

Motor bikes in bus lanes

From 5th January Boris Johnson is proposing to allow motorbikes in bus lanes on red routes such as the Holloway Road and Upper Street.

Motor cyclists and cyclists have a lot in common when it comes to risk on the road. We are the ones that are not seen by other road users, for instance, and we are at risk from diesel spills and similar on the road. However the vastly different speeds that cyclists and motor cyclists travel is a potential for disaster in an open bus lane. Research from Westminster where motorcyclists are already allowed in some bus lanes have shown that a good fifteen per cent have travelled at speeds above 43mph - well over the speed limit.

Transport for London's own research has suggested there are no clear benefits for motorcyclists in bus lanes but there are likely to be disbenefits to cyclists and pedestrians. There are better ways to improve road safety for motor cyclists and cyclists such as more 20 mph limits and greater enforcement of the existing laws, rather than introducing a scheme that may be of dubious benefit for one group and certainly

Do you want to share bus lanes with motor cyclists?

Contact the mayor
mayor@london.gov.uk

Boris Johnson
Mayor of London
Greater London Authority
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London SE1 2AA
Telephone: 020 7983 4100
Minicom: 020 7983 4458
Fax: 020 7983 4057

be a hazard to the other group.

Johnson already recognises that perceived dangers on the road could put cyclists off - that's why he wants to ban bendybuses. However he rejects this argument when it comes to motorbikes in bus lanes, despite 3500 cyclists across London (and another 300 in Islington) signing petitions calling for him to stop this scheme.

Regrettably he does not seem to be listening to us. Indeed, the LCC is not amongst the groups he plans to consult on the pilot scheme.

If you want to express your outrage at the way the scheme is being bulldozed through without consulting the representatives of some of the most vulnerable road users (and people who will be directly affected by this scheme) then write to Boris Johnson and let him know your views. **ST**

Freewheel 2008



It was so good to see so many children at Freewheel this year. One family (with 3 children, aged 7, 5 and 2) cycled from Stoke Newington to the Emirate Stadium, went all the way round the circuit and home again.



ICAG members were there to loan a pump, and give out information, flags, and other freebies.

(Both photos taken at the start from the Emirate Stadium.)

Bike Maintenance

Sessions at Sunnyside Gardens on 2nd Saturdays of the month are now deceased. **BUT** this is **NOT** to be confused with the 4th Wednesday evenings sessions which continue as before unchanged." **JE**

Lisa Pontecorvo

A well known community activist, she was killed by a lorry on Holloway Road on 8th September.

Lisa's interests ranged widely across the arts, planning developments, the environment and the creation of high quality green spaces such as at Edwards Square, off Caledonian Road. Lisa was also rarely seen without her bike which is why Islington Cyclists Action Group organized a memorial event, attended by over sixty people, at the crash site one week after the tragic event.

I've known Lisa for many years but one of my most vivid memories was when she came on the Biodiversity Bike Ride on a boiling hot day a few years ago.

Leading the ride, I took a wrong turn which meant climbing much higher towards Highgate Village than we had intended. Lisa told me in no uncertain terms that neither she nor her bike was enjoying the steep gradients!

Happily it was then downhill to Waterlow Park and a welcome break, my mistake forgotten as we enjoyed refreshments together in the open air. Linen was definitely Lisa's choice of clothing rather than Lycra but she was a committed cyclist, building it into her everyday lifestyle. She was one of us and she will be sorely missed.

For news about the major memorial event at Edwards Square on 14th November and other information

about Lisa's life, please use this link:

<http://www.kingscrossenvironment.com/2008/09/lisa-pontecorvo.html> CA

From The Tribune

07.11.08

There were six letters and some editorial space all opposing the motorbikes in bus lanes plan. Cllr Greg Foxsmith, who leads for the Environment on the Council, was the only one who supported the scheme.

From Islington Cyclist 10 years ago...

