



McGRATH

THE WEEKLY MAGAZINE

XX XXXXX 2010

Contents

02 Cycle for life

Two very different people from very different backgrounds have found a common goal, to raise awareness and funds for a good cause with pedal power.

XX Café/recipe

Xxxx
Xxxx



XX Property of the week

Xxxx
Xxxx

XX Stamp duty guide

\$250,000	\$7,525	\$1,000,000	\$40,775	\$1,750,000
\$300,000	\$9,275	\$1,050,000	\$43,525	\$1,800,000
\$350,000	\$11,525	\$1,100,000	\$46,275	\$1,850,000
\$400,000	\$13,775	\$1,150,000	\$49,025	\$1,900,000
\$450,000	\$16,025	\$1,200,000	\$51,775	\$1,950,000
\$500,000	\$18,275	\$1,250,000	\$54,525	\$2,000,000
\$550,000	\$20,525	\$1,300,000	\$57,275	\$2,050,000
\$600,000	\$22,775	\$1,350,000	\$60,025	\$2,100,000
\$650,000	\$25,025	\$1,400,000	\$62,775	\$2,150,000
\$700,000	\$27,275	\$1,450,000	\$65,525	\$2,200,000

XX Office locations

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Editor

Edwina Keighery 9386 3333

Advertising

marketing@mcgrath.com.au

Design

Edwina Keighery and Lucy Malone

Distribution

marketing@mcgrath.com.au

Editorial Photography

richardbirchphotography.com

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Property Photography

imagination.com.au

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Words

Editorial copy by Tony Brown



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Cycle for life

Two very different people from very different backgrounds have found a common goal, to raise awareness and funds for a good cause with pedal power.

By Tony Brown



MOST OF us clearly remember the day little Sophie Delezio was involved in a horrific accident. It was December 2003 when the two-year-old was trapped under a burning car which had crashed into the Roundhouse Childcare Centre at Fairlight on Sydney's northern beaches. The incident attracted national news coverage for its brave rescue operations and ensuing insurance complications.

Sophie received third degree burns to 85% of her body, lost both feet, some fingers, and her right ear. Father Ron Delezio recalls the event with painful clarity. "I lived at the hospital for six and a half months with Sophie," he remembers. "It was extremely traumatic and we were never really sure if Sophie was going to survive. They asked us twice in the first week; do we want to let her go?" On top of the family's deep distress was the knowledge that there simply weren't the facilities at the hospital to cater for such injuries.

"We were told if we'd been anywhere else in the world, Sophie would not have survived. There are not enough services in the hospital. That's what it's all about," explains Ron. Ron Delezio was determined to do something about

it. He is founder and Chief Executive Officer of the Day of Difference Foundation, national charity supporting critically injured children and their families. To date the charity has raised over \$6 million dollars as well as heightened public awareness for the need for adequate support and services for injured children in our hospital system.

Ron was the recipient of the 2006 Australian Father of the Year award and nominated as Australian of the Year. Enter Kent Williams, an x corporate Operations Manager with a big heart and an even bigger bicycle. Kent has been involved in charity cycle events for many years and approached Ron with the idea for the Entoure Cycle Classic Hunter Valley, a 3 day 400 kilometre cycle event aimed at raising funds and awareness for the Day of Difference Foundation. "Cycling is now the preferred sport," explains Kent. "It is fast taking the place of numerous other sporting activities and a way to relax, network and keep fit."

The three day event from Hornsby to the Hunter Valley and back kicks off on Friday April 30th; but "it's more than just a ride," says Kent. "The journey starts the minute you decide to participate., Riders need to raise funds and get fit and the combined effort ensures riders get far more than just a ride. Doing what you love and making a difference at the same time is pretty special" says Kent.

This tour, our riders range from 14 years to just over 60 years of age. A variety of training rides are organised to ensure riders are prepared. "We're all there to help each

other," says Kent. "The camaraderie of cycling is truly unique and the more experienced of us are on hand to assist the newcomers."

The stronger riders will often drop back and physically push weaker riders up hills and along difficult terrain. "It's very inspiring," admits Ron. "I feel humble in the presence of these guys but it's all about walking the walk and getting in there and having a go." Ron started out as a support driver for the event but now is 'putting his money where his mouth is' and discovering a pain barrier of a different kind. "It's a tough ride and luckily I've got good people around me that will help when times get tough." The event has been made possible by the hard work of Kent and Ron but also with assistance of Bike Bug in North Sydney who have provided mechanical assistance and on road support for the last 2 years.

Now in its third year, the Entoure Cycle Classic Hunter Valley is gaining significant attention and patronage. This year sees a few high profile participants including federal opposition leader Tony Abbott and nine-year-old Sophie Delezio, who, now with a brand new pair of legs, will be at the starting line with a specially designed bike. If you would like to participate or support the entoure cycle event and the Day of Difference Foundation, visit www.entoure.com.au and follow the prompts. "We are keen to grow our network. Come and be part of the fun and make a difference to your own life and the lives of critically injured kids and their families," says Kent Williams. *

entoure.com.au
dayofdifference.org.au

