

What's been happening recently? Lots, that's what!

Our suggestions for improving the junction at City Road, Shepherdess Walk and Bath Street have been listened to and work will start later this year. Following years of lobbying, LBI announced that in June they will install 18 bike hangars – see articles below. And there will be a consultation about the proposed pedestrianisation of Clerkenwell Green soon – keep an eye on our e-mails for more information (see overleaf for how to subscribe).

The speaker at our March monthly meeting was **Nick Wayne**, a local councillor for Canonbury, who encouraged us to join other community groups to show joint support for local initiatives. He was interested to see if a group of cycling councillors could be set up and the topic of getting children on bikes came up, with discussions about reducing or limiting parking near schools. Following the meeting, Nick confirmed that he'd contacted the Executive member for Transport, for Children's Services, and for health (Claudia Webbe, Joe Calouri and Janet Burgess respectively) concerning the matters raised.

In April, **Mary Stevens** presented her research on the decision-making processes in Waltham Forest and on the London Fields area of Hackney (QW2) and what lessons could be learned. She talked about how change happens which encompassed behaviours, making alliances, defining strategy, giving away best ideas and reframing problems. Positive language is key in making a case for change.

And in May, **Christian Wolmar**, an LCC trustee, came to discuss the role of the LCC. We discussed our links with sister boroughs and with the LCC and how CI could work with councillors in the run-up to the local elections. He recommended that CI seek 'to influence and not to campaign'.

**** CI AGM – 14 June****

Everyone welcome at the Town Hall at 7.30 pm

We are delighted to welcome **Laura Parry** from LBI's Zero Emissions network, who will talk about air pollution, the ZEN and its use of cargo bikes at 8.30pm.

www.zeroemissionsnetwork.com

Out and about with CI – April family ride and July's ride to London Freecycle



We managed to arrange a lovely sunny afternoon for our Spring into Spring family cycle ride on 8 April. We were joined by sister groups from Camden, Hackney and Haringay. Simon, with strong vocal support from Gwen in Graham's basket (see right), led 63 cyclists of

all ages for a tour of parts of the QW10, the CS3 (East/West) and CS6 (North/South) Superhighways with a coffee stop at the South Bank. Many thanks to everyone who helped organise the ride and to the enthusiastic participants. It was great to see so many children manage to ride the whole 5 miles, well done to them all.

The CI led ride to London Freecycle on Saturday 29 July will be setting off from Highbury Fields at 10.30. Register for this annual cycling celebration and extravaganza here: <https://www.prudentialridelondon.co.uk/events/freecycle/>. All types of bikes

and lots of fun – hope to see you there!



Bike hangars in Islington



Nick Kocharhook, CI, writes: in December, a number of Islington residents attended the Full Council meeting and pressed Transport and Environment Executive Member Claudia Webbe about secure cycle storage. Cllr Webbe said at the meeting that she'd probably never received more questions about a single issue at a meeting. This was grassroots pressure at its best and just a few months later we're very pleased to say that it has been successful!

By end June, Islington will install 18 new bikehangars across the borough. This means that over 100 Islington residents

will get to take their bike out of their hallway and store it safely on the street in front of their house. This is a big victory, and something we've been pushing the council to do for years. The bikehangars will be placed in car parking bays, a first for Islington. (Neither of the two trial Cyclehoop bikehangars removed a car parking space.) Other London boroughs have been putting them in car parking bays for many years, and now Islington will be doing the same. This is important because there's simply far more demand for secure bike storage than there are spaces to put the bikehangars on pavements. Six bikes can park in the space for one car. Now any Islington resident will have access to secure cycle storage—contingent on funding.

As we understand it, the locations of these first 18 units have already been decided. But if you'd like one on your street, the best thing to do is to get 6 of your neighbours together and request one of your ward councillors for a bikehangar. Your councillor can then add this to their Ward Improvement Plan, and money can be allocated as it becomes available. Or email publicrealm@islington.gov.uk

Hackney has been installing secure cycle parking units for years, and now has 325 on its streets. That's space for 1,950 bicycles! LBI is well aware of the pent up demand and

is expecting a rush of applications once this batch is installed.