The closure of Owen Street was the main feature of that edition. 10 years on and we're still waiting for improvement of the Goswell Triangle.

Velib comes to Islington

It seems that Islington is to be a pilot for a bike hire scheme similar to that in Paris. Details are sketchy, but we'll keep you posted.

New contact address

If you want to email Public Realm at the Council, (they deal with all the cycle engineering work) they have a specific address: Cycling&Walking@islington.gov.uk



Christmas Ride Wednesday Dec 17

Meet outside the Town Hall at 6.30pm for a tour of the lights, ending in a hostelry, but **phone Jonathan first!** Then he'll bring enough mince pies and mulled wine!

Jonathan Edwards
T 07946 261 165

Little Green Ride Dates

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Place: Finsbury Park overland station

Contact: Stephen Taylor

Telephone: 07977 235 735

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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

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710 Members, 130 on the e-group



Secure Cycle Parking

Using Islington's Climate Change money the Council is to pilot secure cycle parking on roads, something like the picture above (nothing final yet). If successful it could lead to more! The Council hopes this will support increased cycling and result in a decrease in CO2 emissions. 3 sites are to be shortlisted. Want to suggest one? Go to www.islington.gov.uk click on Transport and Streets/Green Travel/ Residential Cycle Parking C Nathan Kaczmariski
E Nathan.Kaczmariski@islington.gov.uk
T 020 7527 2443

Goswell Road Triangle

We were told that the TfL work here was to start this January. On Jan 16 there was no sign of this!

Finsbury Park

Plans for the Sustrans Connect 2 route for walkers and cyclists to Highbury Fields are being discussed. Further details in the next newsletter.

www.icag.org.uk

Road Danger Watch Campaign

Our findings have gone to the Council's Road Safety Unit who will liaise with the Safer Neighbourhoods Police Teams for the locations mentioned and arrange some sessions at them.

Those from Highbury West ward have already visited Hornsey Road regarding the issue of vehicles entering the ASL and the next venue will be on Hornsey Rise by the Hillrise ward team. If you have a borough blackspot you are concerned about C Stephen Taylor
E sltaylor001@yahoo.co.uk
T 07977 235735 or

Handing out LCC cards

On Monday 5th January, when the change came into effect, two volunteers were handing out the LCC "Support bus lane watch" cards at Madras Place and on Holloway Road. They found this to be useful as many cyclists were unaware of the new situation with PTWs (Powered Two Wheelers). They were relieved to know that they could influence the Mayor about whether it will be made permanent. Thanks to those who helped with this.

Issue 74 Feb-Mar 2009



Motor bikes in bus lanes

Back in November three volunteers turned out on two cold mornings to count the cyclists using the bus lane Holloway Road. At the junction of Hornsey Road & Holloway Road (opposite the tube station) we counted an average of just over 300 cyclists travelling south on the Holloway Road between 8.00-9.30am and 39 PTWs (Powered Two Wheelers) travelling in the bus lane. We also counted an average of 181 cyclists waiting in the ASL (advanced stop line) and 56 PTWs illegally entering the ASL after the light has changed red. Now PTWs are allowed to use the bus lanes on Red Routes we will be doing further counts at this location to see how the situation changes. If you experience any difficulties caused by PTWs in bus lanes go to www.lcc.org.uk. Click on What we do, then campaigns, then Bus Lane Watch monitors.

ICAG rapid press response group

Are you a local paper reader? Do you think about replying to a piece with anti-cycling views but don't don't get round to it? Please join our team working to make sure the cyclist's side to the story is heard.

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

Canal Towpath Ranger

Joe Young spoke at our December meeting. He tries to encourage good behaviour between cyclists and pedestrians (including joggers). Look out for some graffiti artwork featuring cyclists for the bridges and fresh life in the 2 Tings campaign.

