



**West Australian**  
**21-Mar-2011**  
**Page: 13**  
**General News**  
**By: MICHELLE RIDLEY**  
**Market: Perth**  
**Circulation: 184545**  
**Type: Capital City Daily**  
**Size: 262.02 sq.cms**  
**Frequency: MTWTF--**

# Thousands turn out to pedal for charity

**MICHELLE RIDLEY**

Bicycles, unicycles and even a penny farthing filled the freeway yesterday as cyclists young and old raised money for the Asthma Foundation in WA's biggest community cycling event.

The seventh annual HBF Freeway Bike Hike for Asthma saw the Kwinana, Mitchell and Graham Farmer freeways closed as about 8700 people rode 10km, 30km or 60km along the freeway to Joondalup.

The perfect weather attracted families from across Perth, with plenty of children enjoying the ride on mountain bikes or from the back of a parent's bicycle.

The sunny morning also provided ideal conditions for the more competitive cyclists.

Matt Irvine took out the 60km race in 1hr 17min. and Bella King claimed the title of the fastest woman in 1hr 20min.

Asthma Foundation of WA chief executive David Johnson said the

event had already raised \$146,000 for asthma research, education and support services, with total donations expected to exceed \$150,000 as more money flowed in during the week.

"It's been fantastic," he said. "It's terrific to raise that amount for the Asthma Foundation and for research."

"We were allowed to do something that most people aren't allowed to do ... to be able to ride a bike on the freeway is normally unheard of."



Easy riders: There were plenty of children among the 8700 people in the Freeway Bike Hike for Asthma.

Picture: Simon Santi