

The Wave Sat Dec 5

Assemble: 12pm, Grosvenor Square

Climax: 3pm Encircling of Parliament

Dress code: Blue!

We hope to have a feeder ride, but are waiting for bike parking arrangements to be clarified. 1,000s of people from all walks of life will flow through the streets of London to demonstrate their support for a safe climate future for all.

www.stopclimatechaos.org/the-wave

London Skyride 2009



A streetful of cyclists! We led 2 rides to the event. Both rides had in excess of 100 cyclists with many families taking all the kids for a great day out!



A few minutes of your time – now and then...

Do you want to improve cycling provision locally? We're looking for (at least) 16 ICAG members to join the ICAG veloteers. That's one for each ward in Islington.

We will provide full training – just half a day, lunch provided.



Ideas we've had so far include reporting potholes to the council, suggesting a new site for cycle stands, finding out about any schemes that are being consulted on, ensuring that local organizations are taking cycling seriously – maybe shopkeepers asking for cycle stands outside their shops - maybe making sure local offices are making it easy for their staff to travel to work by cycling – *flying the flag for cycling in your neighbourhood.*

Next May sees local elections so you could go to your Councillor's surgery to make sure cycling is on her/his agenda and her/his party's manifesto – finding out whether the other candidates standing for election and their parties are supporting cycling initiatives.

But maybe you'll have a bunch of other ideas, maybe just for your area – they're welcome too!

Most of all we want it to be fun, sociable, not taking up too much time, but especially, rewarding.

Join us in this unique scheme!

Can you spare a few minutes?

C Stephen Taylor
E sltaylor001@yahoo.co.uk
T 07977 235 735





Islay Walk

Homes for Islington (HFI), installed 14 bumps in the road, technically their property, with the aim of slowing down cyclists after residents complained about them speeding down the pedestrian-only backstreet. We understand the Council is working on ways to make this disaster more cycle friendly.

Grinding threat

There is recent evidence of someone stealing bikes by using a cordless angle grinder in the area of Drayton Park to Highbury Corner. These machines will cut through any sort of lock fairly quickly but with a lot of noise and sparks. Keep your eyes and ears open and try to gather evidence for the police to use as soon as possible. The retail cost of these machines is over £300 so it isn't teenage amateurs this time. AW

Too many photos?

You might find there's not enough text for you liking this time – yours truly has only one working hand due to falling off my bike – entirely my fault.

Not too early?



Here's hoping you have a wonderful time over the Christmas/New Year break.



Car-free day

Some of the volunteers who helped out on the stall.



Turf, deck chairs and more spanned the road between Sainsbury's and the Angel Shopping Centre.



A drumming cyclist at the event
Photos from Julia Williams.

Ten years ago

We reported that for the signs on a cycle route west of Holloway Road 'there is little indication...that this route is part of the LCN.' Still true!

Ten years ago (2)

We reported that the first meeting of ICAG took place in the old Registry Office, now a private residence, at the Corner of Liverpool road and Barnsbury St, on Wednesday 30 June 1976. Some might like to know!

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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
C Adrian Williams
T 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.
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Date: 2nd Wednesday of every month
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E alisondines@clara.co.uk
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Madras Place

Campaigning about the Madras Place crossing of Holloway Road continues. In the first major action between Living Streets and ICAG we have had a meeting with TfL and council officers. We have returned our comments on 4 proposals and look forward to some safety improvements. Work may not begin till 2011, sadly.

Bike parking on estates

Funding has been obtained to install secure cycle parking on the following estates:

Finsbury Estate; Skinner Street, Quaker Court, Banner Street; Redbrick Estate, Bath Street; Pilgrims Way, off Hazelville Road; Brecknock Estate, Brecknock Road; Montague Court, St. Clements Street; Fairdene Court, Camden Road; Jersey/Guernsey House, Clifton Road; Branston House, Hornsey Road. For more info go to our website – News – Council Estate Parking.

