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ISLINGTON CYCLIST

The newsletter of the Islington Cyclists' Action Group



Issue 97 Dec/Jan 2013

 facebook

LCC AGM

The LCC's Annual General Meeting was a great social occasion and opportunity to learn more about the LCC's activities over the past year. Alongside the important campaigning wins, highlights included over 370 bike rides organised by 350 local group members as well as innovative bicycle recycling projects with community-based organisations.

The Guardian columnist Zoe Williams was guest speaker at this year's Annual General Meeting of the LCC. She entertained the audience with her trials and tribulations road testing the loudest bicycle horn on the market but also made serious points about the challenges of cycling on London's roads.

Islington cyclists were well represented at the LCC Board elections with 5 candidates out of the nineteen from Islington.

The most contested Board elections in LCC history resulted in the election of Mel Grech and Suzy Fogg (both from Islington), Rachel Aldred, David Love and Claire Wren. They join existing members Ann Kenrick, Rik Andrew, Mustafa Arif, Alastair Hanton and Tony Levene - a well-balanced Board that will be supporting the LCC to prepare the ground to make cycling a key voting issue in the 2013-2014 Borough elections.
Suzy Fogg

New Year, New Ideas!

ICAG invites you to supper at Olden Gardens, Drayton Park N5 on Thurs 24th Jan at 7-9pm. Meet fellow cyclists and discuss how we can improve cycling in Islington. Childminding costs can be covered. RVSP (for catering numbers) to C Stephen Taylor
E sltaylor001@yahoo.co.uk
T 07977 235 735

3 Boroughs - 20 mph news

At an Executive meeting (18.10.12), Islington council decided to implement a 20 mph limit on all borough roads. They decided to do this in spite of opposition from the Police and TfL. Camden's Cabinet will discuss a similar scheme on 5 December 2012 and decide if the proposal is go to public consultation. Hackney Council passed a motion calling for 20 mph on all Hackney streets at their meeting on 21.11.12. Great news for cyclists!

Archway Gyrotory

The Council are consulting us about a scheme to make Archway two-way. Don't hold your breath!

Quick wins

After James Murray (the Council's Executive Member for Transport) came to the October ICAG meeting, we agreed to draw up a list of quick wins and longer term goals. We decided to send them all to him and the list is on the website and our Facebook page.
www.icag.org.uk

Tufnell Park Cycles to School



This is a campaign started by ICAG veloteers to promote cycling and walking as part of children's daily routine. We propose a circular network of safe routes to school connecting six local schools and six play spaces. The 2 mile route would be subject to focussed improvements to prioritise the cyclist and the pedestrian, with special attention given to junctions, crossings and the environment outside of schools.

The campaign was launched on Saturday 10th November at the Tufnell Park Farmer's Market. We hosted a market stall while more mechanically minded ICAG volunteers provided a 'Dr Bike' service of free bike checks and repairs. The Camden Cycling Campaign was also represented. The day ended with a well attended family bike ride around the route that was completed by a range of cyclists of all ages.
David Lincoln

Twitter @tpc2s or
www.facebook.com/TufnellParkCyclesToSchool

Zen and the art of bicycle maintenance



On 25th Sept ICAG joined Highbury Roundhouse volunteers on Highbury Fields for a fund raising event for their new building. Lots of bikes were revitalised and then security marked by the police. It's a great local resource; please see their website about how to support them.

Alison Dines
www.highbury-roundhouse.org.uk

Old Street roundabout

As the gateway to our local 'silicone valley' it is important that any development of this area improves it for cyclists and pedestrians. Please get in touch if you'd like to help ICAG ensure this.

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

Safer Lorries, Safer Cycling

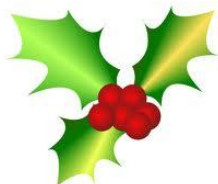
If you're on the LCC email list, it's hoped you'll have had an email asking you to contact your local councillors and Council Leader to progress the campaign.

www.lcc.org.uk/pages/safer-lorries-safer-cycling

Cycle Hoops

Thanks to those involved in making so many of these appear in Tufnell Park Road.

We hope you enjoy the Christmas break and wish you safe cycling in the New Year.



Bunhill Row 2-way success!



It is now legal to cycle both ways along Bunhill Row and along a resurfaced road. Thanks to all involved in achieving this. For regular users of Bunhill Row, this is old news; it just missed the last Newsletter.

