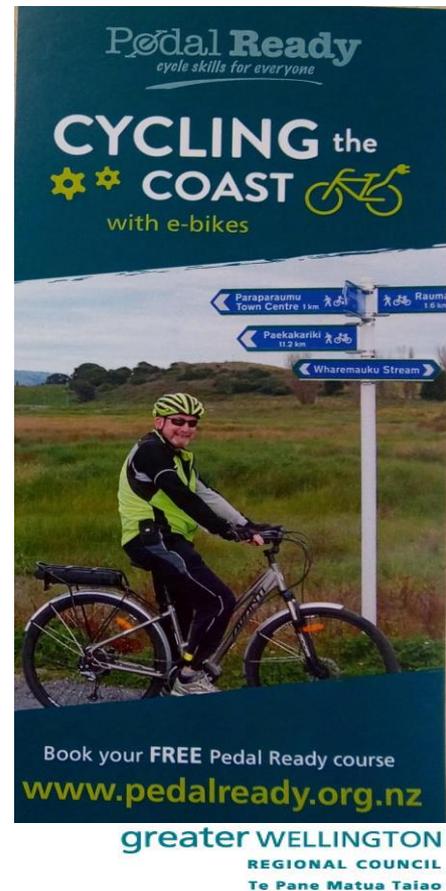
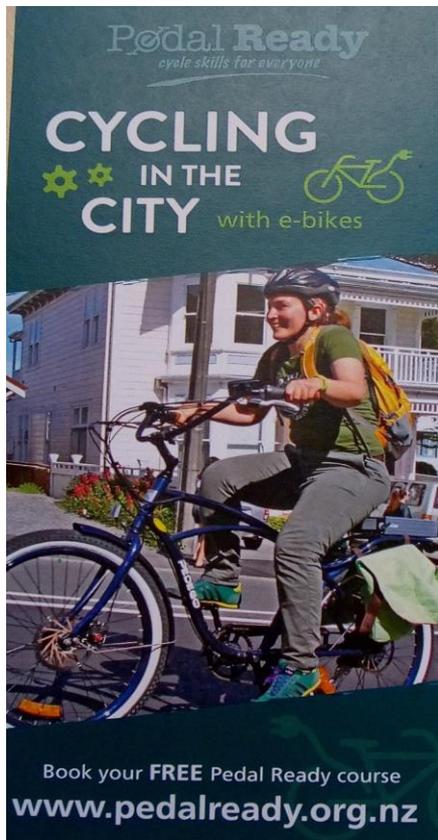


The E-bike Revolution

Experiences of a Large Cycle Skills Training Provider in Facing an E-Bike Boom

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Today's Topics

- Reasons for E-Bike sales surge
- Pedal Ready's E-Bike Journey
- Pedal Ready's E-Bike Training
- How to catch an adult
- E-Bike Stories
- Are E-Bikes cheating?
- Health-e Benefits
- How green are E-Bikes?
- Too fast, Too Furious?
- Arie's Story
- A bumpy road
- Where to from here?



Reasons for E-Bike sales surge

- Price
- Design
- Fit for purpose – MTB, fast commuters
- Brand power
- Acceptability – it is simply no longer a fringe activity
- Practicality as a transport solution



Pedal Ready's E-Bike Journey

- End 2015: Instructors attend professional development course on E-Bikes
- Mid 2017: adult E-Bike lesson plans and sessions designed
- Mid 2018 onward: E-Bike sessions full or over-subscribed and we often have to add dates.
- 2019: E-Bikes feature at all activations and often steal the show. Customised bike trailer allow us to deliver E-Bikes to sessions.