**Date for your diary
Annual General
Meeting
7.30pm May 12
Islington Town Hall
Speaker to be
announced**



Work still in progress!

At the Goswell Triangle, roadways have been raised on both sides, but the planned separation pedestrians and cycles can not be seen. The advanced stop line in Colebrooke Row has gone with no provision for cyclists entering 'the triangle.' More photos on the website.



Nice sign at the Angel

The wording warns cyclists about good locking practice. Could we do with more in other parts of the borough?
C Keith Macfarlane
E 284@waitrose.com

Veloteers

There are a limited number of places for the get together on March 13. Come along for a free lunch, a ride to look at some of our successes (and some of our concerns), help to improve your campaigning skills and achieve local cycling improvements, all in a convivial setting. We hope that this will light your fuse to put right those things that niggle you – that 'they ought to do something about.'

12noon prompt start at the Town Hall finishing at The Olden Garden – just off Drayton Park.

Do get in touch
C Stephen Taylor
E sltaylor001@yahoo.co.uk
T 07977 235 735

You have been warned

One of our members was politely reprimanded in Waitrose for having his folding bike in his trolley recently. The staff are happy to accept folding bikes behind the customer service desk. For 5 years he has put his bike and his shopping in a trolley and it is the first time he has been 'told off!' Fellow folding bike owners be aware!

Thief goes undercover

From the e-group: One of our members saw a 'sparkling' bike one evening in Drayton Park. The sparks came from a portable grinder being used on a bike lock. Not long after, the same member was surprised to see someone lying down covered in a blanket next to a bike. The blanket was hiding the sparks while grinding at the lock. Nearby police were informed and, as this was happening while Arsenal were playing, the police have been alerted to look out during future games.

Security in the borough

According to the Islington Gazette, the Police have arrested 6 people for cycle theft and more operations using decoy bikes are planned. It's worth visiting the site below - there are tips on security and a 10% off voucher to be used when buying security and safety equipment.
www.islington.gov.uk/saferbikes



More footy cycle stands?

There are plans for more cycle parking at the Emirate stadium. We will be formally consulted when things are clearer. Meantime if you have any suggestions, please email C Keith Macfarlane
E 249keith@waitrose.com

Secure Facts

In 2008/09 there were 1,348 cycle thefts in Islington. Between April and December 2009 Islington Council installed 211 new cycle stands.

New contact!

There's someone new to contact if you want to suggest a site for new bike stands on borough roads.
C Volkan Ulucay
Evolkan.ulucay@islington.gov.uk



Contraflow comes to Islington!

This is a scheme already in place at Roman Way, Caledonian Road end – but does the blue bike sign need to be that high? It's had good feedback from cyclists using it. We have been consulted and responded to the permeability schemes listed below, which are due for completion by April 2010:
Ferntower Road (Newington Green), Lennox Road, Freegrove Road, York Way access improvements, College Cross/ Liverpool Road, Rotherfield Street/Essex Road, Annette Road/Jackson Road, Annette - Tollington/ Arthur, Cloudseley Place/Liverpool Road, Tolpuddle/Cloudseley, Richmond Avenue/ Caledonian Road, Lever Street (Ironmonger Row - Bath St), Williamson St and Penn Road.

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Huge success of veloteer launch



A few words before we go...

Over 20 ICAG members met outside the Town Hall for the Veloteer Launch. We started with a ride pointing out some cycling features on our streets. First was Barnsbury Road, where cobbles had been removed on humps to make cycling easier, but we had to avoid the chances of being 'doored.' Then we looked at the improvement at Penton Rise. The Goswell Triangle was next, where the work in progress was inspected. So to Horsell Road and Madras Place, where the ongoing campaign was explained. The last stop was the Olden Garden Room where the 'training' took place. Stephen Taylor led the ride and then guided us through the afternoon. Guest Speakers were Tom Bogdanowicz (LCC), Eric Manners (LBI) and Councillor Greg Foxsmith.



