



ISLINGTON CYCLIST

The newsletter of the Islington Cyclists' Action Group



ICAG is the Islington group of the London Cycling Campaign

Issue 57

April/May 2006

High profile for cycling in local elections

ICAG is determined to make sure the needs of cyclists are high on the agenda as Islington voters go to the polls to elect a new Council on 4 May.

We have already written to all the main political parties asking their candidates to endorse the London Cycling Campaign's 2006 local election manifesto. The five key points of the manifesto are:

1. 20mph as the standard speed limit for all residential streets.
2. Increase by 25% the proportion of children cycling (or walking) to school by 2010.
3. Increase by 50% the total number of cycle parking spaces by 2010 through planning policies and direct provision.
4. All parking enforcement in Islington to prioritise keeping cycle facilities car free.
5. Ensure good cycling access to all green spaces and waterways.

Over 200 candidates will contest the 48 Council seats and ICAG wants as many of them as possible to sign up to these five goals. Replies from the parties will be sent to all LCC members in Islington well before polling day.

A number of ICAG members are standing as candidates including Catherine West (Labour), George Allan (Liberal Democrat) and Jon Nott (Green).

New Co-ordinator as ICAG numbers grow

Islington Cyclists' Action Group elected a new Management Committee at our Annual General Meeting in March.



New **Co-ordinator** is Alison Dines (pictured above), previously ICAG Secretary. Alison is uniquely well qualified to take on the role as she has served for three years as Co-ordinator in the past.

Alison replaces Andrew Cornwell, who is stepping down after two years in the Co-ordinator's post to stand as a candidate in the May local elections.

Anja Beinroth has been re-elected **Treasurer**. Thanks to her efforts ICAG's income doubled in 2005, and we are now well placed to attract new grant funding.

New **Secretary** is Stephen Taylor, who until last year was Co-ordinator for LCC in Haringey.

The other four **Management Committee members** elected are

John Ackers, Chris Ashby, Andrew Cornwell and Alastair Fallon.

Meanwhile ICAG membership has continued to grow – there are now 701 LCC members in Islington, compared to 647 in January 2005.

If you would like a copy of ICAG's Annual Report and Accounts for 2005, which were presented at the AGM, please contact:

C: Andrew Cornwell

T: 07753 620 682

E: andrew.cornwell@virgin.net

Bike Boot Sale

What:

Bike Boot Sale

When and where:

Saturday 8 April, 10 am to 2 pm at Hackney City Farm, Goldsmiths Row, London E2

Your chance to clear out those bits under the stairs and turn them into money!

Book a table for £7.50 via Jonathan (details below) and bring your cycle spare parts to sell.

This is NOT a commercial event.

For more information please contact:

C: Jonathan Edwards

T: 020 7704 1884

E: jonathanthebike@yahoo.co.uk

Cycling MP meets ICAG members



Our picture shows Islington South MP Emily Thornberry meeting ICAG members at our AGM held in March.

Emily spoke to the meeting about her work as Chair of the Parliamentary All-Party Cycling Group, which includes both MPs and peers.

Recent campaigns by the Group have included calling for better integration between cycling and rail transport; work on the Road Safety Bill; and proposing amendments to the Countryside and Rights of Way Bill to ensure access for cyclists.

Emily has also joined with cycling organisations in objecting to part of the proposed new Highway Code which would oblige cyclists to use cycle lanes where available – even if these are dangerously designed.

ICAG members raised many issues in a question and answer session including the need to enforce advance stop lanes and to provide secure parking in new housing and shopping developments.

High levels of cycle theft were also discussed and Emily Thornberry reported that nearly every single member of her family had had a bike stolen.

The MP received an invitation from ICAG's Chris Ashby to join our monthly feeder ride from the Town Hall to the Critical Mass bike ride.

Double grant success

ICAG has successfully applied for grant funding for a new cycle training project which will involve setting up a 'bike buddy' scheme. The Community Learning Chest is providing £1,800 to train ICAG volunteers as cycle trainers, and they will in turn provide support to other cyclists.

Another £1,165 has been secured to pay for this year's cycling promotion programme, which includes stalls at local events and the printing of publicity materials.

More information about how to get involved in the cycle training project is available from ICAG's Treasurer:

C: Anja Beinroth

T: 020 7249 9396

E: benroth@gmx.net

Volunteers wanted for Bike Week events

National Bike Week this year runs from 17 to 25 June and once again ICAG will be running a full programme of rides and events.

The draft timetable (some details still to be confirmed) includes:

- Saturday 17 June – Islington Dr Bike (time and venue tbc)
- Saturday 17 June – Biodiversity Bike Ride (depart from Islington Ecology Centre at 2 pm)
- Sunday 18 June – Ride to Bikefest in Trafalgar Square (depart from Islington Town Hall at 2 pm)
- Tuesday 20 June – Islington Cyclists Breakfast (junction of City Road and Goswell Road, 7.30 to 9.30 am).

More volunteers are needed to help ensure all these events are a success – if you can spare an hour or two, please contact the Bike Week events organiser:

C: Alison Dines

T: 020 7226 7012

E: alisondines@clara.co.uk

Little Green Ride Dates

Description: Easy-paced rides of around 30 miles with a pub lunch.

Dates: Sun 2 April, Sun 16 April, Sun 30 April, Sun 14 May, Sun 28 May

Start: 9.45a.m. **Finish:** 5-6 p.m.

Place: Finsbury Park overland station

Contact: Sue

Telephone: 020 7729 5409

Cycle Workshop Dates

Place: Sunnyside Ecology Gardens corner of Sunnyside Rd and Hazellville Rd, N19 (off Hornsey Rise)

Dates: Wed 26 April, Wed 24 May

Time: 7 – 9.30 p.m.

Cost: £1 (50p unwaged) per session towards costs

Contact: Adrian Williams

Telephone: 07810 211 902

ICAG monthly meeting

If you've something to say about cycling in Islington, or just want to listen, come along to the ICAG monthly meeting.

Place: Islington Town Hall

Dates: Wed 12 April, Wed 10 May

Time: 7.30-9.30 p.m.

Contact: Alison Dines

Telephone: 020 7226 7012

Agenda items for meetings should reach Alison Dines by the Saturday before the meeting.

ICAG Email Group

If you wish to discuss any of the topics covered in Islington Cyclist in more detail then why not subscribe to the ICAG email list?

If you would like to participate, send an email to:

E: icag-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Islington Cyclist by Email

If you've enjoyed reading this issue of Islington Cyclist – but don't live in the borough and so don't get a paper copy – you can now receive our newsletter electronically.

All you need to do to be added to the circulation list is send an email to:

E: islingtoncyclist-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Contribute to Islington Cyclist

Please send any articles and images to:

E: dean.leigh@btconnect.com

Many thanks to all contributors to this newsletter.
Dean Leigh (Editor)

Published by:

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