

## AGM update and announcement of our new name

After 40 years of being ICAG (the group was formed in June 1976) it is going to take a while to get used to our new name which was announced at the AGM on 8 June – Cycle Islington - and make the various changes; not least as we'll be at some local festivals with our current banners!

Many thanks to our last-minute speaker who gave us his views as an Uber driver and cyclist. Top tips: he'd like to see cyclists so please don't wear black, don't dazzle him with flashing bike lights and be aware of blind spots. Cyclists can come up behind a car really fast but must make sure they've been seen. He liked the idea of cycle superhighways having pop-up bollards and wanted cycle lanes to be very

clearly marked to help all road users. He strongly advocates segregated bike lanes and he too hates speed bumps. And yes, Uber cars can take bikes!

We appointed our committee for the next 12 months - contact via [alison.dines@cycleislington.uk](mailto:alison.dines@cycleislington.uk)

- Alison (Coordinator and secretary)
- Keith (Treasurer)
- John (campaigns and infrastructure)
- Nick and Talia (campaigns, infrastructure, Tweets and website)
- Simon (Canonbury liaison & infrastructure)
- Liz (Archway liaison)
- Tab (public health liaison)
- Eilidh (newsletter)

## Liaison with the London Borough of Islington

*"I want to make London a byword for cycling .... Making it an obvious and safe choice for thousands more Londoners is a key part of my vision of the greener, more modern and more affordable transport network that we need in our city. I am going to look at what works best from the existing schemes and make sure we deliver the best, safest road cycling network possible".*

*Sadiq Khan in his introduction to Prudential Freecycle.*

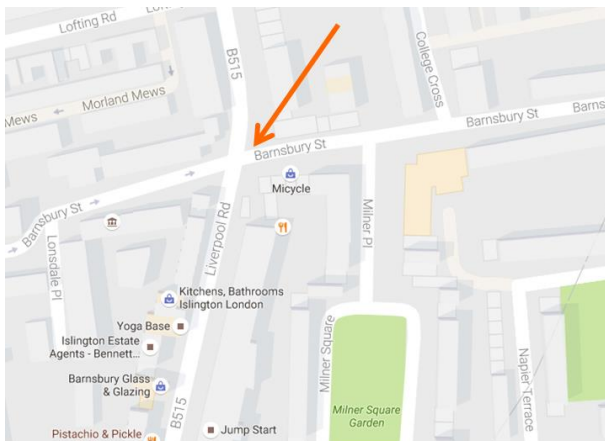
The new mayor's comments and the positive messages from his deputy mayor for Transport, Val Shawcross, could be the start of a new chapter in our work with LBI. Nick and Talia attend quarterly meetings with Cllr Webbe, Executive Member for Environment & Transport, and your input is most welcome – what strategic questions can they

ask on your behalf and how could CI work better with her officers to achieve our common goals?

We encourage you to talk to your local councillors about local cycling issues such as the plans for Quietway10, lack of secure cycle parking, etc. Go to your local council surgeries, get to know your councillors and make them aware of your concerns. There's a doodle giving dates of all forthcoming surgeries, plus some key 'asks', on <http://www.liveableislington.uk> so make a date and let us know how you get on. More information about the recent Highbury Corner consultation here:

<https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/roads/highbury-corner-roundabout>

## Jillian's junction – Jillian Hartin's story



Map with thanks to Google

Having been a cyclist in London for nearly two decades and experienced almost daily near misses, it still came as a shock to get knocked off in February when attempting to cross Barnsbury Street at its junction with Liverpool Road. No serious or lasting damage to me or my bike, but with some small improvements, this needn't have happened at all.

This junction is a tricky one for cyclists to navigate safely. Crossing Liverpool Road in either direction from Barnsbury Street requires negotiation of a dog leg crossroads, where the view of traffic approaching on Liverpool Road is extremely challenging. Cyclists need to edge forward to get a clear view to cross safely. Frequently Liverpool Road traffic approaches at over the 20mph limit, at a point where the road curves and cyclists often have to abort the attempt to cross as traffic comes into view. Car and van drivers behind become impatient, cut up cyclists on the inside or, as in my case, move forward irrespective of cyclists resulting in a rear end collision.

