

MEDIA MONITORS

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Sport

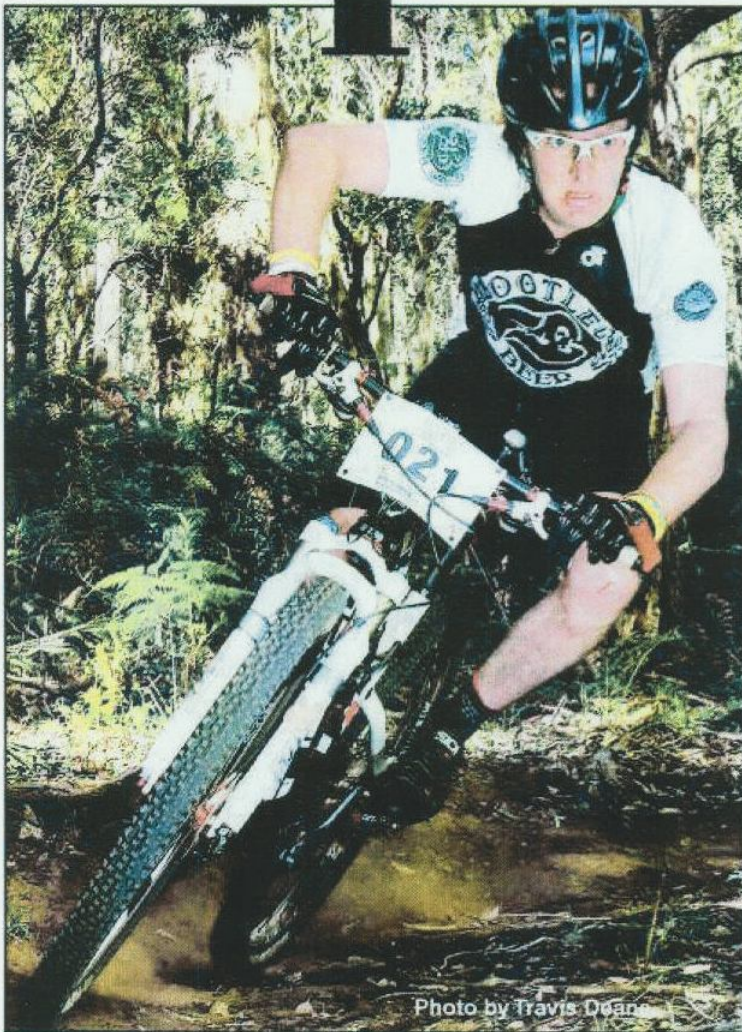


Photo by Travis Deane

Master rider: Witchcliffe rider Mike Brookes was sixth in his category.

Cape to Cape

ELITE and amateur mountain bike riders converged on the Cape from Thursday-Sunday for the Cape to Cape Mountain Bike (MTB) race, which finished in Dunsborough for the first time.

This is the third time the event, which has become a regular test of endurance for local, national and international athletes, has been held and started with a strong contingent of elite riders.

Dan McConnell won the race to Dunsborough in the fourth and final stage on Sunday, finishing as overall champion just ahead of Chris Jongewaard.

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Mountain bike race a success

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McConnell's total time over the four stages and 210km was 7:57:27, under four minutes faster than Jongewaard who clocked 8:01:05.

He proudly accepted the James Williamson award for overall winner, an award named for a great rider and friend of the Cape to Cape, who sadly passed away earlier this year.

In the female event, two-time defending champion Niki once again took out the title with a time of 9:43:40 seconds.

Niki is a regular contender at the Australian Cross-Country Championships and has competed in all three Cape to Cape events.

South African rider Lieb Lutz took out the men's Masters title, while

Dianne James, from Witchcliffe, won the women's in a time of 12:37:24.

Witchcliffe's Mike Brookes, was the best-placed local male, competing the four days with a total time of 9:48:44, which was good enough for sixth in the Masters category.

The race started from Cape Leeuwin Lighthouse on Thursday, with competitors riding around 50km a day, with stop offs in Hamelin Bay and Margaret River before finishing in Dunsborough.

There was also a special Margaret River stage on day three with competitors racing from the town out to Colonial Brewery and back.

Full times and standings for all riders are available from the Cape to Cape website www.capetocapemtb.com

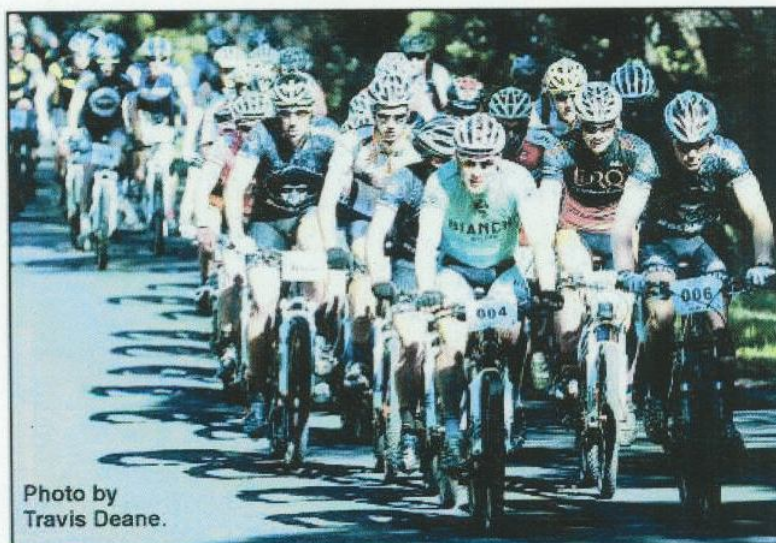


Photo by
Travis Deane.

Stage two: The pack coming out of Hamelin Bay Caravan Park.