Penn Road

Having had a pleasant lunch, veloteers were asked to list their local issues and 'Adopt a Pothole.' They were encouraged to lobby their potential councillors in the forthcoming local election. A separate Yahoo email group has been set up for members to be in contact, share problems and celebrate successes. Many thanks to all involved to make this such a positive experience.

Surrealism in Upper St

One of our members stopped to buy some milk in Upper Street, locking her bike before going into the shop. On her way back to her bike she found a man tussling with the lock. She demanded, "Oi! What are you doing to my bike?" "Trying to steal it" he replied. He got onto his bike and went. Totally shameless!



At the Goswell Road Triangle

Annual General Meeting
Don't miss our AGM

Wednesday
12 May 7.30pm
Islington Town Hall

Guest Speaker to be announced

Refreshments

'Must have' book



Tom Bogdanowicz's book 'The London cycling Guide' is now on sale. There's a special offer in London Cyclist. You won't be sorry you bought one!

Council schemes for 2010/11

A number of junction improvements are to be funded including Goswell Road/Old Street (£300,000), Hornsey Road/Bavaria Road (£250,000) and at Tufnell Park tube (£256,000). Cycle training gets £100,000 and school travel measures £90,000 - both paid for by Transport for London.

Preparations for the Mayor's cycle hire scheme, including new CCTV, lighting and new 'cycling permeability' measures close to the planned docking stations, will cost £431,000. This funding also comes from TfL.

The Council plans to invest £200,000 on small-scale cycling improvements measures, and its fund for cycle parking on HFI housing estates has been topped up by another £25,000.

Several schemes already underway will not be completed in this financial year. The funding has been moved into 2010-2011. This includes £250,000 of the £750,000 'cycle access package' aimed at tackling one-way streets, banned turns and other barriers to cycling. (Permeability schemes)

Highway maintenance on Islington borough roads drops to £1 million (from £5 million). But £1 million will be added to deal with potholes caused by the bad winter weather.
A.C.

All ability cycling in Finsbury Park

Pedal Power meets on Saturdays 2pm- 4pm
6 March, 20 March, 3 April, 17 April, 1 May. More info on our website - go to News, then Pedal Power.



Bike Week 2010

Dates this year are June 19 to June 27. We're planning an action packed week with old favourites – the Tuesday Bike Breakfast for example. Watch out for new events!

Ten years ago...

We reported the opening of London's first Red route – the A1 along Holloway Road and Upper Street. TfL's primary objective was to improve the route for buses. This is why there was nothing much for cyclists except sharing the bus lanes. Also we told of a death of a cyclist from a left turning lorry – sadly still too frequent.



Part of this Festival is the London World Naked Bike Ride

Saturday 12 June 2010
3pm assembly, for 3.30pm departure. Meet in the south-east corner of Hyde Park, in a meadow north of the Achilles statue (this is near to Wellington Arch and Hyde Park Corner.)
Not an LCC ride!

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Bike week News

ProActive Islington

Saturday 19 June 12-6pm
Sports and Cycling Festival
on the podium of Emirates
Stadium N7

A festival of sports
including bicycle try-outs &
cycling stunt shows. Free
bike check & information
on cycling locally.

For more information

C Alex Hilton

T 020 7527 2262

E alex.hilton@islington.gov.uk

Little Green Ride

Sunday 20 June 9.45am

Meet at Finsbury Park
Station (overland)

Put your bike on the train
& head into Hertfordshire
countryside for an easy-
paced ride of around 30
miles with a stop for a pub
lunch.

For more details

C Stephen Taylor

T 07977 235735

sltaylor001@yahoo.co.uk

Cyclists' Breakfast & Dr Bike

Tuesday 22 June 7.30-

9.30am, City Road N1

Join us for a free breakfast
and bike check at the
junction with Colebrook
Row N1

For more information

C Alison Dines

T 020 7226 7012

E alisondines@clara.co.uk

Bike Week News



Commuters Cool Down

Thursday 24 June 5.30-
7.30pm

Junction of Southgate/
Northchurch Roads N1
Stop for fruit cocktails &
snack after work, get some
local cycling information.

