



ISLINGTON CYCLIST

The newsletter of the Islington Cyclists' Action Group



ICAG is the Islington group of the London Cycling Campaign

Issue 61

Bike Workshop Success

The basic bike maintenance courses (covering general maintenance, punctures, gears & brakes) that were run this autumn were so popular we hope to repeat them next year. If anyone knows a suitable venue please contact me.

C: Jonathan Edwards

T: 020 7704 1884.

Arsenal Cycle Parking

Volunteers are needed to talk to cyclists using bike parking facilities near the Arsenal ground on match days – and guiding them to the ones currently provided (or hidden) by Arsenal FC!

C: John Ackers

T: 020 7690 7263

E: john.ackers@mail.com

Critical Mass

On the last Friday of every month, cyclists gather at 6.30pm on the South Bank under Waterloo Bridge, by the National Film Theatre. There is a feeder ride from Islington Town Hall, leaving 6.15pm prompt.

C: Chris Ashby

T: 020 7609 5093

E: ChrisAshby@beeb.net

Considerate Cycling on the Canal Towpath

ICAG has been working on this with others – British Waterways, the local Police and Rupert Merryweather (LBI). The idea is to improve awareness of cyclists using the canal towpath so that all users can travel beside the canal with minimum hassle. At an evening awareness-session on October 24 there was a count of all users and leaflets offered to those who were interested. By the time you read this a similar morning one should have been completed.

ICAG Christmas Ride

We are meeting at the Town Hall, Upper Street at 6.30pm on Wednesday December 20 to cycle to Trafalgar Square for carols, via any Christmas lights we can find, then, we'll stop for a tippie in a local pub on the way home. Festive dress is encouraged but not compulsory! For more information

C: Alison Dines

T: 020 7226 7012

E: alisondines@clara.co.uk

Unison Member?

If you work for Islington Council and are a member of Unison, you can renew your membership for only £28.80, instead of £32.00 pa. You must contact the LCC office to obtain this discount.



December 2006/January 2007



Alison Dines leads ICAG members Andrew Cornwell, Chris Ashby and John Ackers through a celebratory tape.

Opening a new facility

For many years ICAG has been campaigning to have access by bike into Highbury Place from Highbury roundabout. The Council has at last made this manoeuvre legal and it was celebrated on 1 Nov. Also present were Councillor Lucy Watt, Rob Edwards (Transport for London), Christine Mabey, (Islington Living Streets) and Martin Jones, (Highbury Fields Association).

However we think it could be improved and suggest

- “Yellow box” markings on Holloway Road
- Green gravel to highlight the cycle lane to the crossing
- Working with Living Streets, a request to redesign of the Holloway Road pedestrian crossing

Two Wheeled Terrors, Lycra Louts, Red light Jumpers

Do names like this make you angry? Do you find yourself wondering why you, doing nothing more than riding your bicycle, are being labelled this way by the press? Cyclists seem to be fair game these days despite the fact that in an average year no-one is killed by a cyclist compared to the numbers killed by motorists. We are a part of the solution but we are seen as the problem by many who chose to ignore the real problem.

The recent TfL "Share the Road" campaign was supposed to be about targeting illegal behaviour from ALL road users. However, the press focussed on the bad behaviour of a few cyclists.

At ICAG's last meeting the issue of what we can do to counter this negative publicity was raised. We would like to uncover the real dangers on our roads. If you have witnessed any examples of dangerous driving, please email Stephen Taylor at sltaylor001@yahoo.co.uk with the details so that we can begin to build up a record of poor driving in Islington to counter the anti-cycling rhetoric we hear so often.

Perk for Council Workers

Islington Council have launched an assisted purchase scheme for bikes – employees only! The employee is able to buy a cheaper bike as the employer is able to recoup VAT, National Insurance and Income Tax. This is similar to the Home Computer Scheme that was axed by the Chancellor at the last Budget. The firm used is cyclescheme.co.uk. With (approx) 8,000 LBI employees, this could help increase the amount of cyclists in Islington.

Cycle Parking in Islington

If anybody is having problems in getting secure, indoor cycle parking on a Homes for Islington managed estate or property please could they let me know?