LCN + Routes

Funding for these routes for the year 2009-2010 has been pulled and for the foreseeable future. There were great hopes initially, but there are some cyclists who will not mourn its passing - nor notice any difference!

AGM in May

Put a note in your diary or on your calendar. Our Annual General Meeting will be on Wednesday May 13, Islington Town Hall, 7.30 start. Any suggestions for a speaker will be greatly appreciated!

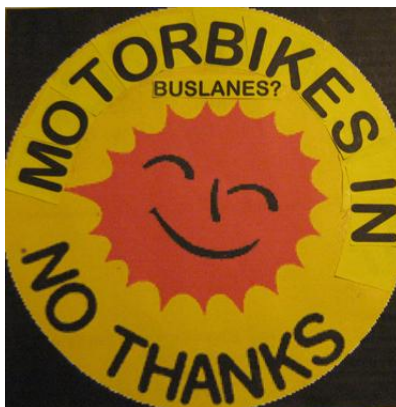
C Alison Dines
E alisondines@clara.co.uk
T 020 7226 7012



Bike trailers at Waitrose

We'd like you to know about the trial of these trailers at the Holloway Road branch. Having filled in a simple form, you can use their trailer free to take your shopping home. You must return it within 3 days. Load up! More details at

www.waitrose.com/PressOffice. Then scroll to the piece dated 6 Jan.



If you can remember the sixties...

This update of the Anti-Nuclear image was done by a member. Worth a public airing?

Thanks to Alison Dines for her great help when putting this together at the last minute!

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723 Members, 215 on the e-group
**Madras Place/Fieldway
Crescent/Holloway Road
junction**



TfL has re-examined its work here. Options are: **Either** relocating the existing pedestrian crossing on the south side of the junction **or** introducing a new pedestrian crossing on the north side of the junction. TfL will progress preliminary design from April 2009.

Ten years ago

The e-group was started in April 1999 and still going strong! We also lost the post of the Council Cycling Officer, never completely replaced. The building work in Owen Street was still causing grief. A government planning document called for a reduction in motor traffic in Islington of 35% by 2005!

www.icag.org.uk



Our Evidence

By the time you read this, ICAG will have made their submission to the Council's Scrutiny Review Committee. Key points are:

To understand barriers to cycling in Islington and identify how these can be best addressed

To review the council's cycling policies, plans for increasing cycling and reducing cycling-related road traffic casualties in Islington

To review how the council engages with cyclists and potential cyclists in developing its policies, plans and schemes

To review how the council interacts with TfL in relation to necessary cycle improvements on the TfL Road Network

To review how the council and other agencies deal with illegal and anti-social behaviour by cyclists and potential conflicts with pedestrians

Police activities to reduce cycle theft

Go to www.icag.org.uk, click on News, then on Evidence for Scrutiny Review to read the full text.

Issue 75 May June 2009

Annual General Meeting Change of date

Our AGM will now be on 10 June – 7.30pm at the Town Hall. Guest Speaker

Andrew Gilligan

Journalist of the Year 2008

Bike Week

Sat June 13 – Sun June 21

Time to spare?

A few ICAG members toil endlessly consulting the Council about their plans for improvements. We could do with some help occasionally from members who use the roads that are under consideration. It wouldn't take much of your time and no specialist knowledge is needed!

E icag-eng@yahoo.co.uk

Penton Rise/Pentonville Road junction

Design of a new junction layout to improve cyclist safety is complete. The work at the Pentonville Road/Penton Rise junction was due to start on 2 March for completion by 21 May 2009.

Cycle stands too close?

A redesign of the forecourt of the Town Hall has resulted in some welcome extra stands for cycles. According to an ICAG member they should be 1 metre apart, but they are closer than this.

Cycle Network Plus funding cut in Islington

The London Cycling Network Plus programme for Islington is being cut by more than 50%. But the Mayor envisages cycle highways along with bike hire and cycle hubs as the best way to grow and develop cycling in the Capital.