We're thrilled that some Islington residents will soon be able to park their bicycles on the street without fear of damage or theft. This is just the beginning, and we look forward to working with LBI to install many more bikehangars in future.

Stephen Moore, Senior Media Officer, LBI, confirmed that Islington Council is rolling out secure, covered, on-street bicycle parking for residents following a successful pilot. A trial of two Bikehangar units proved so popular last year that there is now a waiting list of more than 400 residents who have requested a space in a unit, which offers a safe and effective way of protecting bikes from the weather and theft in places where storage space is at a premium.

The council has won additional funding to roll out 18 Asgard hangars – see photo - meaning a total of 120 bicycles can be kept secure in lockable on-street units. Islington is developing an application and payment system for residents on its website, but until then residents can email publicrealm@islington.gov.uk to signal their interest.

Living streets summit – Rosalind Readhead

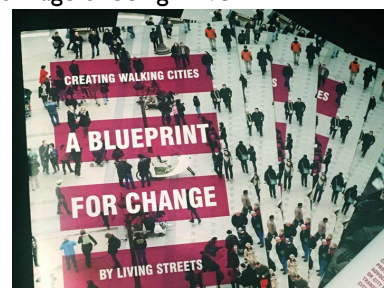
On 18 March, CI supporters attended the packed Living Streets Walking Summit. Although held at Bloomberg's corporate offices, it was very much a grassroots event. The big coup was Jeanette Sadik-Khan, former Transport Commissioner to Mayor Bloomberg, who took the floor alongside Deputy Mayor for Transport Val Shawcross and newly appointed Walking and Cycling Commissioner Will Norman.

Jeanette set the scene by making grassroots campaigning central to her talk: 'Advocacy creates the political space for radical policy and action' she proclaimed, adding that there is a 'great hunger for space and play' in our cities...we just need to 'follow the people' and 'get obstacles out of their way'. Her experimental approach in New York with paint, cheap beach chairs and temporary road blocks and cycle lanes, is still inspiring cities around the world.

Val Shawcross followed, setting out the Healthy Streets approach to making London a healthier, more beautiful and liveable city. Val urged campaigners to 'engage with your local councils' by inserting practical ideas into prospective

councillors' manifestos for the local elections in May 2018. She believes campaigning makes a difference; it is not always immediate but it does shape politicians' views.

It was a shame that Val and Will did not stay for the afternoon session. Riccardo Marini of Gehl Architects gave a passionate plea for 'creating a happy city' by putting 'people not business first'. He believes data and evidence should be qualitative as well as quantitative; reflecting human-scale cities where people not cars are central to planning. The President of Living Streets made the most prescient comment when he talked about releasing children from the 'bondage of being driven'



IC monthly meeting

Come along to the CI monthly meeting. Agenda items for meetings should reach Alison Dines by the Saturday before the meeting.

Email: alison.dines@cycleislington.uk

Place: Islington Town Hall

Date: 2nd Wednesday/every month

Time: 7.30-9.30 pm followed by visit to local pub

Forthcoming events

* Critical mass – last Friday of each month <http://www.urban75.org/photos/critical>

* Check out Skyrides - <http://www.goskyride.com>

* Islington cycle club – lots of weekly rides to suit all levels of fitness - <http://islington.cc/> and

Dr Bike sessions here <http://tinyurl.com/lj5ml75k>

Reporting potholes

***Local:** T 020 7527 2000 or islington.gov.uk and click on report a street problem. Or try fixmystreet.com

***London:** T 0845 305 1234 or <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/cycling/>, then click report a street fault

Contribute to Cycleislington

*If you wish to discuss any of the topics covered in this newsletter in more detail then why not subscribe to the CI email list? Just send an email to cycleislington-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

*We have another yahoo group concerned mainly with the engineering projects which we are being consulted about. If you want to join, send an email to: cycleislingtoneng-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Please send articles/images/suggestions for this newsletter to: alison.dines@cycleislington.uk – many thanks !