For more information

C Alison Dines

T 020 7226 7012

E alisondines@clara.co.uk

Ride to Critical Mass

Friday 25 June 6.15pm

Depart prompt Town Hall,
Upper St.

Ride your bike to the South
Bank with local cyclists to
join Critical Mass, a
celebration of cycling
through central London.

For more information

C Chris Ashby

T 020 7609 5093

www.criticalmasslondon.org.uk

Dr Bike

Saturday 26 June 12-5pm

N1 Centre, Upper Street

Come for a free bike check
& information on cycling
locally, including free cycle
maps.

For more information

C Alison Dines

T 020 7226 7012

E alisondines@clara.co.uk

Annual General Meeting



Seen above, Christian
Wolmar spoke passionately
about many facets of
cycling in his life. He also
suggested that we should
recommend that "cycling is
fun." He sold many signed
copies of his recent books.



There was plenty to eat and
drink – Bridget brought
bagels and made a cake!



From ten years ago

The second Cycling Forum was reported in *Islington Cyclist* No 22. These were to take place twice a year, “bringing together different agencies and activists involved in improving conditions for cyclists...

There were 4 local politicians present...” There were also references to cycle counts – no longer in our current vocabulary, except when Colebrooke Row is mentioned. Apparently, Transport for London started in 2000.



Thanks, Andrew!

Andrew Cornwell stood down from being a Councillor at this election. We feel that Islington cyclists have benefitted many times from having a well placed pro-cycling Councillor. Not wishing to be party political, we would like to thank him and wish him well in his return to Financial Journalism.

Knowledge

We've heard that an Islington based woman taxi driver is probably the first woman to have completed the 'knowledge' on a bicycle.

[Note: During the World War Two, 'Doing the Knowledge' was often done by bike. These days a moped is the vehicle of choice.]

ICAG Officers for 2010

Alison Dines Coordinator
John Ackers Secretary
Clive Attenborough Treasurer
Anja Beinroth, out-going Treasurer was thanked for her hard work and dedication.



Thanks, Anja



Thanks, Chris

Chris Ashby has been leading the feeder ride to Critical Mass for more years than he cares to remember. We offer our grateful thanks to him. His swan song will be the feeder to Critical Mass in Bike Week. Why not support him and turn up on your bike?

Adopted Potholes

Veloteers have been reporting potholes, which have been filled within 7 days.

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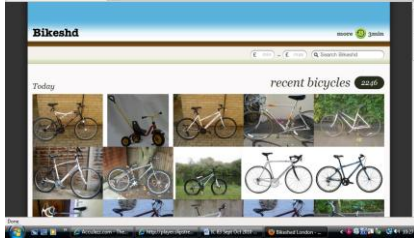
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Find your stolen bike on-line!



A web developer, who had his bike stolen, after hours scouring EBay and Gumtree, decided there was a better way to look. He has designed a site that daily amalgamates the bikes for sale in London on those sites. If you have your bike stolen, go to his site where you'll be able to easily search for your bike and see if anyone's selling it, and you'll be able to call the police or confront the person etc.

W www.bikeshd.co.uk

More and more!

LCC Campaigns Manager Tom Bogdanowicz, running a count at the Goswell Road Triangle found that the figures had increased again. This year he measured a peak flow of 1261 per hour. When will it reach meltdown?

Feedback to the council

Islington council are keen to hear of any area in the borough which you think can be improved for cyclists.

C Joost Bergers

T 020 7527 2041

E joost.bergers@islington.gov.uk

Look out for the interactive map on our website to see what the current suggestions are and add your own.