Islington councillors were supportive when this incident was raised with them by Cycle Islington, although improvements are yet to materialise. Cycle Islington have also requested that councillors improve conditions for cyclists on Barnsbury Street between Liverpool Road and Thornhill Road. The cycle contraflow system pitches cyclists against oncoming motor vehicles on a very narrow section before hitting a tricky double bend, and / or in the middle of the road where vehicles are frequently straddling speed bumps and unaware of approaching cyclists. Discussions continue !

## Out and about with Cycle Islington



Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Cycle Safari on 26 June 2016 encouraged about 30 people to cycle along the Quietway 10 route and hear about our key concerns. Thanks to Simon for organising and leading the ride. Our next event is at the Islington Canal Festival on 4 September (<http://www.angelcanalfestival.org>) when we'll have a stand to spread awareness of cycling in Islington so come along and say hello. And we're leading a morning ride on 14 September (Cycle to Work day) from Finsbury Park via King's Cross to Russell Square; more info available soon on our website and also here: <http://lcc.org.uk>

## Freecycle on 30 July

Cycle Islington led a group of cyclists to the main route of this year's Freecycle; about 70 people met at Highbury Fields and were safely led by Steve Knattress and his team of marshalls to St Pauls. Do sign up for this festival of cycling on 29 July 2017, (<https://www.prudentialridelondon.co.uk/events/freecycle/register/>).

Big thanks to Steve who, on the Sunday, tackled the 100 mile ride to the Surrey hills – his Just Giving page is still open if you would like to support him! <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Steve-Knattress>

## Talia's talking points

To help improve the image of cycling, LCC has engaged professional help to present our vision of London as a great cycling city. During a two hour media training session at the LCC office, a former journalist and PR consultant talked through a number of techniques designed to get our views across in the press and on social media. Talia's summary:

- Saying it the Boardman way: Chris Boardman is a strong spokesman for cycling, and an example we can follow. He's always polite, measured and supports what he says with facts. He doesn't make personal comments and stays focussed on his own positive arguments.

- LCC has approved a number of talking points, which they want to see local activists repeating and promoting as much as possible: 1. London's growing 2. Cycling is increasing 3. Safer space for cyclists.

These talking points are intended to align the efforts of all local groups so we can put forward a united front as we campaign for better facilities. If you're active on social media or writing letters, please make use of these talking points as often as you can. The full document including key messages is available to download here: <https://goo.gl/MBf8U3>

## Please help this once grubby foundling bear who's going to the Wash



In late September/early October, Leyton the bear is being strapped onto a bike for a trip from Islington to Hunstanton on the Wash, camping en route. He's raising funds for Afasic, a national charity working for speech and language-impaired children. Leyton **needs the bare essentials - a child seat, helmet and rain jacket** so if you have any kit for a 2-year old, he would like to hear from you. Quiz sheets will be available from the end of August at £1 a go and are available from his minder, [jonathanedwards49@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jonathanedwards49@yahoo.co.uk)

### Forthcoming events

- \* Islington cycle club – lots of weekly rides to suit all levels of fitness - <http://islington.ccl/> and Dr Bike sessions here <http://tinyurl.com/lj5m175k>
- \* Critical mass – last Friday of each month <http://www.urban75.org/photos/critical>
- \* check out Skyrides - <http://www.goskyride.com>
- \* Cycle to Work day – 14 September – CI are leading a ride; more info <http://lcc.org.uk/>

### Cycle Workshop Dates

currently under review

### Reporting potholes

- \* **Local:** T 020 7527 2000 or [islington.gov.uk](http://islington.gov.uk) and click on report a street problem. Or try [fixmystreet.com](http://fixmystreet.com)
- \* **London:** T 0845 305 1234 or <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/cycling/>, then click report a street fault

Please send articles/images to. [alison.dines@cycleislington.uk](mailto:alison.dines@cycleislington.uk) Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of CI. Published by CI, 84c Riversdale Rd, London, N5 2JZ ©Cycleislington 2016

### ICAG monthly meeting

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

**Place:** Islington Town Hall

**Date:** 2nd Wednesday/every month

**Time:** 7.30-9.30 pm

**Email:** [alison.dines@cycleislington.uk](mailto:alison.dines@cycleislington.uk)

### 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 [icag-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:icag-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

\*We have another yahoo group concerned mainly with the engineering projects that we are being consulted about. If you want to join, send an email to: [icag-eng-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:icag-eng-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)