

Milburn back on the bike

DEVONPORT cyclist Graeme Milburn will hop on his bike and cycle around Tasmania in just 11 days — all in the name of charity.

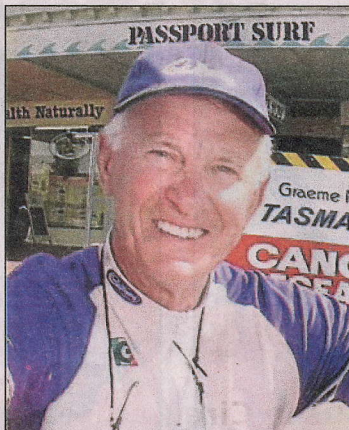
Mr Milburn was at the North-West Relay For Life on the weekend to launch his cycle around the state, which starts today.

No stranger to the trip, this will be Mr Milburn's 29th time cycling around the state raising funds for cancer research and awareness. To date more than \$600,000 has been raised.

Mr Milburn is confident this year he will set the record amount raised. "Last year David Bartlett said he would match (the amount) dollar for dollar," he said.

"I just said to someone before 'now that we have three governments does that mean we get three dollars to every dollar?'," he said with a laugh.

"This year we will get dollar to dollar, which hopefully will



CHARITY CYCLE: Graeme Milburn, of Devonport.

bring home another \$50,000-60,000."

Mr Milburn first decided to ride around the state "just once" after losing a close friend to cancer.

"Like a lot of things you lose someone near and dear to you and then I created my own

monster," he said.

While Mr Milburn will start pedalling today, he is already beginning to think about his 30th and possibly final ride.

"The 30th is not bad to semi-retire on," he said.

"Hopefully someone else may take it on."

Mr Milburn said he will look into the event running as a different format or possibly find someone with a similar interest to take up the challenge.

This year all funds raised will go to prostate cancer research.

There will be five cyclists making the trip around the state in 11 days and a support crew of four people.

■ **Mr Milburn will leave the Devonport Mall about 8.15 this morning and will finish Thursday, April 1 back at the Devonport Mall about noon. If you would like to donate contact the Cancer Council or go to www.tascancerride.org.**