

# From Bluff to Cape for charity

By Sarah Coddington

When Steve Northey turned 50 he decided this was the year to aim for something big.

So he decided to cycle the length of New Zealand and at the same time raise money for the North Shore Hospice.

His mother Joan died of cancer in 2001 and she and her family were cared for by hospice during this time.

"It will be nice to look back and think, that was for mum.

"It's not going to be easy," says Mr Northey, who lives in Hillcrest.

He has cycled an Auckland to Wellington race and he also took part in an Ironman in Hawaii in 1987.

"I've never gone up the West Coast of the South Island so I'm looking forward to that," Mr Northey says.

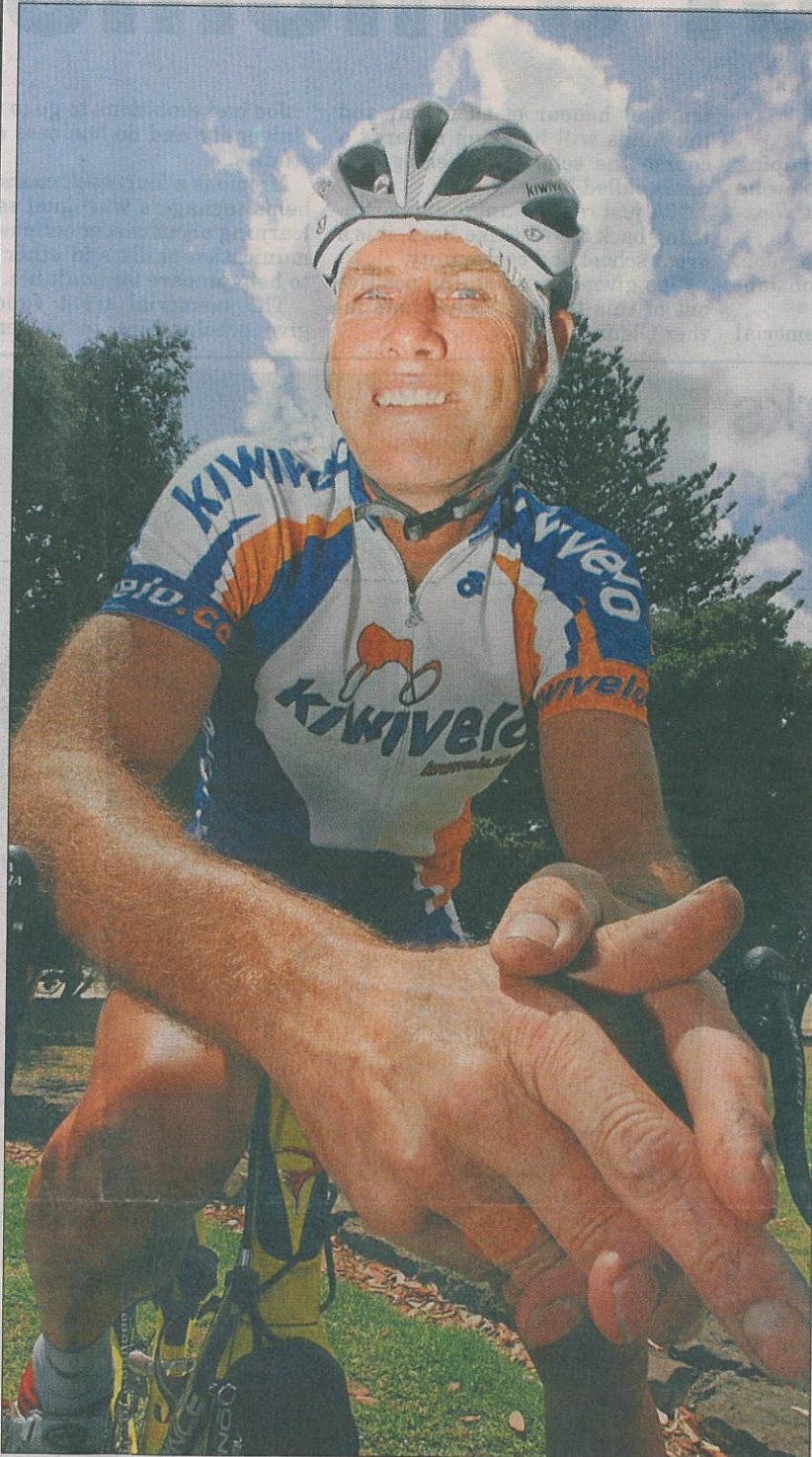
Six of his friends were convinced by Mr Northey to join the 2210km bike ride from Bluff to Cape Reinga.

Together the team has raised more than \$300 so far and hopes to raise \$10,000.

Mr Northey has been training for 18 months for the ride and is cycling about 18 hours a week at the moment.

The ride starts on March 2 and it is expected to take 20 days with two rest days.

If you would like to support Mr Northey and his friends on their journey go to <http://www.fundraisonline.co.nz/blufftocapebikerideforhospice/> to make a donation.



**Big ride:** Steve Northey will be cycling the length of New Zealand to raise awareness for North Shore Hospice.

Photo: BEN WATSON