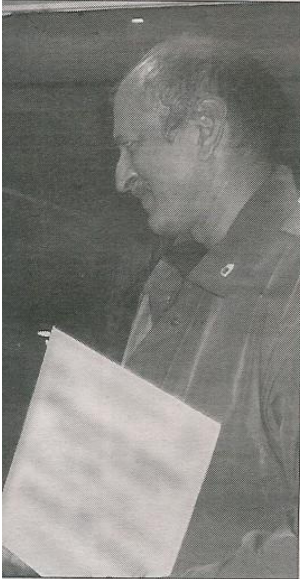


# es in from India



Gordon Matthews presents a gift to his Jaipur Lions club.

Another project is helping the physically challenged with artificial limbs, hearing aids and blind sticks. Jaipur is well known for producing artificial limbs - there is a great demand for them, because of many road accidents. Both legs and arms, they use PVC pipe to make them at a cost of A\$40-\$50!

Polio eradication is another project- because of lack of education, the vaccine drops are taken door to door, treating all children. This is a government program that the Lions are involved with.

Hemant has been heavily involved with youth exchange programs for some years. He explained that recently some exchangees from Europe had an extra 10 days because of an active volcano in Iceland.

On his return to India he will become president of his club, while continuing his role with youth exchange. As an aside, Hemant said that when he returns home his daughter is to be married. There will be two days of celebration, with some 400 people the first day, and 1200 the next! "Who pays for all that" he was asked. "I do", he said!

which gram. The government 6000 assists with financing ears! these operations. Another project includes providing a blood bank service. Four thousand units of blood were collected in the last year. Part of the problem here is once again lack of education. People are afraid they are giving away something they can't get back.



• Still smiling after 32,000km on their bikes, Jules Cooper and Jess Macaulay at Merimbula on Friday, June 18.

## In the saddle for 18 months

STORY PAUL DION

Jules Cooper, of Brisbane, and Jess Macaulay, Melbourne, will have been on their bikes for 18 months by the time they arrive in Melbourne on July 3.

Stopping in Merimbula on a rest day, Friday, June 18, they were in fine spirits and looking none the worse for their epic journey of some 32,695 kilometres.

Beginning in Ushuaia, the southern most town in Argentina, they rode the Andes to Lima, flew to London, rode across the European Alps to Moscow, on to China for four months, Darwin and across the Gulf of Carpentaria, and finally rode down the East coast of Australia to finish in Melbourne early next month.

The very thought of such a trip is enough to exhaust most souls but like the cyclists in the Tour de France, a complete recovery seems to be the order of the day within minutes of crossing the finishing line.

Their slogan is aptly 'The long way home - making education a reality' and their long ride is to raise money for the Ardoch Youth Foundation which helps disadvantaged school children across Australia. Donations can be made via the website.

Jules wanted to divert via Mount Kosciuszko but Jess stepped in with a more sensible and direct route plan to avoid the snow and end up in Merimbula instead.

Jules said: "And naturally she had her own way. Part of the challenge was to learn to live in close proximity with someone throughout the journey. Nonetheless it has been an incredibly rewarding experience. And it's brought much joy to many children around Australia."

For a detailed description of the journey see [www.julesandjess.com](http://www.julesandjess.com)

## out koala surveys

improving of these Allen. ns will pro- elude to the and will a Choir and - featuring of Mike ill backing des locals Kate Burke, n Martin. go folk fes- The Brown rotters, will uch on old ring the fid- is duo will all tapping at. nd music is ne 26 at all, com- n. }



• Koalas form part of our rich animal and plant diversity.

## ee libraries closed for a day

programs in library new PC reservations system which will be shortly discussed.