

Tom's cargo bike adventures

Tom, a resident of Dulwich Hill, has always had a soft spot for biking. Since 2010, when he first started cycling in Sydney, he's relied on two wheels to navigate the city's streets.

"When I was at uni, I lived in Petersham and commuted to UNSW. By car, it could take anywhere from 20 minutes to over an hour and a half, depending on traffic," Tom recalls. "But on my bike, it was always 41 or 42 minutes, no matter what. That predictability sold me on biking."

Biking with a child

Now with a two-year-old son Louis in tow, Tom's riding habits have evolved. His trusty cargo bike, has become an essential part of his daily life, allowing him to ride with Louis safely seated in front.



Tom was initially cautious about cycling with Louis – he was selective about routes, avoiding busy roads and taking extra care. "It's been really helpful that when you are cycling with a child you are allowed to ride on the footpath," he says.

Biking has opened up new adventures for Tom and Louis. "We do a lot of park-hopping – we know pretty much all the parks in the area," he says. They regularly make the trip from Dulwich Hill to Darling Square, stopping to enjoy playgrounds and greenspaces along the way.

Part of the neighbourhood

Tom describes riding as "fun and easy," but it's more than that – biking gives him a sense of connection with his community. "You feel like part of the neighbourhood. I see friends on the street, we stop and chat. Or if we see something interesting, we can stop and check it out," he explains

Bike-friendly infrastructure that's making a difference

New infrastructure improvements in the area, including Southwest Link bike routes, have made riding even smoother. For example, a new ramp crossing Fraser Street, which connects Marrickville Park to Petersham Park, saves Tom from navigating around awkward road dividers that made passing through with a cargo bike difficult.

With his cargo bike, Tom has found it easy to turn short rides into outings, making errands enjoyable for both him and Louis.

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