



On Your Bike

cardiff cycling campaign news

Campaign launches new website

Keep an eye on and bookmark the Campaign's excellent new website, www.cardiff-cycling-campaign.co.uk, managed by Lewis Mottram, and contribute your news and views to Lewis.

Autumn 2011 Issue No. 79

Campaign's Annual Members' Meeting and AGM, Monday 14th November, 7pm

Cardiff Cycling Campaign AGM and Members' Meeting will take place on Monday 14th November 2011, upstairs at O'Neill's Trinity Street Cardiff, starting at 7pm. Jo Sachs (Cardiff Council Cycling

officer) will be speaking on Council cycling policy and its implementation, including the strategic cycle route network. Jane Lorimer, Deputy Director of Sustrans Cymru, will introduce *continued on page 3*

Bute Park cyclists' celebration

Left to right: Cllr. Iona Gordon, Dr Hugh MacKay, Professor Bob Franklin, and Tony Bianchi.

On Tuesday evening 18th October 26 cyclists met to celebrate Cardiff Council's decision to trial access across Bute Park after dark. We *continued on page 2*



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met by the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama and went together over 'Fisher Bridge' and across the park in the dark - taking all of one minute. On the bridge into Sophia Gardens we paused and raised our thumbs and a glass to Cardiff Council for leaving these two gates open till 7 pm. Bute Park, like all Cardiff's formal parks, closes half an hour before dusk. Now, thanks to the Parks Service, two gates on each side of Bute Park are kept open for commuters to cycle or walk to work to

get back avoiding the longer route with heavy traffic along North Road and Castle Street. This is a 3 month trial that began at the beginning of October. Richard Nelmes, Chair of

Cardiff Cycling Campaign said "This trial is welcome and is clearly proving a real boon to people who cycle or walk to work. We were all amazed at how many people were crossing the park when we met up at 6.30 pm. This is the culmination of two years campaigning by the Cycling Campaign, Cardiff University and UWIC.' *Note: on occasions these gates have been locked earlier-we are complaining.*

Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama

We have continued to press for improvements at the North Road front of College that were not made part of the planning conditions.



Bridge Provides a Cycling Route around Cardiff Bay

When Pont y Werin, the Big Lottery funded bridge over the River Ely opened in July last year, Cardiff and Penarth cyclists were very critical of the lack of routes from the bridge up to Penarth and into the Vale. We are still waiting to hear of satisfactory solutions and are dismayed about those works that have since been installed. We have asked for independent comment on aspirations for routes into the Vale. But the numbers of cyclists using Pont yr Werin bridge as a

leisure route are very encouraging. Sustrans have reported that pedestrian and cycle counters show 41,000 trips were made over the bridge between July and November last year.

Pictured are the first cyclists over Pont y Werin at its opening: Liz Griffith, Sue Lane, and Karl Lawrence, all from Penarth. The metal sculpture in the foreground is of Sybil Williams in honour of her contribution to promoting cycling for all through the Pedal Power project in Cardiff.



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the 'Smart Choices' personalised travel planning scheme. There will also be reports from Cardiff Cycle Campaign officers and elections of officers for the next year.

Committee elections

We need people to offer their time. We are looking for these committee roles to be filled by active members:

- o Chairperson
- o Secretary
- o Treasurer
- o Member Sec.
- o 'OYB' Editor
- o Website Manager

Come to the AGM & Members' Meeting on 14th November, have your say about plans for the future, and come to our monthly Campaign meetings. You will be welcomed!

Ken Barker

Campaign Secretary

“Understanding Walking and Cycling”

Funded by the Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council, ‘Understanding Walking and Cycling’ shows that no matter how much infrastructure might be built for cyclists, there would still be stigma attached to everyday cycling. The study found there was a core image problem which kept people off bikes, with many respondents citing ‘helmet hair’

and ‘arriving sweaty at work’ as reasons not to cycle. The built environment, currently hostile to both cycling and walking, was also an important factor in keeping Brits in their cars. “A significant proportion of people won’t ditch their cars because cycling is not seen as ‘normal’. The academics concluded that if we want to tempt more people out of their cars policy makers need to listen

to “the majority who don’t already choose greener modes of transport rather than the minority who do.” The three most common obstacles to cycling over a short journey were found to be concerns over safety; the difficulty of fitting cycling into complex household routines, especially with young children; and a perception that walking and cycling are “abnormal”.

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Taff Trail Underpass LEQ Project

Project Information Report



The Underpass project aims to create a more visually attractive area that is less intimidating and a more appealing link between housing areas and the Taff Trail.

The Campaign would like to see improvements to cycling space and visibility as well as the proposed murals and signage, informing Cardiff Council of the needs of cyclists and walkers on the Trail.

