

## In Profile

This year we have chosen to profile local engineers with interesting leisure activities in our division newsletter.

Whilst they have chosen engineering as a profession we would also like to highlight their other areas of interest.

This month we would like to introduce Mr. Chris Roach, Long Distance .

**1. When did you decide to become an engineer?** It was probably during my Rotary Student Exchange abroad – It was engineering or psychology (and psych doesn't pay as well!).

**2. Who or what encouraged you to be an engineer?** It was really the opportunities and available career options that encouraged me to become an engineer. It's also great to travel with as the theory can be universally applied.

**3. How did you choose your engineering discipline?** I liked Lego as a kid – what can I say, civil engineering was the next logical progression.

**4. When did you take up long distance cycling?** While budget traveling through Europe. See <http://www.cyclestrongman.com/links/previous-toursprevious-tours/>

**5. Have you won any awards for cycling?** Nope, not one. I don't ride to win races – "Nothing compares to the simple pleasures of riding a bike." John F Kennedy

**6. Did you have a role model in cycling?** Cadel Evans is pretty cool, but then again I'm a little biased because he's a patron of the expedition!

**7. What are the biggest**

**challenges between being an engineer and a cyclist?** Building roads safe enough for both traffic and cyclists.

**8. What do you enjoy most about engineering and cycling?** Engineering makes the money so that I can enjoy my cycling!

**9. How have you balanced engineering and cycling?** It's more of a tradeoff – I'm now only an engineer part time!

**10. What are your engineering and cycling goals and how do you plan to reach them?** The Cycle Strongman Expedition was born out of a desire to see the world, engineering was a vehicle to make that happen – so I guess you could say they're one and the same. To finish the Cycle Strongman Expedition in one piece is the next goal!

Chris is just about to embark on an eight year journey of discovery, cycling around the world.

The Cycle Strongman Expedition (CSX) is a unique undertaking and will be an extraordinary journey focused on exploring human capabilities, cultures and landscapes. Scheduled to begin in early 2009, the CSX will involve a monumental attempt to traverse the globe using human power and the elements in an effort to inspire change, challenge environmental values and promote cross cultural awareness. The CSX will involve an attempt to circumnavigate the planet covering each of the six major inhabited continents passing through Australia, Europe, Africa, South America, North America, and Asia. The route will cover approximately 75,000 kilometres, travel through

more than 50 countries, cross eight seas, two oceans, six deserts and pass over seven major mountain ranges.



The expedition aims to promote the benefits of cycling and inspire others to think more sustainably. To this end, the CSX will be carbon neutral and has teamed up with a number of organisations including the Leave No Trace Campaign, the Cycling Promotion Fund and looking to raise up to \$100,000 for Oxfam Australia. Throughout the expedition Chris will be talking to a number of schools and community groups and visit some of Oxfam's incredible projects first hand. Chris will also have the support from Cadel Evans describing the expedition as "... an amazing project ..." and David Suzuki lending his support behind the CSX describing it as "an incredibly education project."

The entire journey will be documented on the CSX Website ([www.cyclestrongman.com](http://www.cyclestrongman.com)) where Chris encourages others to subscribe to the expedition feeds, share in this experience, learn and help understand the world.

## Transport & Communication:

### Australia's Backbone – Past, Present & Future

Friday 12th June – Sunday 14th June at Grafton in the Clarence Valley.

Five keynote speakers, with professional backgrounds in transport and/or communications, will present a range of keynote addresses across this diverse, yet interesting range of engineering feats and challenges.



Dr Robert Lee, University of Western Sydney  
Rex Glencross-Grant, University of New England  
Les Wielinga, Chief Executive NSW RTA  
Wal King, Leighton Holdings  
David Marchant, Aust. Rail Track Corp.



Early Bird rates available until 31/3/09 – contact the office for a registration form on 02 4926 4440 or email [kbaker@engineersaustralia.org.au](mailto:kbaker@engineersaustralia.org.au)