London Bike Hire

Apparently, more than half of the original fleet of bikes in the Parisian Vélib scheme have been stolen or broken. So TfL plan docking points to be more secure and consideration given to installing CCTV where there is not already adequate coverage.

Instruction Training

Thanks to funding from the Cripplegate Foundation, 6 ICAG members are doing instructor training, and may be offering to be bike buddies soon.

Bike and Hike Sale?

A speciality Sale for Walkers, Campers and Cyclists to coincide with a plant/seed sale at Sunnyside Gardens. Planning is in early stages - sometime in June, possibly Bike Week.

C Jonathan Edwards

E j.edwards530@btinternet.com

Smile Please!

We now have 2 video cameras which attach either to a bike or the side of a cyclist's head. All sorts of uses and maybe there'll be more video on the website. Funding from the Cripplegate Foundation and Grassroots Grants.

Council Spend 2009/10

The Council has agreed the following schemes.

A 'cycle access and safety' package - £750,000 – which we hope will be spent on permeability projects

Provision of new residential cycle parking on housing estates – £250,000.

Also we understand there is a plan to limit the roads in the borough to 20 mph – except those maintained by TfL.

Not too early!

There will be a one-day bike ride for Afasic (speech impaired children) on Sunday September 13. Starting just outside Bishops Stortford, there'll be 2 rides. One will be traffic free for families and the other will be a tour of Essex villages for the lean mean racing machines.

C Jonathan Edwards

E j.edwards530@btinternet.com

Motor bikes in Bus lanes

TfL are canvassing comment on this issue.

There is an address on our website to include your thoughts.



Cycle parking at the Emirate in the future?

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www.icag.org.uk

Issue 76 June July 2009



Further details on the website, go to www.icag.org.uk then events.

Saturday 13 June 12-5pm

Dr Bike at N1 Centre,
Upper St/Parkfield St N1
0PS

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

Saturday 13 June 12-4pm

Biodiversity Bike Ride,
starts at the Islington
Ecology Centre, 191
Drayton Park N5 1PH
T 020 7354 5162

E Peter.Howarth@islington.gov.uk

Tuesday 16 June 7.30-9.30am

Cyclists' Breakfast at
City/Goswell Road junction
with Colebrook Row N1

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

Wednesday 17 June 4-7pm

Dr Bike at City/Goswell
Roads junction with
Colebrook Row N1
Jonathan Edwards

T 07946 261165
E j.edwards530@btinternet.com

Thursday 18 June 5.30-7pm

Commuters Cool Down at
Highbury Corner, N1 1RE
C Alison Dines
T 020 7226 7012
E alisondines@clara.co.uk

Friday 19 June 6-8pm

Cyclists' Picnic on
Highbury Fields, N5
C Alison Dines
T 020 7226 7012
E alisondines@clara.co.uk

Saturday 20 June 12-6pm

ProActive Islington: Sports
and Cycling Festival on the
podium of Emirates
Stadium, 75 Drayton Park
N7 1BU
C Lucy Rees
T 020 7527 8329
E lucy.rees@islington.gov.uk

Sunday 21 June 9.45am

Little Green Ride - meet at
Finsbury Park Station
(overland), Station Place,
Seven Sisters Road N4
2DH

C Stephen Taylor
T 07977 235735
E sltaylor001@yahoo.co.uk

Saturday 4 July 11am - 5pm

Fourth of July picnic ride
meet at Islington Town
Hall, Upper Street N1 2UD
C Clive Attenborough on
T 020 7263 8165
M 0793 211 9980

E clive.attenborough@btinternet.com



Annual General Meeting

Andrew Gilligan

Town Hall

7.30 Wednesday June 10

Some time ago he wrote
TfL spent £11.5 million on
LCN+ in 2005/6, more than
was spent on cycle routes in
the rest of the country. But
for that money it got just 10
miles of real new cycle
route across the whole of
Greater London. (*This
pattern continued – Ed.*)

Ten years ago

We launched a Manifesto
for the Next Century, with
ten points to make cycling
safer, more convenient and
enjoyable -full text on the
website. And we launched
the ICAG elist – there were
12 members then – 217
now!

