



On Your Bike

cardiff cycling campaign news

Welcome to the
new Cycling
Officer!



Jo Sachs-Eldridge joined Cardiff Council's Transport Policy section last month and is already working on involving cyclists, communities and key stakeholders in a new planned cycle network for the city.

We met in County Hall
*How long have you lived in
Cardiff?*

On and off for 12

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Summer 2010 Issue No. 78

Cardiff a Sustainable Travel City – the first in Wales

You have probably noticed that the City Centre is undergoing major reconstruction to become Wales' first Sustainable Travel City. Cardiff Cycling Campaign is pushing for restricting vehicle space & speed; the need to establish direct & convenient cycle routes into and across the city centre; high quality cycle facilities designed to

the London Cycle Standard; traffic management to reduce traffic speeds on all junctions especially entry to the City Centre from Cowbridge Road West and Newport Road; the need for the City Centre cycle routes to link with the wider city cycle network; strengthening convenient modal
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On Your Bike is published by Cardiff Cycling Campaign at 33, The Balcony, Castle Arcade, Cardiff, CF10 1BY.

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The Helmet issue

About a quarter of cyclists in the UK wear helmets and in our own surveys of cyclists in Cardiff we've found a similar proportion of cycle wearers. Cycle campaigners argue for free and informed choice on whether to wear a helmet, not compulsion. When others, including medical practitioners, advocate compulsion we point out that the evidence doesn't support their case for helmets. The two most detailed investigations of accident data in the UK by Hewson found, "the conclusion cannot be avoided that there is no evidence from the benchmark dataset that helmets have a marked

safety benefit at the population level for road using pedal cyclists – in line with a number of other non-UK studies. Other researchers have found that enforcement of helmet use in countries such as Australia has deterred people from cycling, even that helmet wearing engenders change in the behaviour of motorists and increase in risk-taking by the user. In our publicity material, we will use both helmeted and unhelmeted cyclist images and, as a Campaign, will not agree to compulsory use of helmets in our events.

Ken Barker, Editor

years, I came to university & stayed on. *What kind of cyclist are you?*

My bike is my main means of transport but I use it for leisure too.

What do you think is the best thing about cycling?

Can get pretty well anywhere in Cardiff in about 20 minutes.

Why do you think cycling needs to be promoted?

It ticks every box – it's sustainable, energy efficient, zero carbon, healthy, quick, easy, accessible, affordable!

What do you think about the increased budget for cycling from Sustainable Travel City funding?

I think it's an exciting opportunity to develop a joined-up cycle network. We need principles and a coherent plan to guide what cycle routes are put in place. I think the key to getting this right is consulting with a wide range of local people and tapping into their knowledge.

Cardiff a Sustainable Travel City

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connections between cycling, walking, trains and buses.

Cycling in the bus lanes

We have said OK to this as the lane provides more space between us and the moving traffic. However we have proposed that bus and taxi drivers have training about sharing lanes with cyclists as they often underestimate how fast we are cycling and overtake unnecessarily and cut in too soon.

'Pedestrian friendly' Vehicle Restricted Areas

These should be 'cyclist friendly' too and most cyclists would like to have access through every street. The huge majority of cyclists weave their way through or get off and walk if progress is too slow. A Council Public

Survey of Visitors to the City Centre found (April 2010) that three quarters of the 1,000 people surveyed favour measures to encourage cycling, while more than half supported some degree of cyclist access to pedestrian areas. London Cycling Design Guidelines: cycling should only be prohibited where there are "overwhelming" safety reasons for

doing so. The Cycling Campaign feel there should not be 'no go areas' for cycling. We have proposed, or supported, specific measures:

- > *Newport Road / Dumfries Place junction;*
- > *Dock feeder path, parallel to Boulevard de Nantes;*
- > *Pellet Street;*
- > *Central Station Approach;*
- > *Westgate Street;*
- > *River Taff bridge / Cowbridge Road.*

Booking forms can also be downloaded from
www.cyclefestwales.org.uk

Completed forms should be sent to:
Welsh Festival of Cycling, Llanhowell, Gladestry,
Nr Kington. Herefordshire. HR5 3PP

