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for the Charlestown and Newcastle  
State By-elections

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Registrations close 6:00pm EDST on  
Wednesday, 22 October 2014.

Voting using the iVote® system closes 6:00pm  
Friday 24 October 2014.

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For enquiries in languages other than English call our interpreting Service 13 14 50.  
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Your vote is your voice. Be heard.



Authorised by Colin Barry, Electoral Commissioner, Lvl 25, 201 Kent Street Sydney, NSW, 2000.

# ★ news



CLIPPED IN: Members of the Hunter District Cycling Club ride along Honeysuckle at the Bikefest launch.  
Picture: Chrystal Brand

## Ride to race or relax

By **MARK CONNORS**

NRMA president Kyle Loades says Bikefest has the potential to become a nationally acclaimed event that would "put the Hunter on the map".

Speaking at the Bikefest launch on Thursday, Mr Loades threw his support behind the annual event, along with Newcastle Cycleways Movement's plans for a \$50 million cycle network for the city.

He said the NRMA backed the ambitious plans to connect suburbs and existing shared

pathways across the city through more on-road dedicated paths.

"We want to see more cycling infrastructure and get people off the roads and on to buses and trains."

This year's Bikefest on October 25 and 26 will combine race, ride and expo elements, designed to encourage people of all ages to involve bicycles in their lives.

Bikefest's annual Mick Chapman Memorial Criterium is now in its third year, and will include Australia's best under-23 cycling talent Caleb Ewan.

Former national road race champion and Olympian Amanda Spratt has also signed up to race.

The Genesis Expo along Honeysuckle boardwalk will showcase food, fashion and fitness products to encourage active living.

The Newcastle Ride will feature a number of independently themed rides along the harbour and on cycleways including Food Peddlers, Frock n Roll, Artscape and Two Cities.

■ For more information go [bikefest.net.au](http://bikefest.net.au).

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