Security on the towpath

Desperate – a 50 year old
local resident paused for a
rest near Danbury Street,
was pushed into the canal
and had his bike stolen. It
was 6pm on Weds 08.04.09.
Be careful out there!



Council Consults

With a completion date of April 2010, the council is consulting the small remaining part of the North area that still has 30mph restriction and, presumably will be doing so in the other areas. Roll on April 2010! Register your interest at [W www.islington.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.islington.gov.uk/consultations) Click on Current and past consultations, then current consultations – both on the left hand side of the page. You are encouraged to write in the free text box that as many principal roads should be included as possible.

From Department of Transport...

If a cyclist or pedestrian is hit by a vehicle travelling at 20 mph there is a 95% chance that they will survive. At 30 mph this reduces to 80% and at 40 mph it is only 10%.

Engineering issues?

If you wish to contact the Council, try

E Cycling&Walking@islington.gov.uk

Cycle Hoops Advance

At a recent ICAG/council meeting, we were told that cycle loop parking was felt to be successful & money was available for estate parking. Please let us know your suggestions for possible sites.

C Alison Dines

T 020 7226 7012

E alisondines@clara.co.uk

More details about cycle hoops
W www.cyclehoop.com

Trees – what trees?

To our consternation two fine plane trees were felled at the Goswell Road Triangle to make way for the work there. There is no trace there now – not even a stump that this photo shows.



LBI/ICAG consultation

Any offers from members to get involved are most welcome. The meetings are convivial, irregular but vitally important.

Cycle Buddies?

We now have a bunch of cycle trainers. We will shortly be asking for volunteers for new trainers to practise on!

Postcode stamps work

Police located a bike stolen in Finsbury Park from a cyclist and she was able to collect it shortly afterwards. It was traced from the postcode stamped on the frame. Include your house number, and cover the postcode with clear nail varnish or something similar to prevent rust.

Mobile petition

There is a petition for those who want to see less people using mobile phones (illegally) while driving. <http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/mobilemenaceban/C4seu4Dcp9HKEqYS0EAGXrs> - sorry about the long URL!

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Issue 77 August Sept 2009



ICAG at the N1 Centre

**The new Thursday
Evening Cool down**



The Little Green Ride



Sign up for Freewheel
This years Freewheel has been rebranded Skyride and registration is through British Cycling. Keep Sunday 20 Sept free! We'll be leading a feeder ride – watch our website for details. Volunteers welcome! Register at <http://new.britishcycling.org.uk/skyride/register?event=london>



ICAG's bike breakfast

Angel Canal Festival

The canal festival will be taking place 11.00am to 5.00 pm on Saturday 6 September and we'll be running a stall – volunteers welcome!

<http://www.angelcanalfestival.org/>

Volunteers please contact
C Alison Dines
E alisondines@clara.co.uk
T 020 7226 7012

**21st Annual Gillespie
Park Community
Festival – Sunday 13
September, 1.00-5.00pm.**
This is probably the best community festival in Islington. Come along and maybe help out at our stall. Doctor bike to be confirmed.

All on the website...
What you read here is on the website and there is more! Hackney has abandoned its newsletter, relying on its website. Should we do the same?

Henshall Street

The Council has changed access to this road Street, a noted local rat run and allowed cyclists to use the road as usual at our request. Although there were complaints (from motorists) about signage, ICAG understands that the "No Entry" sign with a smaller plate saying "Except cycles" is not legal. Similar signs are in use in Europe and ICAG believe that this sign should be permitted by the Department for Transport.

Annual General Meeting

We had another successful AGM. Many thanks to our guest speaker Andrew Gilligan whose talk generated plenty of discussion.