Gwyl Seiclo Cymru Welsh Festival of Cycling

23rd July - 26th July 2010

Rhosgoch Golf & Leisure Club
Nr Hay On Wye






Day	Event	Location	Route	Price	Contact details
Friday 18 th June	Dr Bike session for Council staff Bike Rides / activities	City Hall 9.30-12.30 Hailey Park 7 pm		Free Free	Book travelplans@cardiff.gov.uk Friends of Hailey Park and Cardiff Council Ranger Service
Saturday 19 th June	Pedal Power Sponsored Bike Rides & BBO	Pedal Power Pontcanna Fields Caravan Park County Hall 9.30-12.30	Brecon to Cardiff	Brecon to Cardiff £10 £50 to raise Free	Booking essential for application forms ring Pedal Power 2039 0713 Nigel.baker@cardiffpedalpower.org Book travelplans@cardiff.gov.uk
Monday 21 st June	Dr Bike for Council staff				
Tuesday 22 nd June	Commute Challenge / bus, car and cycle from E, W, S & N to city centre	4 starting points: Ysgol Glan Taf, Victoria Park, Willows High & Cardiff Bay.	Finish, Hayes Island,	Free	No booking necessary just come & hear the journey times & welcome the commuters at Hayes Island from 9.00 till 10.15 am
Tuesday 22 nd June	Bike It Pedal Picnic	St Fagans Primary, Ely	Drope Park	Free, for school only	School event organised with 'Bike It' Tim.anfield@sustrans.org.uk
Wednesday 23 rd June	Bike It Bike Festival	Cwrt yr Ala Junior Caerau,	School grounds	Free, for school only	School event organised with 'Bike It' Tim.anfield@sustrans.org.uk
Thursday 24 th June	St Francis 'Bike It' Festival	St Francis Primary, Ely	Mandy Cycle Track	Free, for school only	School event organised with 'Bike It' Tim.anfield@sustrans.org.uk
Friday 25 th June	'Ely Wheelies' Ride to the Bay	10.00 am Western Leisure Centre	Off road, Ely Trail to the Bay	Free	Cycle hire available at Western Leisure Centre, to book Tel. 2067 5060 No booking required for ride.
Sunday 27 th June	Healthy Living Day & Bike Ride	Hamadryad Park 12 noon – 6 pm	Stalls, Dr Bike etc.	Free	Organised by Tiger Bay Unity in the Community & Communities 1 st
Sunday 27 th June	Barrage Bike Festival	Barrage park 10 – 4		Free	For all – organised by CIC and Bike Club

Penarth cyclists annoyed about lack of progress with Pont y Werin links



Pont y Werin, June 2010

Penarth cyclists are so annoyed at the failure of the Vale of Glamorgan Council to construct any links to Pont y Werin that they warned the Council at the recent 'Connections' working group to expect a critical demonstration at the bridge opening. The failure by the Council came to a head after Cllr Mark Wilson finally secured a report to the Scrutiny Committee, which showed no firm plans for linking into Penarth, none to Dinas Powys and Sully, and only a route from Barons Court junction up into the Llandough estate which doesn't link to the Bridge. It confirmed that VoG has plenty of funding

from SEWTA, £300k this year and probably £300k next, but does not have projects ready to use it. The legal Memorandum of Understanding signed with Sustrans includes an undertaking that the VoG Council will "appoint a project manager" yet the officer they claim to have appointed didn't attend the meeting and played no part in the reporting. The MoU also said streets with cycling routes should be 20mph and with a "high degree of priority over other modes" for cycling plans and contains the agreed objective for a "high quality environment that positively encourages walking and cycling".

This debacle is due to the failure of both parties to work to the MoU, though Sustrans claims it is not enforceable. CCC has been pressing a route into Penarth for over a year, via Tesco's carpark and up through Council-owned woodland, now the preferred route. The promised route to Dinas Powys, across a couple of fields to the Murch estate, is still resisted. For anyone feeling angry and frustrated at the prospect of twice £300 000 for cycleways going largely unclaimed, then do lobby those responsible: Cllr Jeffrey James, Cabinet member responsible for transport (hjwjames@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk), and Rob Thomas, Head of Planning (DRTThomas@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk).

Max Wallis

Opinion: Manipulation of Cycling Safety auditing

At the recent meeting of the Vale's Pont y Werin 'connections' group, the Head of Planning gave full support to a contraflow cycle lane in the one-way Arcot Street scheme. He commented that Highways are not favourable disposed, they believe it's "inherently unsafe". Sustrans says the "serious concerns" of a Safety Audit are really minor, while cyclists view the alternative routing of the Sustrans route 88 through narrow Glebe street with on-street

parking outside shops, including reversing out of echelon parking, as much more hazardous. Cardiff Council's Safety Audit of the new entrance to Bute Park noticed the problematic left turn across the cycle way and said there should be "sufficient" warning notices. Then the Third Stage audit declared all problems had been addressed, despite there being no warning for the left turning traffic. Even a warning notice could scarcely be effective in this inherently unsafe design. *Max Wallis*

