



Maclean Rotary

MACLEAN Rotary will be hosting the participants in The Great Australian Bike Ride.

Denis Green introduced the attending members of the Great Australian Bike Ride.

Denis is the coordinator of the Sydney to Brisbane leg of the ride.

The ride was the idea of a member of the Rotary Club of Mornington in Victoria.

About two years ago Australian Rotary Health decided to organise the bicycle ride around Australia to raise funds and promote awareness of mental health.

The plan is to ride through all Rotary districts in Australia and to visit as many clubs as possible. The ride will cover about 18,000 kilometres.

The first stage was from Mornington, around Tasmania to Melbourne. The second stage was from Melbourne to Sydney. They are now on the third stage from Sydney to Brisbane. They will then travel to Townsville, Mount Isa, Darwin, Broome, Perth, Albany, Kalgoorlie, Adelaide and be back in Melbourne to

arrive on October 10, which is World Mental Health day.

At present there are 11 riders and nine support crew. Their theme is "On the road for mental health".

Denis Green completed the presentation by informing us that the aim of the ride is to raise \$1million for Mental Health research. So far the ride has raised \$400,000, but they have covered the heavily populated areas of Australia and soon head into far less populated areas. A plea was made to the board of our club to consider making a donation to Australian Rotary Health Foundation and the Great Australian Bike Ride.

Dick Richards has organised another of his famous book sales this Friday and Saturday at the Maclean Bowling Club. \$5 will fill a shopping bag of books so come along and get a great deal for your money.

Clarence Valley Outreach AN Advocate and Training Officer is available in the Clarence Valley to assist people who have a disability, their families and carers.

What is an advocate? Your advocate is a person who will listen to you and support you in resolving an issue.

An advocate will encourage and support by representing you, making referrals to services, accessing information, facilitating meetings so that your interests are heard and ensuring your right as a contributing and participating member of the community.

The Clarence Valley Officer is employed by Ability Incorporated Advocacy Services (AIAS). AIAS is a not for profit organisation that is funded by the Commonwealth and State governments.

AIAS services are free of charge, open to all ages and culturally inclusive.:

For further information contact Clarence Valley Outreach on 6648 8136, fax 6645 8135, PO Box 78, Yamba NSW 2464 or email grafton@abilityincorporated.org.au. You can also call toll free on 1800 657 961 or visit our website at www.abilityincorporated.org.au.



PIC: L-R..Chris Dallen, Rotary Club of Penrith Valley (participant); Barry Prescott, RC of Penrith Valley (support driver); Bob Missingham, Rotary Club of Murwillumbah (participant) and Denis Green, Rotary club of Grafton co-ordinator/organiser of the Sydney to Brisbane stage.