Kings Cross Gyrotory Study

Transport for London (TfL) is undertaking a feasibility study of the main road network in the Kings Cross area, aiming to improve safety on the roads, in the area to benefit all users. ICAG (along with Camden Cyclists & Living Streets) were invited to a focus group session. We're pleased they are still seeking to improve this area, although this is by no means the first study.



The little green ride enjoyed beautiful autumn colours on their journey from Knebworth to Stevenage in November. Third Sunday in the month!
www.littlegreenride.blogspot.com

10 years ago

There's mention of the Congestion Charge starting on 17 Feb 2003 - the Congestion Charge is almost 10 years old!

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W www.littlegreenride.blogspot.com

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Issue 98 Feb Mar 2013



Another step towards 20 mph on Holloway Road?



The London Assembly passed a motion on 16/01/13 to get TfL to support 20mph on the Transport for London Road Network. The Assembly called on TfL to publish the rationale for retaining the 30mph limit where they have declined a request from a local council to reduce it to 20mph, including modelling data and supporting detail. This may help to make all roads in Islington 20mph.
<http://bit.ly/V8iVt9>

New Cycling Initiative

The cycling officer for the Council is starting an Islington Cycling Club. This will have ride events for adults and also British Cycling Go-Ride coaching and Go-Ride Racing for juniors. They will also be setting up a schools grass track racing league. If you want to be involved, contact:
E david.shannon@islington.gov.uk

Date for your diary

Our AGM will be held on May 8 2013 at the Town Hall. As ever there will be an interesting guest speaker and tasty refreshments.

Archway Gyrotory now



and maybe 2-way by 2014...



(Photos from Islington Gazette - lower one showing the northern arm changed to bus, walker and cyclist access only)

Islington planners invited us to a meeting to show us their plans in December. We were pleased to see ASLs at every junction, but we've asked for segregated cycle lanes and 20mph throughout the new scheme and more. It's unlikely there will be any implementation before 2014. Watch this space!

Meeting at Olden Gardens



14 ICAG members, a mixture of new faces and old hands, met on Thursday 24th January with the grand vision of making Islington a cycling paradise - and then talked about how to achieve that! The focus was on the local ward level and who to contact about getting something done, with areas of interest being a cycle route linking schools in Tufnell Park, Highbury Corner and Islay Walk amongst many others. The delicious supper spurred on discussion and everyone left with a modest action to start the process going. "It was a well structured, focused evening," said one attendee. As only seven of the 16 Islington wards were represented we plan to hold similar meetings later in the year to 'roll out' this way of supporting our members. Many thanks to all who attended and helped in the organization of a successful evening. **AD**

No more newsletters?

We need someone new to take over the newsletter. Any volunteers? If not, we need to assess our alternatives. Do our website, Facebook and Twitter accounts provide enough information? Please contact:
Keith Macfarlane
E 249keith@waitrose.com

To find the Ward Improvement Plan for your ward and see if it mentions cycling, go to:
<http://bit.ly/RCahN8>

Ironmonger Row Baths



Newly refurbished, there are no longer cycle racks at the side of this building; previously there were at least 7. Although promised 'in a week or so' on 8/01/13 temporary cycle stands have not appeared. Maybe it's the weather... We could do with one of these.



Air Quality Working Group

The council have a Pollution Projects Team and is required to produce an air quality action plan detailing how emissions will be reduced in order to meet EU limits. There was a meeting on 31/01/2013; contact: E sukky.choongh @islington.gov.uk

New Parliamentary move

"There is an all-party parliamentary cycling group (APPCG) inquiry into how we can, as the title goes, Get Britain Cycling... The inquiry is significant, hugely worthwhile and could end up a significant element in building up momentum towards a longer-term goal. But will it happen in my cycling lifetime? I'm still not convinced." Excerpt from post by Peter Walker on the Guardian's Bike Blog 24/1/13

Half term cycle training

This February half term Islington Council is running free Bikeability cycle training courses for children at 3 locations: Elthorne Park, Hazellville Rd, N19

Rosemary Gardens Tennis Courts, Sherborne Street, N1

Waterside Youth and Play Project, 50 Dame Street, N1 7FR

There are 3 Levels:

Learning to ride

Level 1 and Level 2

For info on the 3 levels and a booking form go to:

<http://bit.ly/LAu2Bp>

You also need to email to

book the COURSE & VENUE

you are interested in. **For dates for each course:**

E david.shannon

@islington.gov.uk

T 020 7527 4082

10 years ago

We reported that Islington Labour Group Cyclists (we wonder if that's still running) had done some safety audits on the borough's cycle routes, looking at existing cycle facilities and problems. The contact person? Councillor Catherine West - now Leader of the Council.

