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Upright and In Sight

Posted on July 16, 2013 by editor



Launching Warragul Cycling Club's unique Upright and In Sight program at the Warragul Velodrome are (from left): club life member and Commonwealth Games cyclist Peter Bartels, acting president Karin Jones, Rob Crowe of Ridewiser, Amy Gillett Foundation chief executive and Olympic cyclist Tracey Gaudry and cycling club members Jayman Prestidge and Paul Rowse.

A unique cycling safety program launched by Warragul Cycling Club on Sunday received high praise from former Commonwealth Games cyclists Peter Bartels and Tracey Gaudry.

The Upright and In Sight program has attracted a Transport Accident Commission grant of \$17,000, the first of its kind in Australia.

Speaking to a crowd of more than 70 people, Ms Gaudry said she hoped the campaign would be adopted across Australia and around the world.

She said the program tied in well with the aims of the Amy Gillett Foundation's, particularly a metre matters, designed to give space to cyclists on the road.

Ms Gaudry said safety should always come first for cyclists.

"We are never too old to have more experience," she said.

"This is a ground breaking program and something that will be of great benefit to cyclists and then to motorists as well," she said.

Cycling club life member Peter Bartels said he was pleased to return to the club and see that it was strong and proactive.

He said Warragul had been kind to him in his early cycling days and he was proud to offer his support to the new program.

He said the need for safety was paramount because cycling had become extremely popular and cyclists were amassing and in some instances could be dangerous to themselves and others.

Cycling club member Paul Rowse said the program involved awareness, education and training and respect and co-operation for all cyclists and motorists.

There are five components to the program including a ride timetable, code of conduct, ride captains, training and an incident reporting system.

The program will begin on Sunday with training for ride captains followed by training for bunch riders in the next few months.

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