C: John Ackers

T: 020 7690 7263

E: john.ackers@mail.com

Sports Utility Vehicles

All was going peacefully in the monthly ICAG meeting back in September. Adrian had a range of snacks to digest. Others were nodding off quietly. That was until I happened to mention SUVs. The question was should we support calls for a steep parking permit charge on the largest SUVs. A nerve had been struck. Passions rose and full debate ensued as to whether a cycling group should comment on the appalling choice of vehicle made by an increasing number of road users.

Well since then, Richmond has announced a £300 parking permit charges for SUVs on the grounds that Richmond's CO2 emissions per capita are near the top of the table. The announcement brought joy and happiness to many environmentalists and the commentators in the right wing broadsheets were miffed.

The environmental arguments have been well aired. But what is the impact on cyclists? I like everything about SUVs apart from the fact that they are too wide for many of Islington's narrow streets; their height blocks our vision and their shape makes it very unlikely that we will bounce off the bonnet if we get hit. Should ICAG publicly express a view about this? Let John Ackers (details above) know or post something onto our yahoo list.

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Start: 10.10 a.m. **Finish:** 5-6 p.m.

Place: Finsbury Park overland station

Contact: Sue

Telephone: 020 7729 5409

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Time: 7 – 9.30 p.m.

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

Contact: Adrian Williams

Telephone: 07810 211 902

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February/March 2007

Council News

William Pountney has been appointed an Assistant Cycling Officer by the Council. He will be mainly organising and delivering Level 1 and Level 2 cycle training.

Training in schools is really taking off. Children are now taking cycle training as part of school curriculum rather than signing up for holiday courses. Islington has received some reasonable funding for cycle training for 2007/2008. For more details

C: Rupert Merryweather

T: 020 7527 2242

E: rupert.merryweather@islington.gov.uk

Watch the streets

Rupert Merryweather, the Council Cycling Officer is organising a pilot scheme for marking cycle stands in the Camberwell and Angel area. They'll carry a sign to suggest cyclists lock both wheels to the frame.

Useful tfl website?

www.streetfaults.tfl.gov.uk is "a site to report a wide variety of faults, from potholes and faulty traffic lights..." Has anyone used this? If so, have you had any success?

Streets for people, not for cars

Two recent decisions by Islington Council to pedestrianise public spaces show that the idea of more 'people-friendly streets' is spreading.

At **Farringdon station**, a scheme was approved just before Christmas to remove motor traffic from the area immediately in front of the station to give access to pedestrians and cyclists only. The scheme, costing £100,000, is the first of two stages intended to make upgrade the streetscape – new cycle parking will be included.

The north side of **Islington Green** between Upper Street and Essex Road will also be closed to through vehicle traffic. A dedicated two-way cycle lane will finally answer ICAG's long-standing criticisms about restricted cycle access here. Again, new cycle stands will also be put in.

Meanwhile in **Herbal Hill EC1**, local residents, businesses and Councillors have united to ensure the temporary road closure will be made permanent to stop rat-running traffic.

For more information about these schemes, please contact:

C: Andrew Cornwell

T: 07753 620 682

E: andrew.cornwell@virgin.net

Committee elections

ICAG's Committee elections will be held at our AGM in March (details next column). If you would like to contribute more to the work of LCC in Islington by joining the committee, please contact the Co-ordinator, Alison Dines (see panel on right), for an informal discussion.

ICAG invites all members to our Annual General Meeting to be held on Wednesday 14 March, 7.30pm, at Islington Town Hall, Upper Street, London N1.

Agenda:

1. To receive Annual Report.
2. To receive Annual Accounts.
3. Election of new Management Committee, comprising:
 - Co-ordinator (Chair)
 - Treasurer
 - Secretary
 - Four other members
4. Any other business.

Guest speaker at 8.30pm:

Boris Johnson MP will speak on local and national cycling issues.

Drinks and snacks will be served!

For more information please contact the ICAG Co-ordinator:

C: Alison Dines

T: 020 7226 7012

E: alisondines@clara.co.uk

Home needed for bike project

We're looking for premises for a bike project that will involve people repairing their own bikes and recycling old ones. Do you know anywhere? Contact Rupert Merryweather – details above on the left.

Maintenance classes

Ongoing classes all day one Saturday in February/March according to demand. More details from Jonathan on 07946 261165.

Don't forget Critical Mass!

Our feeder ride leaves Islington Town Hall, Upper Street promptly at 6.15pm on the last Friday of every month.

Coast to Coast and Mouth to Mouth Challenge?

