



Pedal Talk 34

Kia Ora

Welcome to another addition of Pedal Talk and a belated Happy New Year. What a busy one it has been, over the December/January period I don't think I have ever seen it so busy. We had interesting weather conditions which contributed to the amount of people opting to ride bikes and visit town rather than venture upon the lake. Great to see the number of visitors and locals hitting the trails and enjoying what we have on offer. Looking forward to summer, sure it is coming at some stage!

2017 memberships

First and foremost I would like to sincerely thank all you good people for joining with Bike Taupo this year. If you haven't joined yet you can go online through the "join" button at the base of this newsletter or pop into any bike store in town or if you are out around the mountain bike park, call in and see the good guys at souvenir outlet or the Hub cafe.

Congratulations to our lucky BT T-shirt winners who joined online in December these were: Simon Farrow, Chris Tatham, Kanji Saito, Loren Van Gent, Stu Smith, Laurie Miller, Craig Woolacott, Barbie Tollison, Sharon Bishop and Scott McDonald. You guys are going to look very flash!

We have had a few issues with tags going AWOL this year, I think mainly due to the weak split ring and bracket supplied. Please ensure you cable tie your tag to your bike or fasten securely. If you lose your tag please let us know so we can replace it for you.

Bike Taupo AGM

Monday 13th March 5.30pm at the BNZ

Agenda:

- Apologies
 - Minutes of last AGM
 - Chairpersons report
 - Treasurers Report
 - *Election of Chairperson
 - Election of Exec Committee members
 - Amendment to Constitution
 - Annual Membership Subscriptions
 - Track Report
 - Kids Bike Taupō
- Meeting Close

Please come along if you are interested in hearing what has been going on and our future plans. Don't forget to keep up to date with news through out website and facebook page, gotta love social media :)

Until next time, pedal on....

Melissa - [Bike Taupo administrator](#)

Words of Wisdom - from our Leader

Hi all, I hope you have all managed to get out biking over February and have taken part in the Aotearoa Bike Challenge. It is a great initiative by NZTA to get more people riding every day. There seems to be more and more cars on the roads these days which means that you have to be more alert but it also means that your morning commute makes more and more sense. I certainly prefer to be on my bike in the mornings than stuck on Norman Smith Street in a line of traffic.

Next month we have our Annual General Meeting. I welcome all members to attend. Our AGM's are generally not long and stuffy meetings and we generally try to keep the necessary admin to a minimum and instead focus on reporting back what we have been up to over the past year. There is also a few drinks and something to eat chucked in as well. This is also an opportunity for those interested in doing their bit to put their hand up for the committee. We are always after people who are keen to give their time to keep us ticking along. So if you are motivated to keep Taupo a great place to ride and have a few hours a week to spare let me know. I have also come to the end of my tenures Chair so we will also be looking for someone to take over the this role for Bike Taupō. It is a very rewarding position which I have enjoyed immensely over the past 4 years, so again if you are interested please get in touch.

Before Christmas we met with the New Zealand Cycle Trail (NZCT) team who are touring the country talking to cycle trail managers such as ourselves. It was a good opportunity to sit down with NZCT, and NZTA, to talk about our long term plans for our trails. We have been doing some navel gazing on what we would like our trails to look like in 20 years. We want to join up the missing bits on the GLT, connect the GLT to Craters and other cycleways such as the Timber Trail and the Waikato River Trails. We would also like to see the GLT head further around the lake so that one day there may even be an off road link all the way around our precious lake. Anything is possible given time, motivation and a passion for riding. Bike Taupo has been around for 15 years now and we have approximately 200kms of trail. While the secret is to not stretch our selves to thin and keep maintaining our tracks to the current high standard, we can't help looking over the next ridge and thinking how awesome it would be to be able to ride there! Who knows where we will be able to ride in 15 years' time!

See you on your bikes

Rowan : chair@biketaupo.org.nz

Track Crew News

Craters

The park has been as busy as ever for this time of year, but you can still go for a long ride and see no one.

There has been a lot of track building after the logging. Some of those tracks will take a while to bed down. That said, they are still riding well at the moment.

Please remember to get your 2017 passes!

Huka Trails

All of the Huka trails are going great. The tracks are being used by a large number of riders and are in good condition.