Secure Parking Pilot

The council is consulting local residents near to the following sites, listed by ward:

Canonbury – Northchurch Rd, Halliford Rd, Finsbury Park – Windsor Rd, Highbury West – Gillespie Rd, Monsell Rd, Elwood Rd, Highbury East – Calabria Rd, Balfour Rd, Highbury Quadrant, Holloway – Biddestone Rd, Junction – Huddleston Rd, Mildmay – Beresford Rd, Balfour Rd, Mildmay Rd, St. George's – Archibald Rd, St. George's Avenue, Cardwell Terrace, St. Mary's – Fowler Road, St. Peter's – Arlington Avenue.

If you've been consulted, do make your views known!

C Nathan Kaczmariski

E Nathan.Kaczmariski@islington.gov.uk
T 020 7527 2443



As part of a programme of Bike Week activities, British Waterways commissioned this painting of a deep hole from 3D artists Joe Hill and Max Lowry to trigger discussion on good behaviour by all using the canal towpath.

Pedal Power cycling club for adults with learning disabilities

Meeting at the basket ball court in Finsbury Park every other Saturday afternoon from 2-4pm, this club is open to all - no booking needed. They have a range of specialised bikes to suit a range of disabilities.

The next dates are 8th Aug, 22nd Aug, 5th Sept, 19th Sept, 3rd Oct, 17th Oct.

If you're interested attending a session or helping out, contact C Jo Roach

T 020 8809 7718

E jo4cakes@hotmail.com

The elist gets this in colour!

Subscribers to the ICAG elist will in future be sent copies of this as a pdf – and will probably be posted before the black and white version that arrives with the London Cyclist.

Ten years ago...

The council agreed a target to double cycle use by 2002 and again by 2012. How're we doing?

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Please send any articles or images to:
E: 249keith@waitrose.com
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723 Members, 222 on the e-group

www.icag.org.uk

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Boris joins in!

Cyclists joining the Cycle Friday at Finsbury Park on 4 September may have been surprised to find the Mayor of London was joining them on the ride to St Pauls. He was interviewed at the start by a LBC reporter who was less than sympathetic to cyclists - and Boris. There's talk of challenging the reporter to join the ride next week!



Tell your friends!

Join Cycle Fridays at 7.30am for an 8.00am start every Friday till 2 Oct. The ride will conclude in St Paul's Churchyard an hour later. Cycle Friday rides are designed to encourage new cyclists to commute by bike into Central London.

Two Tings

Do you cycle along the canal towpath in Islington? Are you interested in trying to ensure that all towpath users are treated with due consideration and respect? If so, would you like to be involved with the "Two Tings" campaign that British Waterways are running? We've been part of it since it started several years ago.

C Joseph Young

E joseph_young77@yahoo.com

Cycling Superhighways

Routes have finally been announced for these. Islington's will be in the final tranche and it follows the Holloway Road from Archway to the Angel. Some queries from members were: will parking be banned on these routes, will motorbikes be allowed on them, where will the lines be positioned - pavement side/traffic side of the bus lanes and what about a 20mph limit.
C Talia Hussain
E talia@taliahussain.com

Connect2 in Islington

This local project is improving the walking and cycling route from Finsbury Park to Highbury Corner in conjunction with Sustrans. Unfortunately linking it to Parkland Walk through Finsbury Park station is proving something of a challenge! The ICAG-backed idea of a green bridge over Seven Sisters and Stroud Green Roads has been dismissed as too expensive. Can you think of a way of improving things for cyclists through Finsbury Park station?

E transportplanning@islington.gov.uk
P 020 7527 2257

See

<http://www.islington.gov.uk/Transport/GreenTravel/Connect2.asp> for details.



Canal festival

Once more ICAG members were talking the talk at this long running festival. People were interested in the information and the leaflets we were able to give out.