Free Security Marking

The TfL-funded MPS Cycle Task Force regularly set up engagement stalls offering advice as well as free security marking and registration onto Bike Register's online database. Forthcoming: 14th February 2013:4-7pm - Seven Sisters Road, Junction with Green Lanes N4

21st February 2013 - 7.45-10am - same venue.

Silcone Roundabout

Old Street roundabout is called this by the local estate agents. We'd like to see an Old Street Crossroads. Silcone Crossroads is already "booked" - it's between Lichfield, Tamworth, Sutton Coldfield and Walsall.

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W: www.littlegreenride.blogspot.com

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Issue 99 Apr May 2013



Annual General Meeting

May 8, 7.30pm start
Town Hall, Upper St
Guest speaker
Dr Robert Davis
Refreshments from
8.15 and speaker
starts at 8.30pm
Dr Davis is chair
of the Road Danger
Reduction Forum
www.rdrf.org.uk

Tufnell Park Cycles to School



Photo courtesy of the Islington Tribune

Ironmonger Row Baths



LBI have installed these temporary bike stands, to check they are in the right position, taking up the space of two car parking bays.

Tour de France 2014

Seven years on, the Tour will return to The Mall. With the first Stage leaving from Leeds, Stage 3 starts at Cambridge and finishes at the Mall via the Olympic Park. More at
<http://bit.ly/WhXhOF>

The Tufnell Park Cycles to School Campaign has hit the headlines in the local press. First there was a photo call that was published in the Gazette on 28/2/13. The Tribune took up the story on 15/3/13 and the Gazette went with it again on 21/3/13. A cycling story has never had so much publicity before in Islington! The candidates for the by-elections in Junction and St. Georges Wards were invited to an ICAG event, with Dr Bike and information stall, at the Farmers' Market outside the Tufnell Park Tavern. The event climaxed with a Tour de Tufnell Park; about 30 cyclists of all ages followed the proposed route. David Lincoln masterminded this campaign and all credit should be given to him. John Ackers and Stephen Taylor made videoed interviews with three of the candidates and several children. David also received positive support from the Council Leader; please turn to the next page...

For interviews with the children

<http://www.icag.org.uk/2013/tour-de-tufnell-park/>

For interviews with the candidates

<http://www.icag.org.uk/2013/by-election-junction-st-georges/>

For an overview of the scheme

<http://www.icag.org.uk/2013/tufnell-park-cycles-to-school/>

For David Lincoln's blog

<http://tufnellparkcycles.wordpress.com/>

Facebook TufnellParkCyclesToSchool

E tcp2s@hotmail.com

Tufnell Park Cycles to School - petition reply!

Sign the petition -
<http://chn.ge/XqsUG8>

This is the text of an email from Councillor Catherine West Leader of the Council to David Lincoln.

"I am delighted to support your campaign to make it easier and safer for children and young people to cycle to school in Tufnell Park. The Mayor of London has recently announced plans to fund pilot Cycle to School Partnerships, although he has not yet announced how prospective partnerships can bid for funding. I have asked the Council's Spatial Planning and Transport Team to contact Transport for London (TfL) to find out when and how partnerships can bid. They will contact you once they have spoken with TfL and I suggest that when the time is right you liaise with them to prepare and submit a bid. I would be happy to support a bid in any way I can."

By-elections Result

Labour candidates won both wards (Junction and St Georges), although turnout was low - 24.2% and 25.88% respectively.

Police Liaison

Thanks to Inderpal Mehrok, from the local Police, who came to talk at our January meeting. We hope to print some hints to avoid cycle theft in the next edition.

Cyclehoops in N19 and N4

We may see some Cyclehoops installed by LBI on Brecknock and Junction Roads soon. Nothing like the end of financial year to make something happen!

"Every little helps!"



"Trixie" mirrors have been installed on all four arms of the junction at the Angel. This will help alert left turning lorries to the presence of cyclists at their nearside.

