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Bicycle NSW congratulates Cadel Evans

Bicycle NSW congratulates Cadel Evans for a courageous and well deserved win of the Tour de France! Whether one is a cyclist or not, the sheer determination, persistence and courage of Cadel over so many years has been an inspiration for many people and reflects the very best in Australian sporting achievements.

We would also like to recognise the amazing team contributions of the other Australian riders including Stuart O'Grady who helped lead the Schleck brothers to runner up spots and Bathurst's Mark Renshaw whose invaluable lead-out skills led to the success of Mark Cavendish.

Cadel's success is a reminder of Australia's proud and rich history of cycling which stretches back to the late 1800s when cycling carnivals were held across the nation and even the Sydney Cricket Ground was turned into a venue for cycle races on weekends. Australian cyclists then, like now, were famous internationally for their toughness and ability to overcome adversity.

Cadel's achievement comes at a time when there is a huge focus on cycling and roadway infrastructure in NSW. The biggest barriers to cycling for many people still remains the modest network and condition of our roadways, and the lack of cycling skills and the need for greater mutual respect and understanding between cyclists and motorists. Whilst there have been improvements, we have a long way to go.

Bicycle NSW hopes that with Cadel's famous victory, the pride all Australians feel today will signal the re-emergence of cycling and all who bicycle as a fundamental aspect of Australian life and culture once more.