It's a week long 350 mile fund raising bike ride to raise funds and awareness of the charity Aphasic – *unlocking speech and language*. From 16 - 23 June 2007, the route is from Yarmouth to Barmouth ending along the spectacular bike path from Dolgellau and over the bridge to Barmouth. Costs £110 and a minimum £250 sponsorship. More details from Jonathan on 07946 261165.

Bike baiting

An ICAG member visited Victoria (Canada), where police had launched a city-wide 'bait bike' programme. They had very good results. How about a similar scheme here in London (city-wide – not just in individual boroughs)? Would ICAG, LCC and others promote this concept to the GLA and the Met Police?

www.immobilise.com

You can register your bike on this website and may reduce your insurance.

Bike Polo Comes to London

This was the first ever Oxford versus London knockabout. It took place at a hard netball area in Clapham Common and I saw a three-a-side game starting up. Apparently this is the optimum number as it avoids a congested pitch. The Oxford cyclists were a friendly bunch and one fella acted as a gentle coach, eventually getting a separate game underway. Everyone appeared to enjoy themselves despite there being a couple of minor spills. Bike polo, as practiced on that day, was a fairly sedate affair with no shouting, swearing or fighting, which I found really appealing. There's more at www.pimpmyllet.com

Chris Ashby

The Christmas ride



On one of the coldest days of the winter so far, six people braved the weather and rode to Trafalgar Square to join in the carol singing there - taking in the Christmas lights of Marylebone High Street, Oxford Street and Bond Street on the way. Many thanks to Rose and Jonathan for the much appreciated mulled wine and mince pies!

Alison Dines

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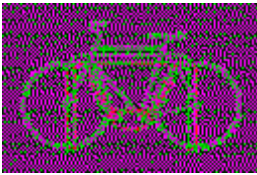
E: keith.macfarlane@islington.gov.uk

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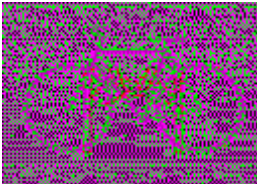
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Issue 63



Chain Stand



M Stand

2 designs causing interest

New Bike Stand designs

Outside the Jeanette Cochrane Theatre at the junction of Southampton Row and Theobalds Road, are some experimental designs for bike stands, with the idea of increasing security. They are well worth looking at. They have been developed by Bikeoff Research Initiative part of the Design against Crime Initiative. They are very interested in our comments. Go to www.bikeoff.org/comment

Cycling M Ps

M Ps can claim 20 per mile expenses when using a bicycle. Top of a recent list was Jeremy Corbyn (Lab, Islington North) who claimed £230, which equates to 1,150 miles. Also claiming £230 was Mary Creagh (Lab, Wakefield) former Opposition Leader for Islington Council. Thanks to Oliver Schick (Hackney Cyclists) for this.

Colebrooke Row

There was an exhibition of proposed improvements for the Goswell Road Island on Thursday March 8. Transport for London officials were overwhelmed by informed comments from cyclists from Hackney, City and Islington. It appeared that cyclists and pedestrians had not been asked how they'd like to see the junction changed. At time of writing, there are plans being made to ensure that cyclists' opinions are made known to the planners. ICAG members hope to offer a cyclists breakfast on the Goswell Road Island, a petition and the consultation document ready to return. Further information from or state your view as soon as possible to:

- C:** David Havell
- P:** 020 7985 7332
- E:** david.havell@cbuchanan.co.uk

Bike Stands Galore

The Council plan to install 500 Bike Stands in the next financial year. The council website has a list of proposed sites for 118. If you have ideas for siting the other 382; you can use the Council website to make your suggestions.

W: www.islington.gov.uk

Annual General Meeting



Boris Johnson and Alison Dines

Boris Johnson M P was highly entertaining when he addressed our AGM after the official business was done. He treated over 80 people to his whimsical thoughts on a cycling policy. Some memorable phrases are: ability to own a bike and retain it, establishing proper respect for our [cyclists] use of the road, the horror of 18 metre long buses, 4 wheels OK, 2 wheels better. Congratulations to everyone involved in organising this, especially Alison, Bridget and Andrew. It just leaves a slight problem for next year – how do we follow that?

Your new Committee 2007-8

Alison Dines	Coordinator
Anja Beinroth	Treasurer
John Ackers	Secretary

Stephen Taylor, Chris Ashby, Bridget Peacock, Sarah Wakefield will be ordinary members.

