

Peddle power pays off

BEVERIDGE Primary's School's inaugural 'Tour de Mandalay' ride-a-thon proved to be enjoyable for the 96 students, and was a good fundraiser as well.

Participants traversed Lithgow Street and roads in the Mandalay housing development during the continuous two-hour ride.

A total of \$1250 was raised towards new play equipment for the 2010 school year.

The ride-a-thon was sponsored by 'Mandalay at Beveridge'

and represents part of an ongoing partnership between the school and Mandalay which has made clear its intention to support and help to grow the local community as it develops.

Earlier this year Mandalay initiated a sculpture art program with the school aiming to inspire students to look to the environment around them for inspiration, enlisting the help of celebrated artist James Parrett as a part of the education program.

As well as forming an ongoing relationship with the school, Mandalay has also committed to funding local sport and community groups, including Beveridge and District Pony Club and Mitchell Rangers Soccer Club.

Principal Steve Fernando said the fun-ride was a fantastic way to integrate student education with the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle and getting active.

"The idea of running a ride-a-thon was inspired by our students' desire to ride their bikes to school, coupled with the need to implement health education into our school curriculum."

Mr Fernando said the school looks forward to a continuing partnership with the development company in the future.

Mandalay sales and marketing manager, Crystall Mousios, said it is important to develop not only the estate, but the surrounding community so they can interact and complement each other.

"When building communities such as Mandalay, it is vital to recognise the needs of the surrounding community and support it in a proactive and positive way.

F u n d i n g



Riding high: these three students (from left), Ella Mahoney, 12, Zoe Ismail and Julian Gamo, both 11, were pleased to participate in the 'Tour de Mandalay'.

Beveridge's sporting teams and primary school is just one of the ways Mandalay is looking towards a cohesive future with the community.

"Much more than just infrastructure and new facilities, residents at Mandalay will enjoy the strong net-

work of social amenity such as the array of local clubs and teams operating in the area, which we hope to see continue to thrive from our support," Ms Mousios said.

Last night the school's end-of-year Christmas production was held at Wallan

Secondary College.

The school is looking forward to a successful 2010.

Support of Mandalay as a major sponsor has been very beneficial to the school this year.