Lancaster University's Professor Colin Pooley, who led the study, said: "our study set out to discover not only the reasons why people were persuaded to walk or cycle but, more importantly, the reasons why people do not do these things. Many people interviewed expressed a desire to cycle but were not doing so - clearly something was stopping them from making that choice. "Most people prefer to adopt norms of behaviour that fit in and reflect the majority experience. Travelling by car is seen as normal. "Our message for policy makers is, don't base policies about cycling [only] on the views and experiences of existing committed cyclists. It's necessary to talk to non-cyclists, potential cyclists .. to determine what would encourage them." *See also www.bikehub.co.uk/news, 7th Sept, 2011. Dave Horton.*

Options for cycling in Queen Street



Cyclists continue to use Queen Street

The conclusion of a risk assessment carried out by Local Transport Projects for Cardiff Council in April 2011 is that the levels of observed conflict associated with the existing situation are low. Their recommendation is that "any of the options to change arrangements for cycle access are associated with only marginal reductions in risk, at best." This is because the levels of observed conflict, where the majority of people with cycles continue to cycle notwithstanding the current cycling ban, are already low.

The loading and servicing of vehicles were seen to be a more significant risk. And, cyclists were observed to dismount as pedestrian flows increased. Local Transport Projects considered options, including an enforced 24-hour cycle ban; permitting cycling outside of peak pedestrian periods; and introducing 24-hour access with significant redesign of street, central delineator with tactile indicators. The Campaign's preference is for 24-hour access through Queen Street, but with parallel routes too..

Introducing the proposed Highways & Transport (Wales) Bill

At the last Campaign meeting, **Sustrans Wales director Lee Waters** introduced the proposed Welsh Government “Highways and Transport (Wales) Bill, which will place a duty on highway authorities to develop and maintain networks of paths for walking and cycling. There is a commitment to 5% of transport budgets to support sustainable transport in this way. Lee explained that this is a ‘flagship’ bill that is likely to gain all-Party support, but there are issues about local government support that need to be worked on between now and 2013, with consultations to shape the Bill. Paths will not be just traffic free but part of a mixed approach, Lee said, referring to the recent “Understanding

Walking and Cycling” publication that calls for better dedicated facilities for cyclists. This was not about arguments between segregation and on-road cycling however. Lee understood there is a range of attitudes from the disability lobby, from opposition from Guide Dogs for the Blind for example, to enthusiastic support from Pedal Power, recognising benefits for many. We had a lively discussion about the Bill, about its purpose of making cycling mainstream, adopting and applying good design standards, and changing the culture and practice in highway authorities, reinforcing learnt experiences in shared space and application of the Manual for Streets. The Bill is expected

to be incremental and may include retrospective actions on existing networks, compulsory purchase, and influencing road schemes at the earliest possible stages. The draft Bill will be published in the Spring. Lee encouraged us to keep in touch, as others, and to make sure commitments are made in the May 2012 Council elections.

Ken Barker

Cycle Cardiff Rides

Cycle Cardiff, a cycling group that encourages riders of mixed abilities, runs rides every Sunday morning at 10am from Pedal Power, Pontcanna, Cardiff, and social events. New members are welcome to join us. For more information: www.cyclecardiff.org.uk

Cardiff Ajax

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

Mark Austin

CTC Wednesday Wanderers Wales - Wednesday Evening Rides, November - December 2011

As the lighter evenings are fading fast, we'll be staying closer to Cardiff from now on. We always ride as a group and at a steady pace. These rides are definitely not races, but an opportunity for a good ride with a sociable group of fellow cyclists.

Rides start at 6.45pm (for 7.00pm) from the one of the three starting points noted below (or 7.00pm 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. It is your responsibility to ensure that your cycle is in good working order, and that you have a means of getting home in the event of breakdown. Good front and rear lights are essential, and it is advisable to wear bright, weather-proof clothing. We would recommend that you have membership of the CTC or other organisation that provides you with third party liability insurance. **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
02/11	White Hart, Machen	(N)	12	ST 203 892
	<i>CTC Member Group AGM 8.00 pm (usually a short meeting, then a social evening)</i>			
09/11	Hare & Hounds, Aberthin	(W)	12	ST 007 753
16/11	Tredegar Arms, Bassaleg	(E)	12	ST 277 870
	& Cefn Mably, Michaelston-y-Fedw ?			ST 241 845
23/11	Kings Arms, Pentyrch	(N)	7	ST 104 818
30/11	Fox & Hounds, Llancarfan	(W)	11	ST 051 703
	& Horse & Jockey, Twyn yr Odyn ?			ST 116 737
07/12	Hollybush, Draethen	(E)	9	ST 221 873
14/12	Otley Arms, Trefforest	(N)	11	ST 084 887
21/12	Dynefwr Arms, Groesfaen	(W)	10	ST 073 808
	<i>booked for our seasonal celebration meal here (£5 deposit required)</i>			
28/12	Black Cock, Caerphilly	(E)	5	ST 144 848
04/01	The Gwaelod Inn, Gwaelod y Garth	(N)	6	ST 116 838

Rides leave from: (W) St Fagan's crossroads (North of village, near cricket ground & just around the corner towards Peterstone); **(N)** Llandaf station approach & later by Tongwynlais School; **(E)** outside Roath Park Community Centre / Library (corner of Ninian Road and Penylan Road). **(S)** main entrance to Cardiff Castle.

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

CTC Cymru AGM: Saturday, 14th January 2012, Llandrindod

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

AGM: Monday, 14th November 2011
Monday, 12th December 2011
Monday, 9th January 2012



www.cardiff-cycling-campaign.co.uk

Cycle Shop Discounts

available to members

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