

Glenn to cross continent using pedal propulsion

DAVID ROWLANDS

CYCLING from Sydney to Melbourne would be tough enough, but doing it over six consecutive days is almost unthinkable.

However, Glenn Druery is primed to do the equivalent of that.

As part of a four-man team, the Hunters Hill resident will take part in the annual Race Across America in a fortnight's time.

The four will attempt to cover the 4900km that will take them from the US West Coast to the east in six days.

They will do so by unconventional means; recumbent cycles will be their mode of transport.

Along the way, they will ascend 3.4kms, with over half of that to be conquered in the first two days. The temperature will range from subzero to about 50C.

Serious sleep deprivation will also be a factor for the team, as they ride all the way through without stopping.

"These races are won and lost in people's heads," Druery said.

"After doing hundreds of kilo-

metres, it becomes a purely mental exercise."

Yet rather than be daunted by what lies ahead, Druery has welcomed the challenge.

He will be the fourth Australian in 25 years of the event.

Now 43 and father to four children, Druery decided to get back into cycling – a sport he loved as a youngster – a decade ago when he "started putting on weight".

Four years later, he began distance racing and hasn't looked back, becoming a world record holder for the fastest time over 400km.

Druery attracts plenty of curious glances when he is training in various parts of Sydney. He even had a policeman say to him, "what the hell is that?" when he was pulled over recently for doing 72kmh in a 50km zone.

Druery says the fastest speed he has ever reached is 114kmh.

That's why he calls it "the Formula One of bikes".

"It's probably the coolest looking bike in the world," he said.

"It's not the type of bike you ride to head down the road and pick up some milk."



Glenn Druery in training.

Photo: JOHN APPLEYARD.

Memorial is set in stone

THE Australian Government's Saluting Their Service program has granted \$1614 to the Roseville RSL Sub-branch for an Anzac plaque and plinth in the Roseville Memorial Park, Member for Bradfield Dr Brendan Nelson announced recently.

"Saluting Their Service encourages the community to remember and honour the contribution made by Australians who served in wars, conflicts and peace operations since Federation," Dr Nelson said.

"Stones from Gallipoli have been donated to Roseville RSL by a member and will be a feature of Roseville Memorial Park," he said.

Roseville RSL will have the stones mounted on a suitable sandstone base to commemorate all ANZACs.

"This project will provide a fitting tribute to the district's servicemen and women relating to both the 17th and 18th Infantry Battalions from whose ranks many gallant young lives were lost in the fateful campaign just on 90 years ago," Dr Nelson said.

"The Roseville RSL Sub-branch is to be congratulated on its initiative and I am pleased the Federal Government has been able to lend its support to this worthy cause," he said.

» **Inquiries: Dr Nelson's office**
9465 3950



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