Bike week News



Our wonderful Bike Doctors – Adrian (top) and Jonathan

Win some Lose Some

Cyclists on the Essex Road in Islington will be pleased to see half a dozen new bike stands next to popular restaurants and shops. But just a hundred yards away in front of the Screen on the Green cinema, the railings are gone losing a half a dozen parking opportunities. TfL is removing approximately 30% of the guard railings on red routes to reduce street clutter and improve the urban realm. LCC has written to TfL asking that any guard railings which are removed, and which serve as bike parking, should be replaced by bike stands. TfL say they are surveying locations where guard railing is removed to assess the need for cycle parking but, in Islington at least, they are not delivering on the stands to replace the railings.

If you find your favourite guard railing or parking spot gone, write –
C The Mayor
E mayor@london.gov.uk.

Bike week News



The little green ride Photo JW



Breakfast at Goswell Road



Cyclists queue to cross



Questions were answered...



Queuing for a bike check

Two New Bike shops



Look Mum No Hands (above) and Jazz cycles have opened, increasing the choice of cycle stores in the borough.

Jazz Cycles

7 George's Road London N78HD
T 07961 660 077
W www.jazzcycles.com

Look Mum No Hands

49 Old Street London EC1V 9HX
T 020 7253 1025
W www.lookmumnohands.com

Something for children

The Trax Youth Club Summer programme consists of 8 free off road cycling in Lordship Rec running every Saturday morning from the 3rd July to the 21st August. Each session starts at 10am and finishes at 12.

C Daniel Mintz

T 7990577206

E daniel.mintz@ibikeride.com



Council training for children

See ICAG.org.uk/events for details or pick up a copy of Heatwaves from your local library.

C William Pountney

T 020 7527 4082

E william.pountney@islington.gov.uk

Ten Years ago

We wrote to Meg Hillier, Greater London Assembly member, asking her to push for a 20mph speed limit in Islington and the rest of London. We've had *some* success...



Photo Julia Williams

Thank you Talia

Talia Hussein has moved to Leeds and will be sorely missed. She has designed our ICAG publicity for several years and represented us on several schemes, most recently the Cycle Superhighway.

Interested in Super Highways?

If you have comments on them and would like to help with the consultation in Islington
C Alison Dines
T 020 7226 7012
E alisondines@clara.co.uk



Before in Islay Walk



After

All the bolted down humps were removed from Douglas Road South/Islay Walk recently. At the same time three sets of offset barrier railings have been fitted between St Pauls Rd and Douglas Rd South which will slow down cyclists at those places. There is one offset barrier at the north end, where the humps were, but that still leaves cyclists able to do up to 20mph again past the gates of the properties in Islay Walk. What the residents think of that remains to be seen. A W

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A mass of cyclists set off on the 10.00am feeder ride to London Skyride on September 5. We were able to run 2 rides there and back thanks to back up from Gerhard Weiss at LCC. (He was able to produce a ride leader and extra marshals.) Now firmly established on the cycling calendar, we can only hope for a longer circuit next year – in some places cyclists had to get off and walk...

Thanks to all involved.

See the video footage on our website.

W www.icag.org.uk/News/skyride

Local Implementation Plan

Plans for 2011-12 have been written and are waiting to be approved by the Council's Executive Board. Particular schemes have not been identified, but there are headings which we have been told. The council officer involved has asked to come to the October ICAG meeting to present the Plan to us.

Website

Have another look at our website. Thanks to Jacques-Olivier, the site now has maps, videos and has lost the adverts. There's more! He has other plans for the website so watch this space!

W www.icag.org.uk

Veloteers regroup

Veloteers are asked to come along to the November ICAG meeting to discuss where we go from here. We need to keep the momentum going! Refreshments available.

7.30pm Town Hall Nov 10



20mph on Cycling Super Highway in Islington?

