



For Immediate Release

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CHAMPION AUSTRALIAN CYCLIST CALLS FOR CHANGES TO MAKE SYDNEY'S ROADS SAFER

At this morning's launch of The Amy Gillett Foundation's Share the Road Tour charity ride, champion Australian cyclist and Commonwealth Games Gold Medallist, Rochelle Gilmore said Sydney's roads were becoming increasingly dangerous for cyclists and changes were urgently required to improve safety.

Rochelle joins 36 other professional and amateur riders who will cover 830km over six days throughout Sydney and regional NSW. Their focus while riding will be to raise awareness of the 'A Metre Matters' message which encourages motorists to give bike riders one metre of space at all times.

"I'm a Sydney resident training frequently and riding a bike on Sydney roads has become hazardous – it is one of my great fears. But in order to win Gold medals for Australia as a Road Cyclist I do need to use the roads for training," Ms Gilmore said.

"I am passionate about making Sydney's roads safer for both motorists and cyclists, which is why the Amy Gillett Foundation's 'A Metre Matters' campaign is so important. Asking motorists to give bike riders a metre of space when passing them is significant and could be the difference between life and death. As a motorist myself, I always give cyclists plenty of space. However I believe the ideal long term solution is to separate cyclists and motorists where possible and I ask the State Government to build more bicycle paths in and around Sydney."

The Amy Gillett Foundation continues to support initiatives that positively affect bicycling safety that may include working with State Governments and road safety authorities to push for legislative change both in relation to speed limits and the minimum space motorists leave when sharing the road with a cyclist.

The Amy Gillett Foundation is committed to improving cyclist/motorist mutual awareness and respect in an effort to make Australian roads and in this particular case, Sydney roads, as safe as possible for all who use them.

"We firmly believe this charity ride will help increase awareness of these safety messages, in particular that motorists should allow at least one metre when passing cyclists. Research shows that this reduces the risk of impact incidents caused on Australian roads," said Amy Gillett Foundation CEO, Tracey Gaudry.

Riders participating in all or part of the journey include current pro-riders Matt White, Carla Ryan, Rachel Neylan and Rochelle Gilmore and former pros Phil Anderson, Stephen Hodge and Amy Gillett Foundation CEO Tracey Gaudry.

Share the Road Tour riders will be accompanied by Honda support vehicles, following last week's announcement of Honda's sponsorship of the Amy Gillett Foundation.

Honda Australia's Managing Director and CEO, Mr Satoshi Matsuzawa said the company looks forward to working with the Amy Gillett Foundation to achieve the goal of safer roads for all road users.



Amy Gillett FOUNDATION
Safe together

"Honda is delighted to partner with the Amy Gillett Foundation and support this week's Share the Road Tour which promotes mutual respect between motorists and bike riders and demonstrates how the two groups can share the road safely."

The riders are aiming to raise \$250,000 for the Amy Gillett Foundation to launch a national road safety campaign in 2011 and realise its vision for safe bicycling in Australia. For further information about the ride and to donate, visit www.sharetheroadtour.com.au

Inspired by the life of Amy Gillett, the foundation was formed to reduce the incidence of death and injury caused by interaction between cyclists and motorists.

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