Pedal Ready's E-Bike Training

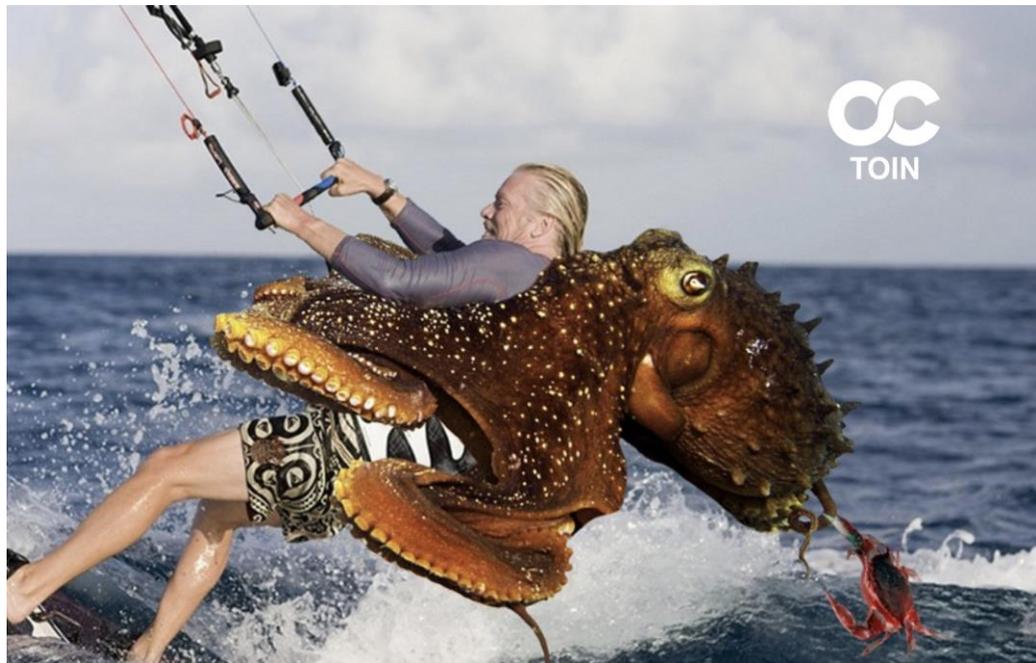
E-Bike Skills Training Areas of Focus:

- Individual and group training
- Workplaces
- Community events



How to catch an adult

- As with other adult cycle training offered, female cyclists are in the majority but many males will give E-bikes a shot
- We have found that many avid cyclists encourage their partners to try E-Bikes (especially in areas with good networks)
- E-bike training is not dissimilar to unpowered bicycle training in many regards. It is transferrable.



E-Bike Stories

“I cycle a great deal, much more than I drive, and like driving it is easy to forget the basics. I was fortunate to attend a cycle safety “refresher” with Pedal Ready in October 2017. That course was delivered very professionally, with a good mix between theory and practical. This was my first time on a E-Bike, but I was pleasantly surprised how intuitively it handled. Nevertheless the heaviness of the E-Bike felt quite different to my normal cycle, particularly when I temporarily turned off the motor! “

Wim Vandijk, MetService



E-Bike Stories

I would like to say that the E-Bike course I attended was fantastic for learning to use this new type of bike. It was explained that the biggest difference would be felt cycling uphill, and we had ample opportunity to try this out. The basic handling skills were great to go over, even for medium-experienced riders such as myself. It was great to have a refresher on the correct use of hand signals, and information on taking your space on the road.

Overall the course gave me the confidence to take our E-Bikes to meetings in and around Wellington City, and to confidently ride through the Wellington city streets.

Angie Gooch, Skills Active



Are E-Bikes cheating?

- Wellington is windy and hilly. The ride in might be all downhill, but the ride home seldom is.
- As such, Wellingtonians are pretty quick to agree that E-biking is not cheating
- An E-Bike allows a faster, less taxing commute, with more reliable travel time than other vehicles or standard bicycles – it turns a 45 minute slog into a 30 min health enhancer



Health-e Benefits

- The benefits of cycling are magnified as the cycling option becomes available for more people over a greater range of journeys
- You can chose to get somewhere easier or faster, so there is always the option to increase your heart rate.
- Studies suggest E-bikes are a good health intervention.
- Falls?



How Green are E-Bikes?

Are E-Bikes too good to be true?

Carbon costs per km:

Bicycle – 22g CO₂/km

E-Bike – 21g CO₂/km

Bus – 101g CO₂/km

Passenger car – 271g CO₂/km

- Charging
- Tantalum
- Battery Disposal



Too fast, too furious?

- Pedal Ready considers that traditionally, higher speeds are reflected in power poses, that drivers have come to understand. The upright pose we therefore suggest, on E-Bikes travelling high speeds, may lead to drivers being surprised by the speed output – and length to pass. This kind of situation can possibly be seen in the case of a crash in Palmerston North involving a city councillor.
- With appropriate control of the bike, and a “defensive cyclist” awareness, I would argue that the slightly higher speeds make it safer, as it allows us to ride with the traffic flow.
- For shared path safety, E-bikes, like normal bikes, need to be ridden at a conservative pace.

Arie's story



A bumpy road?

- Acceptance of E-Bikes on off-road trails is progressing
- One study looked into whether damage would be greater from mountain E-Bikes than mountain bikes. IMBA found here that the damage was far closer to unpowered than to motorcycles
- WCC has a number of E-Bike trial trails and proposed trails (Skyline, sanctuary fence line, Makara peak etc)
- The Greater Wellington Regional Council is also putting the welcome mat out for E-Bikes in the Regional parks.



Where to from here?

- It will be interesting to see where E-Bikes are taking us as a region
- We're constantly encouraged that Wellingtonians are seeing E-Bikes as a transport solution
- Workplace deals – NZTA, WCC, Tauranga, GW?



References

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