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## CAPE ARGUS, PICK 'N PAY CYCLE TOUR - on going



Although culminating in a mighty effort on the day itself, the organisation of the Tour involves a large team and many hours of preparation and planning than span the entire year.



A major bonus for Newlands is the great opportunity for teamwork and fellowship offered by this long process, involving the entire Club before and during the race.

This is our largest annual fund-raising project which involves most members of the Club as well as giving us the opportunity to offer many other Rotary Clubs and deserving organisations the chance to boost their funds as well.

The Cycle Tour is famous as the world's largest individually timed cycle race, attracting more than 30,000 starters each year. (More than 40,000 entries are usually received, but many cyclists don't actually make it across the start line on the day!)

In the days before it became the huge event that it is now, the race was managed by our Charter Club, Claremont. As it grew, various functions were passed on to other Clubs and Newlands is proud of its huge role as the Course Manager.

NewRots make sure that the detailed work required to prepare the 109 kms of the course is attended to: surveying the roads and co-ordinating remedial work; erecting signage; installing straw bales; covering cats eyes; arranging toilet facilities; putting teams of marshals in place; arranging the sweep vehicles to pick up fading cyclists; sourcing sponsors and teams for the refreshment stations; supplying the complex range of equipment needed all around the course – everything from hazard tape, cones and red flags, to marshal vests, brooms, blankets, gazebos, toilet rolls and much more!

On the day our members will be found all around the course from the early hours, working with their teams to make sure that every cyclist has a memorable and safe ride. They are also more than prepared to implement the many contingency plans that are in place in case of any of the emergencies that could crop up on the day.

The race is controlled from the Joint Operations Centre – a high-tech control room stuffed with computer monitors, communications equipment and projected tracking data. It is manned by the event controllers, SAP, Disaster Management, the medical team, ambulance dispatchers, Traffic Police and the NewRot teams managing the course and the switchboard. We are also an integral part of the control centre at the race finish.