Ronalds Road/Horsell Road

There are plans for this junction to be opened for several hours on Arsenal match days to allow residents to drive in & out of the area. ICAG is concerned that the current alignment of the bollards might be altered & that the current satisfactory arrangement will be jeopardised for the sake of opening the junction for a few hours on match days. We await a response to our opposition to any scheme that changes the current layout of the bollards. If you would like to comment on this, please contact:

C: Alison Dines

T: 020 7226 7012

E: alisondines@clara.co.uk

Consultation, Consultation

We have recently sent a response by one of our members about the Archway Redevelopment. If you want to know what was said, please contact:

C: Anita Frizzarin

E: mail@afrizzarin.idps.co.uk

Bike baiting

The Islington Gazette had a report of the Finsbury Park Safer Neighbourhood Team using a bike bait to trap a thief outside the Sobell Centre. The report ends with a police warning that they have several other "decoy bikes" in the borough. Thanks to Adrian Williams for this.

Stop and Advise

In response to residents' complaints, the Council has launched a new initiative in partnership with the local Safer Neighbourhoods Police Teams to tackle cyclists breaking the law in Islington. A warning is given with an advisory leaflet detailing safety issues such as cycling on the pavement and riding through crossings while people are on them. Stop and Advise sessions have operated on Essex Road, at Archway and along the canal with more trouble spots planned for this year.

Birthday Celebrated

The cyclist who died in Holloway road last September was remembered by his family on his birthday in January. They attached messages on the street railings near the scene of the collision.

Did you know?

Flashing bicycle lights are permitted now. The alteration to the Regulations in 2005 will be reflected in the updated Highway Code to be published in mid 2007.

Street faults

Correction to last edition. To report faults go to

W: <http://streetfaults.tfl.gov.uk>

P: 0845 305 1234 (24hrs)

E: enquiries@streetmanagement.org.uk

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June/July 2007

Issue 64

July 7 Tour de France starts in London

Recruiting new and returning cyclists – a great day out!
Secure cycle parking!

LCC is coordinating rides from various points around London to come and watch the Tour de France Prologue. ICAG will be starting from Highbury Fields about 10.00am. The idea is that you bring new or returning cyclist with you. LCC have secured an exclusive viewing area by Achilles Way for the Prologue race through Hyde Park. To benefit from this you must register first. Further details from LCC website or

C Bridget Peacock

E bridgetpeacock@yahoo.com

Basic Bike Maintenance Classes

One day classes at Freightliners Farm, 10.00am-4.00pm June 30, July 28. £20/£12.50. Pre-booking essential. Contact Jonathan Edwards - phone 7704 1884. And not too late to sponsor him for his charity ride! (see below)

Two Tings Campaign

To help improve safety and tackle towpath conflict between cyclists and other users, British Waterways have over the last few months been working with Transport for London on a series of physical improvements on the canal. These include new signage, rumble strips, trial chicanes and towpath resurfacing. On May 4, they launched their new Code of Conduct with a 'Two Tings' awareness campaign. They are working with Groundwork and other partners on a series of towpath events, supported by posters, banners, adverts, leaflets and give-aways.

www.waterscape.com/twotings

ICAG member in London Cyclist

It was good to see one of our active members, Jonathan Edwards, featured in the last edition of London Cyclist, p19. He's celebrating Bike Week by cycling about 350 miles – Yarmouth to Barmouth - for the charity Afasic.

Bike Week 2007 June 16-24

Saturday 16, 12noon-5pm
Doctor Bike N1 Centre

Saturday 16, 2pm-5pm
Bio-Diversity Ride starting from the Ecology Centre

Sunday 17, 10am-5pm
Little Green Ride – details overleaf

Tuesday 19, 8am-10am
Cyclists' Breakfast Goswell Road Island

Thursday 21, 12.30-6.30pm
Company of Cyclists at Islington Green

Saturday 23, 11am-4pm
Tour d'Arsenal – many events at the Emirate Stadium Podium

www.bikeweek.org.uk

Collisions and Deaths

It is appalling to report that since the last newsletter, two Islington women have been killed by left turning lorries. Our heartfelt condolences go to the families concerned. Two more cyclists were seriously injured in separate collisions; we believe they both survived. If you visit the LCC website, you can download their template letter and lobby your MEP to vote for all lorries to be fitted with better mirrors.

