Cycling from London to Australia

Few international students would choose to cycle from their home country to commence their studies in Australia. However, a future international student, Tom Hudson from England, will be embarking next month with his girlfriend, Jodie Burton, on a mammoth bike ride from London to Melbourne to raise money for charity. The couple have two key goals they wish to achieve from completing this journey. One is to raise money for their two chosen charities - Rays of Sunshine which helps realise the dreams of children living with serious and terminal illness in the UK and the David Bland Ride for Life which raises money and awareness of organ donation and its importance in Australia. Secondly, they want to raise international interest in rugby across the globe by meeting with rugby clubs, schools and fans of the sport along their route.

The couple, who have a passion for rugby, will be setting off on their bicycles from Twickenham Stadium, London to cycle unassisted all the way to Eden Park, Auckland for the Rugby World Cup in 2011. They anticipate that the journey will cover approximately 25,000km, as they travel through 20 countries on their way to their final destination.

Tom and Jodie have already organized some stops along the way, including meeting with a World War II national player from the Czech Republic, an Islamic Women’s rugby team in Pakistan and the Footscray RFC in Melbourne where they plan to have
a great big party to mark their arrival in Melbourne. They are both looking forward to starting their studies in Melbourne before setting off again on the final leg of their trip to the Rugby World Cup final in Auckland.

Follow their progress on their website, [http://www.cyclingtotherugbyworldcup.com](http://www.cyclingtotherugbyworldcup.com). Tom and Jodie would love to hear from anyone who may have any tips or know of any rugby clubs who would be interested in meeting with them on their journey.

Special thanks to Adrian Cantelmi in the Graphic Design department who worked with Tom and Jodie to develop the logo for their adventure.

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