There are a couple of planned changes to the tracks. The first is the hard right hand corner going down to the ladder bridge on the Rotary Ride. The second is the climb out of Banger's Bridge in the Redwoods. In the latter case, the plan is to move the bridge and reduce the gradient so that it stops washing out.

Great Lake Trail

All of the trails are in great order and offer the best riding conditions at this time of year. The less renowned tracks like the one leading up to the Waihaha Hut are worth a look on hot days with plenty of good swimming spots along the way.



Tidy up over boardwalk on GLT



If you haven't seen this spot or know where it is, best you go exploring, it's worth it!!



Cath and Ricky Biker had a nice well deserved rest over the Christmas period, Ricky Biker has been going great and has had a little overhaul to

suit Kids BT purposes. Bertha (the old van) is now looking for a new home, big thanks to Lou and Lorraine at Taupo Smash Repairs for making her pretty to sell, anybody keen give me a shout.

School sessions are currently booked out and oversubscribed, it's wonderful to have so many children keen for biking. We certainly notice the difference in the schools who have not used the programme. Our focus is on year 2 and younger children especially Early Childhood Centres. Seeing adults pass the message on is also fantastic.

Monday BMX sessions starting on 20th February, both sessions 3.30pm to 5pm

[Cath Oldfield](#)

Taupo Mountain Bike Club



The 2017 Pack & Pedal Summer Series is underway with the second race of the series being held last Thursday. Great to see so many people out there riding their bikes with the club and having a blast!

The friendly rivalry continues out on the Adults Long and Short timed course and is evident by the impressive times that the riders are putting up. Nothing like a bit of peer pressure to make you push yourself that little bit faster and to improve on last weeks' time!

The "Kids" course of Rockets and Sprockets has also been putting in some great riding. The riders have tackled this course with gusto, and are making faster times each week. It is also great to see so many of these riders improving their confidence and skills week by week. With the added bonus of an ice-block at the finish line, why wouldn't you want to be there!

A first for this year is our new category of "E-Bike" Sponsored by Huka Cycles. We think this is a category that will certainly grow in the coming years, and we look forward to suggestions from our riders to make this a regular feature in our riding calendar.

If you have thought of coming along to the Summer Series - it is not too late! Come out on Thursday to the Craters Car park by 5.30 to register and you will be in amongst it in no time

Leading on from the Summer Series, we will be hosting the Summer Challenge on April 9th. This will be open to all, much like the summer series, but will have aged categories. One of these will be an "open category" for anyone who wants to be crowned "The Club Champ" We are rapt to have Top Gear Cycles on board with us again this year, and we look forward to bringing you more info on this awesome ride soon.

The development Squad have been out in force riding in the summer cup, and have been making huge gains in their biking skills and speed. This group are now a force to be reckoned with, with many making podium finishes at the events they attend.

Dave has been running a "skills Course" for junior riders and this has been well supported by riders and parents alike. These riders are making steady progress and they are making huge gains in their riding ability.

For more info on our rides and races please check our website www.mountainbiketaupo.org.nz or facebook Taupo Mountain Bike Club.

From Lynette and everyone on the Committee, happy riding and look forward to seeing you soon!

Contact: [Secretary](#)

John Braithwaite looking pro



The pain train!!





• Summer Concert •

Saturday 25 February 2017 4:00 – 7:00pm

Laura Collins & The Back Porch Blues Band

featuring Wayne Mason with special guest Andrew London



“Blues, Ballads and Banter”

Tickets \$30 from  eventfinda

\$5 from each ticket sale goes to supporting



Gates open 3pm. Parking onsite. 1/504 Mapara Road.

Refreshments: Enjoy Bike Taupo's Gourmet BBQ fundraiser and

Volcanic Coffee (picnic hampers welcome). Local Artworks & Produce for sale.

For more information contact: bookings@whakaipolodge.co.nz or phone 07 378 9298.

Whakaipo Summer Concert

Sunshine, Music, Coffee, hanging out with Mates -

go do it

For More information phone [07 378 9298](tel:073789298)

or

bookings@whakaipolodge.co.nz

Bike Taupo Annual Membership 2017 - Join here now

[Join Bike Taupo](#)

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