Little Green Rides

We need to thank Sue for coordinating these rides for many years. Sadly, by the time you read this, the last fortnightly ride will have happened – May 27. There's one planned for 17 June – time and venue as usual. In future, we hope to have them once a month on the third Sunday.

C Stephen Taylor

T 07977 235 735

E sltaylor001@yahoo.co.uk



Goswell Road 16.03.2007

We realized that cyclists were not being consulted about the plans for Goswell Road Island. So, with a bike breakfast available, we distributed the consultation document. And we asked pedestrians and cyclists to sign a petition – 500 signatures in 2 hours! Andrew Cornwell presented it to the Council. Transport for London is redesigning the crossing. We are keeping a close eye on this.

Petition details

ICAG Member Adam Cox is concerned about traffic speed on Hornsey Ride. He has organised a petition (text below). Please send messages of support to Greg.Foxsmith@islington.gov.uk Why not send this message to Lucy.Watt@islington.gov.uk?

“I have concerns about traffic speed on Hornsey Rise, with clear danger to pedestrians, drivers and cyclists. I note with concern the continuing need to replace damaged accident barriers at the dangerous junction with Cromartie Road. I call upon the Council to conduct a thorough traffic risk and speed assessment with a view to implementing traffic calming measures and/or safety measures.”

Win a weekend for 2 in Paris!

Work, live or study in Islington? If you commute to work for 21 days before 15 June you can enter the Council's competition. For an entry form go to www.islington.gov.uk/Transport/Cycling/default.Asp

Now on the LCC website

You can view this newsletter in colour and much more if you go to the Islington part of the Local Groups section.

www.lcc.org.uk/index.asp?PageID=733

Gas Guzzlers referendum

Make sure you vote for the referendum the Council is organising. This is about changing the amount that cars are charged for parking in the streets of Islington. Cars with high CO2 emissions will pay more, but the scheme will be 'revenue neutral.' (Cars with low CO2 emissions will pay less.)

Reporting Faults

Want to complain about potholes (and more) in Islington? Go to

www.islington.gov.uk/Doit/Onlineforms/reportproblem.asp

or try 020 7527 2000 – Islington Council's phone number and say it's a Highways problem.

For other boroughs and Transport for London roads (A Roads), use the links from the Lcc website – click on potholes on the home page - or phone the TfL number 0845 305 1234

A national website for potholes is run by the Cycle Touring Club.
W www.fillthathole.org.uk

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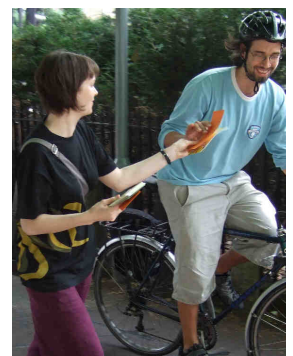
The Biodiversity Ride starts out



Dr. Bike at the N1 Centre



Information at Tour
d'Arsenal



Picking up a flier at the
cyclists' breakfast

Issue 65 August/September 07



ICAG celebrate the Tour de France being in town – Prologue

On Saturday 7 July more than 100 cyclists congregated in Highbury Fields to ride to Hyde Park to watch the first day of the Tour de France – the Prologue time trial. The group was well represented, with LCC members, novice cyclists, cyclists that hadn't ridden for a while, children on bike seats, regular commuters and couriers. Riders could then view this fantastic and historic cycling event from the LCC priority viewing area near Hyde Park Corner where we watched the publicity Caravan pass and the 189 elite cyclists race by on the 7.9k route at one minute intervals. Many watched the peleton leave London in Stage 1 of the Tour the following day. An amazing weekend for cycling in the city. [BP]

Engineers Meeting

After a gap of 18 months, Council engineers finally agreed to meet ICAG along with Living Streets. ICAG reps were presented with details of schemes that are currently being developed. It also turned out that next year's funding bid had already been submitted to TfL in June. This was in spite of TfL encouraging, if not insisting, that councils consult with the local cycling groups before submitting their annual funding bid. **This didn't happen!**

Chris Ashby, Sarah Wakefield and John Ackers who attended the meeting were in favour of carrying on meeting the engineers with Living Streets. But they felt that ICAG should seek regular separate meetings. Prior to the meeting ICAG submitted a list of issues that need to be addressed including cycle training for council staff, permeability, joined-up planning, the consultation process, echelon parking, signing and turnover of engineers/consultants. The council asked for more time to respond to our list. [JA]

www.islington.gov.uk/Transport/SustainableTransportStrategy/Funding_Bid/.

