



**Amy's Big
Canberra
Bike Ride**

find out more at:
bcbr.org.au



Sunday, March 1, 2015

5km, 20km, 35km, 68km, 120km

Join UVEX ambassador - Anna Meares

1 March 2015

ANNA MEARES SUPPORTS CYCLING SAFETY AS 1300 RIDE FOR AMY

The queues were long as Anna Meares, the world's most successful female Track cyclist, signed autographs and had her photo taken with many of the 1300 people who took part in this year's Amy's Big Canberra Bike Ride.

Meares, in her first public appearance since winning her 11th world title in Paris, was the main attraction on the 20km route and full of praise for Canberra.

"I was passed by a lot of kids and families and then I passed them back again. It was a lot of fun and so great to be out there with so many people just enjoying the activity of cycling. I've never ridden around Canberra before. It's a really beautiful city," said Meares.

July 2015 will mark ten years since Amy Gillett was killed by an out-of-control driver during an Australian team training ride. The Amy Gillett Foundation was formed to reduce the incidence of cycling deaths and injuries. Amy's parents, Mary and Denis Safe, were amongst the riders today to remember Amy and to join in the fun.

"I'm really heartened to see all the families riding with young children. We all want our children to be safe on the roads and this is the young generation who will be the adults of tomorrow so they're learning all the right things with their parents leading by example," said Mary Safe.

Amy Gillett Foundation CEO, Tracey Gaudry echoed Mary's comments adding "the AGF's efforts in the ACT and across Australia are to improve conditions for bike riders and instilling a culture of mutual respect between people sharing our roads to ensure the next generation can cycle in safety. The ACT Government's commitment to legislating a minimum overtaking distance of one metre when drivers pass bike riders will help make this a reality".

Pedal Power ACT delivers Amy's Big Canberra Bike Ride and Executive Officer, John Armstrong, said the increase in numbers (up from 1000 last year) bodes well for the future of recreational cycling in Canberra.

"The ACT government is doing some really great things and more and more people are cycling every day. This event is at the core of Pedal Power's role. We've got five different routes catering for every level of rider. It's all part of getting more people riding more often.

"I was absolutely blown away by the number of kids who were part of this and the spirit with which people approached the ride today. The 'Same rights, Same rules' message is really cutting through," said Armstrong.

Amy's Big Canberra Bike Ride, hosted by the Amy Gillett Foundation and Pedal Power ACT, is Canberra's premier community bike ride.

- Ends -

Media inquiries:

David Lee, Amy Gillett Foundation – 0402 563 784 or dlee@amygillett.org.au

Penni Lewer, Pedal Power ACT - 0411 879 154 or plewer@optusnet.com.au