



**GOOD CAUSE:** Alec Ursini will ride in the Bupa Challenge.

# Alec steps up a level in 2017

## Bupa ride

**WARREN PARTLAND**

**TEENAGER** Alec Ursini admits the 111km Bupa Challenge ride from Birdwood to Campbelltown on January 20 will be tough.

Last year, he was satisfied with his efforts when he completed the 70km ride in a little under four hours. But he knows the extra distance this year will be a test.

Ursini, 17, will have added motivation to negotiate the challenging ride, however, aware he is helping raise funds for a charity established in honour of his father Andrew,



who passed away almost seven years ago.

"The 111km will definitely be a test, but I'm looking forward to it," Ursini said.

"I'm a little worried and I'll just try and do the best time I can.

"When it gets tough I'll think about what I'm doing it for, a good cause raising money for the charity."

The Mercedes College student recalls going for rides with his dad, who was a casual cyclist. Finishing the Bupa Challenge will also be special for Ursini given he will be riding a bike he built as a school project.

The Bupa Challenge will be held on stage four of the Tour Down Under with the full distance being 157km from Norwood to Campbelltown.