Gyratory Progress - Better Junctions Review

The Council will be contacting us in April with an update on the Archway gyratory. TfL have invited us to a meeting to discuss the Nag's Head Gyratory; date to be confirmed, but towards the end of April. If you're interested in being involved -
C Alison Dines
T 020 7226 7012
E alisondines@clara.co.uk

Critical Mass Arrests

"The trial of the nine cyclists prosecuted after last July's Critical Mass ride ended last Friday, with five found guilty after a trial that dragged on for 10 days over a three-week period. The sentences handed down were relatively minor - most of the defendants received nine-month conditional discharges and were required to pay £300 costs - and the rate of successful prosecution is low considering 182 were initially arrested on the opening night of the Olympic Games."
Read the full blog posted by Tom Richards in the Guardian Bike Blog Monday 18 March 2013
<http://bit.ly/107j1zF>

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Issue 100 June July 2013



Brompton dock at Whittington



Following their success at providing folding bikes at railway stations, Brompton are trialling their Brompton Dock scheme at the Whittington hospital. Aimed mainly at staff, the beauty is that should the take-up be poor, the bike station can be transferred elsewhere.

www.bromptondock.co.uk

Tufnell Park Cycles to School

Feted by TfL's Andrew Gilligan and supported by LBI leader Catherine West, we have no logo as yet. Can you or a friend help? Contact David Lincoln tpc2s@hotmail.com

Cyclehoops

The Council has installed Cyclehoops in Junction Road, Brecknock Road, Old Street and Goswell Road. But the Gazette printed a negative article - 10 people commented positively, including John Ackers.

http://bit.ly/124sZai



Hopes dashed?

We wait with bated breath for the Comprehensive Spending Review to be announced on June 26. It may be that the Mayor's ambitious spending plans will be drastically pruned. bit.ly/10Vt3Ss

Nag's Head gyrotory



(Photo Chris Kenyon) 14 LCC members met to discuss possible improvements to the Nag's Head gyrotory. After much discussion there were plenty of ideas to forward to TfL; Deborah Maby skillfully abridged them. We look forward to working the council and TfL.

Children in front?



(Photo Jono Kenyon) One of our members wrote to ask whether we should be encouraging families to make sure the children are always at the front. Not a question with this bike!



Bike Week

Saturday 15 June 12-2pm

Free Dr Bike at Tufnell Market Farmers' Market, Tufnell Park Tavern, 162 Tufnell Park Road N7 0EE

Saturday 15 June 2pm

Tour de Tufnell Park ride starting at Tufnell Park Farmers' Market

Saturday 15 June 3-5pm

Summer Picnic at Tufnell Park Primary School, Dalmeny Road, N7 OHJ

Sunday 16 June 9.50am

Little Green Ride meet at Finsbury Park Station For more details contact Stephen Taylor on 07977 235735 or email sltaylor001@yahoo.co.uk

Tuesday 18 June 7.30-9.30am

Cyclists' Breakfast at City Road/Goswell Road EC1V 7DG and Dr Bike

Sunday 23 June 10.30am

Food, food, glorious food - an easy-paced ride around Islington starting at the Highbury Fields cafe N5 1SA

Sunday 23 June 10am-2pm

Islington Farmers Market in Chapel Market N1 9EN Doctor Bike See website for details

Changes to your Magazine

London Cyclist is moving to 4 issues per year with a monthly e-newsletter. To see what it looks like go to goo.gl/Z2Zr1. An e-Islington Cyclist may happen...

Wish List...



In April several ICAG members cycled around the southern part of the borough looking at various streets & locations that had been recommended for improvement on our "wish list." A ride for the north of the borough is planned. Please see the list on our website www.icag.org.uk/2013/wish-list & contact Alison if you'd like to join the ride.

AD

alisondines@clara.co.uk

New Bike shops

Two bike shops we weren't aware of...

The Red Bike Shop
232 St. Pauls Road,
London. N1 2LJ
0207 226 2066
www.theredbikeshop.co.uk

Finsbury Cycles
185 Seven Sisters Road
London N4 3NS
020 7263 0007
finsburycycles.co.uk

No 100 - Last Newsletter?

Since December 1997, there has been a copy of Islington Cyclist with your London Cyclist. We'd like to thank all our contributors, and Doug Angus, Dean Leigh and Andrew Cornwell who have edited it during the last (15+) years.

Potholes Cash!