Diary Dates

Festivals in September

Sept 2 Angel Canal 11-5pm.

W www.angelcanalfestival.org

Sept 9 Gillespie Park 2-6pm.

C Ecology Centre

T 020 7354 5162

W www.islington.gov.uk

We usually run a stall at both of these fine events – volunteers always welcome!

Cycling Events

Sept 9 Tour de Britain – feeder ride from Islington Town Hall to Crystal Palace leaves at www.tourofbritain.co.uk

Sept 23 Hovis London Freewheel – feeder ride to Finsbury Park

C Alison Dines

T 020 7226 7012

E alisondines@clara.co.uk

Coming Shortly

The TfL cycle guides have been revamped – there are now 14 – used to be 19. We now have one map that covers the whole of Islington [No 14]. When available, copies of that map will be sent to all Islington Libraries. Other maps will be available from the TfL website shortly.

www.tfl.gov.uk/tfl/roadusers/cycling/cycleroutes/default.asp

Freshers Fair

City University will be having an event to familiarize newcomers to Islington. Because of interest expressed last year, they have contacted us to give some input about cycling. What form this may take is not clear at present – we may ask the Council's Green Travel Officer, the Cycle Training Officer or local cycle shops to be involved. We **will** need volunteers to help on a stall! Up to 3,500 students will pass a cycling information stall (one of 60).

Sustrans & Connect2 Project

Sustrans has submitted an Islington cycling & walking scheme (one of 79 nationally which comprise the Connect2 Project) to the Big Lottery Fund's Living Landmarks. It links Highbury Fields, the Emirates Stadium & Gillespie Park to Station Place at Finsbury Park. An awareness raising event will take part on Highbury Fields on 27th Sept & there will be a public vote later in the year to decide the winner. For more information

www.sustransconnect2.org.uk

C Geoffrey Haines

T 020 7527 2621

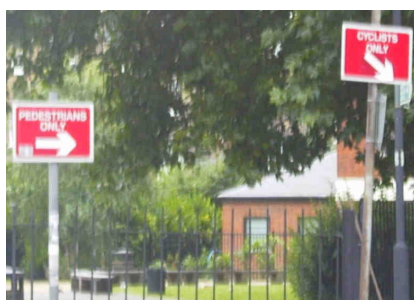
E geoffrey.haines@islington.gov.uk

Hovis London Freewheel

This new event includes a traffic-free circle (11am-4pm). It will start from 6 hubs – one of which is Finsbury Park. We may be expected to help cyclists [new and returning especially] to travel there. Cyclists will be able to go round the streets of central London traffic-free, past major landmarks with thousands of other cyclists from all over the capital. Register soon!

www.londonfreewheel.com

What's it all about?



Signs to be found near the Goswell Road Island. [RC] Send your favourite sign[s] that don't make sense to E keith.macfarlane@islington.gov.uk

Parking Charges referendum

The result was announced and this showed 56 per cent in favour and 44 per cent against on the question 'Should the cost of a resident's parking permit depend on how much the car pollutes?' Turnout across the Islington was 29 per cent, not far short of turnout in local elections, in absolute numbers 36,149 voted. There were majorities in favour in every single one of the 16 wards. [AC]

Feedback

Except for the addition of photos, the format and content of this newsletter has changed little over recent years. Any suggestions?

E keith.macfarlane@islington.gov.uk

Little Green Ride Dates

Description: Easy-paced rides of around 30 miles

When: 3rd Sunday in the month

Start: 10.10 a.m. Finish: 5-6 p.m.

Place: Finsbury Park overland station

Contact: Stephen Taylor

Telephone: 07977 235 735

Cycle Workshop Dates

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

Date: 4th Wednesday of each month (except August and December)

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

Date: 2nd Wednesday of every month

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? The list enables subscribers to receive news promptly and the opportunity to give and receive feedback.

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 or images to:

E keith.macfarlane@islington.gov.uk

Many thanks to Bridget Peacock, Alison Dines, John Ackers, Andrew Cornwell, Ross Corbyn and Tom Bogdanowicz for contributions to this newsletter.

