

## Unions Tasmania with help from Members Equity raises nearly \$1000 for Diabetes TASMANIA



Unions Tasmania Secretary, Simon Cocker participated in PolliePedal for the first time this year and was sponsored by a number of unions plus Members Equity Bank and Tasplan superannuation. The fund raising effort has now led to Simon presenting cheques for a nearly \$1000 to Diabetes TASMANIA.

“Unions Tasmania is very pleased to participate in a fund raising venture for Diabetes TASMANIA. With support from unions, Members Equity Bank and Tasplan we have been able to make a substantial contribution.” said the union leader.

Simon joined politicians from the three tiers of government, as well as business people and other members of the Tasmanian community in a three day bike ride in the north of the state, starting on Friday 29 February 2008 in Evandale.

The ride took in Lillydale, Scottsdale, Bridport, Beaconsfield, Georgetown, Low Head, Beauty Point, Beaconsfield, the West Tamar and finished in Launceston on Sunday 2 March 2008 with stop-offs at businesses, schools and community centres along the way. Simon enjoyed the challenge of what was a physically demanding course, particularly the first day on the many hills around Lillydale. Simon commented: “I was a bit worried on the first day. Those hills are tough work.”

PolliePedal raises funds to assist Diabetes TASMANIA in its activities and this year the total amount raised was \$45 000. The event also raises public awareness of diabetes and the serious implications that the disease has for individuals as well as for the Tasmanian community. Simon said: “As a member of the Premiers Physical Activity Council (PPAC) I also know how important it is to get the message about the link between physical activity and good health and well being out to Tasmanians. For a group of community leaders to be showing the way by spending three days riding between schools and other community locations spreading that message is a great thing.”