We have been consulted about the route and the improvements that are planned for Islington. There's a welcome suggestion for a 20mph speed limit on Holloway Road, otherwise nothing revolutionary! Other points are: using the island in the middle of Archway gyratory for northbound cyclists, 12 metre Toucan crossings at Whittington Park and Madras Place, an alternative route down Liverpool Road if the Highbury Corner Improvement doesn't go ahead.

Make your mark



Go to

www.icag.org.uk/LocalRecourses/IslingtonCyclingMap and zoom in. Add to the list of cycling hazards that John Ackers has compiled – follow the instructions. And well done John!

Islay Walk, first this



Then this



Now this! Several of these signs have gone up...



ICAG have been opposed to this from the start. We have been in correspondence with Homes for Islington – pointing out the local policies that are in place to encourage cycling. We've been advised to approach the Head of Environment and Regeneration and ask him to take this up with the Head of Housing. See the website for more details.

W www.icag.org.uk/Campaigns/IslayWalk



Cycle Hire Stage 2

Although the "Boris Bikes" are not fully operational, there is a stage 2 planned. Islington cycling officers are meeting TfL to find out the news, which they'll pass on to us.

Note: apparently the docking stations have been so well mounted – secured to a bed of concrete, that excavations by utilities are bound to cause big problems.

A bike shop – new to us...

Bobbin Bikes trades at 397, St. John's Street. For more details go to

W [www.icag.org.uk/LocalResources/Bike shops](http://www.icag.org.uk/LocalResources/Bike%20shops)

10 years ago

Doug Angus, having produced 24 newsletters was asking for a new editor. Happily he went on to put together another 7 before Dean Leigh took over. See the website for a terrifying account of being run over by a left turning truck.

W [www.icag.org.uk/news/From Islington Cyclist 10 years ago](http://www.icag.org.uk/news/FromIslingtonCyclist10yearsago)

TfL goes to the cinema

Some movie goers will have seen the TfL sponsored cycling promotion. No way to monitor how many will 'catch up with the bike' as a result. Some of the shots were filmed in Islington, with others in Camden. We wonder how much it cost...

W www.youtube.com then search 'introducing London with mark ronson'

Thanks to Chris Kenyon for the link



One of our members has installed 2 Plantlocks outside his house. Neighbours to use them too – adding colour, plant life and more cyclists to the streets!



This shows a great use for Plantlocks. As the road is otherwise unusable, this enables bikes to be locked up - off pavement. This could be done on many short pieces of yellow line and maximize bike parking space! Photos CK

Barclay Cycle Hire Bikes

I decided to sign up to the scheme. The fob arrived the next day by post and after a 3 minute registration process I was off. The bikes are a surprisingly good ride and lighter than their bulk suggests. The three gears are adequate if a little slow. There are many nice touches: numbered saddle heights so you can remember your setting and adjust the saddle quickly, impressively bright and always-on LED lights and the open pannier.

If you need a bike for when you are separated from your own, or a spare bike for guests, these are not Boris's or Barclays's bikes - they are yours. Enjoy! CK

The Little Green Ride

Description: Easy-paced rides of around 30 miles
Date: 3rd Sunday in the month
Start: 10.10 a.m. Finish: 5-6 p.m.
Place: Finsbury Park overland station
C Stephen Taylor
T 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
C Adrian Williams
T 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 pm
C Alison Dines
T 020 7226 7012
E alisondines@clara.co.uk
Agenda items for meetings should reach Alison Dines by the Saturday before the meeting.

Reporting Potholes

This works! In Islington, phone 020 7527 2000 or go to www.islington.gov.uk and click on report a street problem. Rest of London, phone 0845 305 1234 or go to www.tfl.gov.uk, click on road users, then on report a street fault.

Two ICAG Email Groups

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

We have another yahoo group concerned mainly with the engineering projects that we are being consulted about. If you want to join this one send an email to:

E: icag-eng-subscribe@yahoogroups.co.uk

Contribute to Islington Cyclist

Please send any articles or images to:

E: 249keith@waitrose.com

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of ICAG.

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