Published by ICAG, 84c Riversdale Rd, London, N5 1JR ©Islington Cyclists' Action Group 2007

Camden & Southwark do...

Some bike stands in Camden and Southwark have the sticker shown below. They last for about a year and feedback to Camden has been positive.



Islington's more robust, longer lasting solution is still in the trial stage at time of writing.



Critical Mass

In spite of a court case, Critical Mass continues to leave Waterloo at 7.00pm on the last Friday of every month. There is a feeder ride led by Chris Ashby which departs at 6.15pm prompt from outside the Town Hall.

C Chris Ashby
T 020 7609 5093

Broken Glass on the road

Although road sweepers are warned not to, apparently they are still breaking up bottles at the kerb side. Most of the bottle may be swept up, but the remaining shards are a hazard to cyclists' tyres!
Keep your eyes peeled!



Festivals

Once again ICAG members enjoyed meeting some familiar faces and some new ones at the Canal Festival and the Gillespie Festival. Both festivals were 21 years old this year! The Gillespie Park Festival had a Dr Bike.



Car free London?

A study compiled by the School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Oxford University recommends a **complete ban of cars** in London. This is music to our ears. So we'll just be left with bendy buses and left turning lorries to contend with. And rain...

Colebrooke row latest

We understand that a crossing that separates pedestrians and cyclists at the crossing of City Road is in the design stage, for implementation by March 2008. Also the traffic lights are to be replaced as part of regular maintenance. More news when we have it.

Sponsor for colour?

We've been carrying photographs for some time, which are much better in colour. Does anyone know a potential sponsor to whom we'd give some advertising space in return for the cost of printing 700+ colour copies of the newsletter?

Website

By the time you read this we should have a site 'up and running.' We hope to display up to date news, photos, links to other useful sites, archive material (all the old newsletters, maybe?) and more. Do let us know what you expect to see on a brand new site that is just for Islington Cyclists!

C: Alison Dines
T: 020 7226 7012
E: alisondines@clara.co.uk

Freshers' week

City University students will be given information about cycling in Islington on Sept 25. Requests for info about second hand bikes, auctions and security will be frequent, we expect.

London Cycle Network Plus

The progress on the route [Link 106] that goes from the Haringey border to the Camden border is slow but thorough. It started in 2005; work should be finished by 2009.

Have we got it wrong?

I often see commuting cyclists speeding along with their smart new bikes, some clad in lycra. Then I remember seeing their counterparts in Amsterdam, all cycling slowly on those 'old fashioned' bikes in their office clothes. Have they got it right?

Anniversary

There are flowers and messages on the zebra crossing railings in Holloway Road near where cyclist Darren



Hughes died last year. Our thoughts are with his family and friends.

Cycle Maintenance

One-day cycle maintenance workshop (10am-4pm, Oct 6 FreightlinersFarm, Sheringham Road N7). Cost £20 (unwaged £12.50) For more details contact Jonathan on 07946 261165

Living Pavements?

If you despair about engineering work that is done for cyclists in Islington, have a look at the pavements. Some are appalling!



Nice poster, but

In Tufnell Park Road, there's a bus shelter displaying two Transport for London posters about cyclists aimed at motorists. Shame that the posters face the pavement, invisible to passing drivers!

How can we do better?

We are aware that our relationship with the Council is not as good as it could be. The ICAG committee is exploring meetings with various councillors and council officers. Any suggestions are welcome.

C: Alison Dines

T: 020 7226 7012

E: alisondines@clara.co.uk

Joke?

What do you call a cyclist riding on the pavement? A Pedelestrian.

Overheard at a Festival

A LCC member spoke to two lads carrying (brand new) bolt cutters near Upper Street. They told her they'd lost the keys for their bike lock. "Well, I'm just going to phone the police anyway," she said. As the lads ran away they shouted, "Don't f***ing get involved, you bitch!"

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Islington Cyclist on the net

If you've enjoyed reading this issue of Islington cyclist, but would like to see it in colour or the last few back numbers, go to www.lcc.org.uk, click on Local Groups, Islington, ICAG website, then select a newsletter. All files over 1MB!

Contribute to Islington Cyclist

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E keith.macfarlane@islington.gov.uk

Many thanks to Müge Cetinkaya and others for their contributions to this newsletter.

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Views expressed are not necessarily those of ICAG.

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