

Tuesday, 15 October 2019

# Brekkie and bike tips for commuter cyclists at Inveresk and Sandy Bay

Northern and Southern cycle commuters will be rewarded with nourishment and bike repair tips at the University of Tasmania's Inveresk and Sandy Bay campuses during tomorrow morning's commute.

The events are part of the national <u>Ride2Work</u> day and all staff and students are welcome.

"Ride2Work is a great way for cyclists to celebrate their choice of travel together and an opportunity for those thinking about cycling in Launceston or Hobart to give it a go," University Sustainability Project Officer Gabrielle Stannus said.

"Banana smoothies will be powered by blender bike riders in the North, and Southern cyclists will get pancakes and coffee.

"We hope these events encourage active and sustainable transport choices and build an inclusive community around cycling at the University of Tasmania."

At the Inveresk campus, students from the Big Picture School's Bike Repair group will be providing bike maintenance advice and showing off upcycled bicycles, which were donated by the University, to raise funds for the UN Refugee Agency UNHCR.

"This 'upcycling' fundraiser with the University is a meaningful, collaborative project for our students and the event is right on our doorstep, so getting involved was a no-brainer," Big Picture School educator Rob Lewandowski said.

Usually held at Newnham, this year's Ride2Work event at the Inveresk campus is a first. It is the site of the Northern Transformation Project which aims to provide better connections with the Launceston CBD.

To help cyclists decide on the safest routes to campuses in Launceston and Hobart, the University has produced an online tool called <u>Decide Your Ride</u>.

Decide your Ride is an online buddy with videos and commentary showing safe and 'bikeable' routes. The tool also shares tips on route riding, including taking advantage of footpaths, passing parked cars, and dealing with intersections.

In Hobart, 14.5 per cent of staff working in the inner city commute by cycle compared with 6.8 percent of staff based at the Sandy Bay campus.

"We know that a barrier to cycling is perceived lack of safety in areas with high traffic, such as along Sandy Bay Road. However, there are many quiet backstreets that make for a much safer and even faster cycle commute," Ms Stannus said.

The events are open from 8–9:30am at Sandy Bay and Inveresk campuses. Participants can register at bicyclenetwork.com.au/rides-and-events/ride2work.

## **Media opportunities:**

## Sandy Bay Ride2Work

**Who:** Catherine Elliott (University of Tasmania Sustainability Projects Officer); Michael Haynes (Bicycle Network Tasmania); student Patrick Foley (Tas X, a Tasmania University Union society)

When: TOMORROW, Wednesday, 16 October, 8–9:30am

Where: Sandy Bay campus, outside the Bike Hub opposite the Engineering

Building (Map ref: AP16 Building number 8)

#### **Launceston Ride2Work**

**Who:** Teacher Rob Lewandowski and student Joshua Hannes (Big Picture School's Bike Repair Group); Gabrielle Stannus (University of Tasmania Sustainability Projects Officer); Chelsea Wingrove (University of Tasmania Northern Transformation Communications and Engagement Manager)

When: TOMORROW, Wednesday, 16 October, 8–9:30am

**Where:** Inveresk campus, lawn outside School of Architecture and Design (In case of rain: Atrium of the Launceston Big Picture School, opposite the School of Architecture and Design)

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