we all get from cycling is why we do it. Pulling together to become a great club requires a mind shift from all of us which for the many great people we already have in the club will allow is to become an even greater club.

What lies ahead for Bike Manawatu and cycling across all ages with the advent of the E bike explosion world wide is exciting for our sport.

Signing off.

John van Lienen

Chairperson, Bike Manawatu

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