Getting ready to go on Freewheel 2007

London Skyride

Sunday 20 September
2 Feeder rides will be run from Highbury Fields. The first one starts at 10.00am and the second at 12.00am.

Register at

<http://new.britishcycling.org.uk/skyride/london>

Women's Road Rides

Women from the London Fixed Gear Single Speed forum are setting up a Sunday club for women's road rides. They'll be meeting on Sunday mornings at 8.30am at the Dalston Lane cafe for a 9am departure. The first ride went to Rainham Marshes. Other rides will follow but they hope to be doing a Saturday ride on 3rd October for the Hillingdon Race Day.

Still in very early stages, they'll be taking it in turns to pick routes and lead rides.

The original thread is here:

www.londonfgss.com/thread28441.html

Amwell Street Warning

This street is having extensive work done which will have started by the time you read this, with a scheduled finish time in mid October. Cyclists will be tempted to ride on the pavement - we hope ICAG members will not be among them.

Ten years ago...

"Council seeks closer relationship with ICAG" was the headline in Issue 18 Oct Nov 1999. We were invited to a workshop on the Cycling Section of the Interim Transport Plan for 2001/2002. History does not relate if this was repeated – although we do meet on a semi-regular basis with Council Officers about engineering issues.

Hornsey Rise

We revisited Hornsey Rise in August following works by the council to make this stretch of road safer for cyclists. We have long been concerned about northbound motor traffic in particular overtaking cyclists at speed and far too closely. The council have narrowed the road at some points, added cycle logos on the road and installed a 30mph Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) that flashes if a vehicle exceeds the speed limit.

We noted that the sign flashed for approximately 20% of the motor vehicles indicating that a significant number still exceed the speed limit, putting cyclists at risk.

One particular hotspot was outside the Health Centre where cyclists frequently had to pull out to pass parked cars.

We also observed over the top of the hill, on the Haringey side, where the road has a 20mph limit. We think Islington should follow Haringey's example. At the moment the 20mph VAS installed by Haringey Council was flashing nearly all the time. It would make greater sense for all road users if the entire length of Hornsey Road was made 20mph.

Bike Buddying

Are you (or someone you know) nervous about cycling to work? ICAG have teamed up with Islington Council to offer a bike buddying. We have trained volunteer cycle instructors who would be willing to cycle with you on your route to work, helping you gain confidence to negotiate the traffic, and offering help on route options.

If you would like to know more
C Will Pountney

E william.pountney@islington.gov.uk

Encouraging more cyclists - ICAG's video evidence

Islington Council's Sustainability Scrutiny Review Committee has been looking at how more people could be encouraged to cycle on the roads of the borough. As part of our submission we presented a short video of what it is like to ride a bike in Islington.

The video highlighted many of the issues we have raised before: speeding traffic on Hornsey Rise; potential conflict on the Horsell Road/Fieldway Crescent junction; and the Holloway Road crossing at Fieldway Crescent and Madras Place. We also looked at permeability issues in the borough - one way roads or road closures which force cyclists onto circuitous routes.

Some of these issues have begun to be addressed by the council. However engineering solutions can only work so far and we are calling on the council to take more action on education and enforcement.

You can view the video here
W icag.org.uk



Critical Mass

As we are anticipating the third London Freewheel, now London Skyride, it seems a good time to comment on a ride that predates Freewheel. Now in its 15th year, this ride has been leaving the South Bank every last Friday of the month. Chris Ashby has been leading a feeder ride from Islington Town Hall since January 2005. Initially the ride was a political statement embodied in its name "Cyclists Have a Right to Move" (CHARM). Over the years parts of London have been brought to a standstill by the sheer number of participants. Every rider has their own reasons for attending but Critical Mass is essentially an ongoing celebration of cycling.

So soon?

This edition of Islington Cyclist is earlier than usual as London Cyclist has been published to coincide with London Freewheel/Skyride.

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