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Bute Park & cycleway



Cycle Cardiff Rides

Cycle Cardiff, a cycling group that encourages riders of mixed abilities, runs rides every Sunday morning and some Saturdays from the Pedal Power centre, Pontcanna Caravan Park, Cardiff, and social events. New members are welcome to join us. For more information, see the website: www.cyclecardiff.webs.com

markaustin1@msn.com

Please would you advertise our Cardiff Ajax website to Cardiff cyclists -

<http://www.cardiffajax-cycling.co.uk/>

Thanks

Mark Austin

CTC Wednesday Wanderers, Evening Rides, June - August 2010

As the lighter evenings are now with us we shall be venturing a bit further afield. We always ride as a group and at a steady pace. These rides are definitely not races, but an opportunity to have a good ride with a sociable group of fellow cyclists. **Rides start at 6.30pm** (or soon after) from the one of the three starting points noted below (or 6.45pm from the secondary point).

We shall also aim to arrive at the destination by 8.00-8.30 so that you can get a meal if you wish and if food is available, and to leave by about 10.00pm so that we do not arrive back in Cardiff too late. From some destinations we may leave earlier and call somewhere nearer Cardiff on the way back.

Please note: You ride at your own risk.

The distance indicated is approximately **the shortest route from the start point to the destination**, but if the weather is fine and the group wishes, we usually make the outward journey a few miles longer. Equally, if the weather is bad we may shorten the ride, or change the destination to suit.

Date	Destination	(Direction)	Distance to destination	OS Grid Ref
16/06	Llanfabon Inn, Llanfabon	(N)	15	ST 108 938
23/06	Plough & Harrow, Monkash	(W)	18	SS 919 705
30/06	Rudry Inn, Rudry	(E)	11	ST 188 874
07/07	Brynffynon Hotel, Llanwonno	(N)	16	ST 031 956
14/07	Golden Mile, Corntown	(W)	20	SS 931 775
21/07	Tredegar Arms, Bassaleg	(E)	12	ST 277 870
28/07	Coal Hole, Gellihaf	(N)	14	ST 160 957
04/08	Turberville, Llanharan	(W)	18	ST 002 831
11/08	Blue Anchor, East Aberthaw	(S)	12	ST 035 667
18/08	Glan Taff, Quaker's Yard	(N)	16	ST 096 965
25/08	Cross Inn (nr Cowbridge)	(W)	15	SS 979 743
01/09	Church House Inn, Bedwas	(E)	9	ST 171 892

Rides leave from:

(W) (Waungron Park station, Fairwater), & later (6.45 pm) at St Fagan's crossroads (near cricket ground).

(N) Llandaf station approach & later by Tongwynlais School.

(E) outside Roath Park Community Centre / Library (corner of Ninian Road and Pen-Y-Lan Road).

(S) main entrance to Cardiff Castle.

Owen Rook 029 2062 0747 (Home) ; 07745 227440 (mobile – but not always on!) owen.rook@btinternet.com

Membership Application

I / We wish to join Cardiff Cycling Campaign.

Name(s)

Address

Postcode **Phone**

E-mail

**Membership Secretary, Cardiff Cycling Campaign,
33, The Balcony, Castle Arcade, Cardiff, CF10 1BY.**

For one year:	Waged	Unwaged
Individual	£8.00	£3.00
Joint	£10.00	N/A
Affiliation	£30.00	

For two years:	Waged	Unwaged
Individual	£13.00	£4.00
Joint	£16.00	N/A

Please apply for Standing Order rates. Joint membership is for several people living at the same address (e.g families).

Monthly Campaign Meetings

Meetings are held at O'Neill's,
Trinity Street, Cardiff city centre,
on the 2nd Monday of each month
7.30pm. - 9.30pm

Monday, 12th July 2010
Monday, 9th August 2010
Monday, 13th September 2010

Cycle Shop Discounts available to members

City Cycles
440, Cowbridge Road East
10% parts / 5% cycles

Cyclopaedia
116, Crwys Road, Cathays
10% non-discounted items

Damian Harris Cycles
55b, Merthyr Road,
Whitchurch
10% parts / 8% cycles

Don Skene Cycles
769, Newport Rd, Rumney
10% parts / 5% cycles

Muddybum Bikes
5a, Beulah Road, Rhiwbina
10 % parts / 5% cycles

Sunset Mountain Bikes
119-121, Woodville Road,
Cathays
10% parts / 5% cycles

The Bike Shed
245, Cathedral Road,
Pontcanna
10% parts / 5% cycles

Tom Davies Cycles
312a, Cowbridge Road
East, Canton
10% parts / neg. on cycles