Cllr Rakhia Ismail, Islington Council's new executive member for sustainability stated - "Our pledge of an extra £550,000 will make roads safer for residents and visitors alike, whether they are cycling or driving." Report those potholes now! Look at the last column to see how.

AGM



Bob Davis treated us to an account of road safety in the UK, asking us to reconsider what this is and the way that statistics can be used to validate a view that may not be helpful. Over 30 people enjoyed the talk and there was no food or drink left over!

Your Committee

The committee is unchanged for 2013/2014 with exception of Jon Parker who has resigned.

Coordinator: Alison Dines

Treasurer: Robert Harston

Ordinary committee members:

Chris Ashby, Keith Macfarlane, Stephen Taylor
Deborah Maby, John Ackers

Book list?



Would you like to see a book list on our website? This is something that could be easily done and could be a benefit to our members. The picture shows a display at Finsbury Library. Send your suggestions - with comments on the books welcomed - to E.249keith@waitrose.com

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Issue 101 Aug Sept 2013



We've been busy...
During Bike Week



Bike Doctor at Tufnell Park Farmers' Market



We rode the route for Tufnell Park Cycles to School



We were at Finsbury Park BikeFest on the Sunday



On the Tuesday we were at Goswell Road...



For Bike Breakfast!



We were at the Chapel Street Farmers' Market



We ran a feeder ride to RideLondon FreeRide



Almost there!

Photos from J Kenyon & J Ackers

Royal College Street

ICAG has been quite excited about the progress of this project in Camden and are looking for streets in Islington where this can be replicated. More on our Facebook page and at <http://bit.ly/13fcDMv>

Dates to note

Sept 8 Cally Road Festival (includes Car-Free Day)

Sept 8 Gillespie Park Festival (No ICAG presence)

Were you there?

Sept 1 Canal Festival
Sept 2 ICC Space4cycling ride

Little Waitrose cycle parking - Well done, Meg!

As a result of some persistent emailing by one of our members, we now have 3 cycle stands outside the Little Waitrose near Highbury and Islington roundabout.

Madras Place Crossing

TfL have been able to tweak some settings to avoid queuing along the Holloway Road. The majority opinion is that the crossing is much improved, although not perfect.

Sunnyside arson

It's sad to report that the venue for our Cycle Workshop at Sunnyside Gardens was badly damaged by fire recently. It means that in October we'll be looking for a new venue. (In September, we should be able to work outside the former site.) Any suggestions welcome.

10 years ago...

This newsletter had a long article about the Goswell Road crossing, a call for suggestions for Car-Free Day and news of a consultation about LCN stands for London Cycle Network+ 5.

Get more Bikes



This is the latest bike shop we've heard of - different from others as it's not for profit...

Get More Bikes

1a Airdrie Close

Caledonian Road

London N1 0DT

0800 0213 946

www.getmorebikes.co.uk

Twitter #getmorebikes

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2 of the apprentices...



GetMoreBikes is part of the GetMore family of Social Enterprises. Get More is an award-winning social enterprise generator; they test out ideas with young and old entrepreneurs.

Exciting times ahead?

In the next few months and years a start will be made on making the Archway gyratory 2way and the same with the Highbury and Islington roundabout. We could see some more much needed cycle parking at various spots in the borough and the Tufnell Park Cycles to School project completed. Who knows? ICAG member Christian Wolmar may even become the next Labour candidate for Mayor!

Caledonian Road

Mainly as a result of Peter Hulme's detailed report, a long reply has been sent to the Council as a response to their consultation request. See the website for details.

Drayton Park

The traffic islands have finally been removed; the cycle lanes are marginally better. Someone did ponder how much this adventure cost...

TfL and Archway

A letter to the Council dated 28 June 2013 noted that the Council wants to commence public consultation in the Autumn...We are confident that TfL will continue to work swiftly to enable you to hit your target consultation date.

It won't be too late!

You have until mid-November to decide to take over the reins and edit this newsletter; let me know! I'd especially like to thank Alison Dines who always made time to proofread this. And our thanks go to John Ackers for his unceasing attention to our website. Meanwhile for the time being, check our website and Facebook page.

E 249keith@waitrose.com

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
W: www.littlegreenride.blogspot.com

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
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

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

Follow us...

We have a Facebook page; go to your page and type in Islington Cyclists Action Group. And you can follow us on Twitter @IslingtonCycle

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

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.com

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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