

Chesterfield Cycle Campaign

Campaign Update

Published quarterly

Number 38 Winter 2006



www.chesterfieldcc.org.uk

Affiliated to the CTC and the Cycle Campaign Network

Printed on recycled paper

CAMPAIGN CHAT

On behalf of the Campaign Committee we wish you a happy Christmas. Remember that during this time of busier traffic in the town centre it makes more sense to use your bike. I remember reading once that the weather is rarely as bad as it looks from the inside! Not sure thats always true especially battling against the seemingly permanent head wind on Clifton Street which I use on my return from town!

Please note,

The Campaign meeting on 12th December 2006 will be held in the Market Hotel, New Square at 7.30pm

Campaign committee members have attended various meetings recently.

DCC Traffic dept. We met on Old Road Brampton to discuss the possibility of a 'Safe Route to School' linking Brookfield, Westfield and Old Hall Schools. This would also form part of a link between the Hipper Valley and Holmebrook Valley trails. No result as yet but a long term aspiration.

Many of the routes we would like to see developed will take a long

time to complete and it is these informal meetings which help.

DCC Cyde Liaison Group. This meeting was for the Chesterfield area and was held at the Town Hall. Regular readers will be aware that Derbyshire is split into three area for cyding. the meetings rotate around each area with a 'strategic' meeting held in Matlock as well.

Unfortunately there was little good news. DCC are very short of money and there are no cyde schemes planned for this financial year.

Hipper Valley 3 to Holymoorside is still blocked by one of the landowners.

One slight chink of light is that DCC have obtained estimates to replace the bridge on the old railway line that will connect Hipper Valley to the railway station, no figures given yet!

The Campaigns idea of signing routes using a version of the Sustrans sticker was discussed. General approval except for DCC Traffic dept. Another potential problem on trails is the need to show on a sign all the modes of transport that can use that portion of the trail, so it is possible to have to show a cyde, a pedestrian, a horse and a four wheel drive!

We will continue to persue this matter.

Our latest meeting was the East Midland Cyding Groups get

together in Nottingham. We heard about the history of Spokes, the Nottingham Cycle Campaign and an update on Derby's status as a cycling demonstration city. After lunch there was a presentation about recycling bikes in Leicester. Following all this was a ride around 'The Big Wheel' off road paths following the canal and River Trent on a circular route. The next get together coincides with the CCN conference in Derby next May. For the Autumn 2007 meeting we have agreed to host it in Chesterfield. More details will follow in the Spring.

The Campaign has been asked for its views on the potential redevelopment of the old Newbold Green School site by CBC. A meeting took place with DCC Traffic section in the area to look at the possibility of incorporating some of the footpaths into the cycle network. Hopefully this will all be tied in with the development.

One road scheme of note. Where the Rother Washlands path exits onto Derby Road there is a traffic calming scheme in the planning stage. With some input from the Campaign it is proposed to close to traffic the feeder road to Rother Washlands route and install a Toucan crossing. This is a small part of a scheme to link the TPT and Five Pits Trail.

The Campaign was recently asked by CBC if we had any data on bike usage in Chesterfield. Sadly we do not so at the last meeting we discussed ways of surveying members and numbers of cycles. For our members it was thought that a telephone poll would be best.

We do have some figures for cyclists passing Tapton Lock on the TPT in **2005** and **2006**

January	1892	2109
February	1554	1426
March	2175	1389
April	2699	2165
May	3735	2340
June	3377	
July	3712	
August	4061	
September	2746	
October	2412	
November	1178	
December	949	

Abbreviations

In the newsletter several abbreviations are used. For new readers here they are:

DCC - Derbyshire County Council

CBC - Chesterfield Borough Council

TPT - Trans Pennine Trail

CCN - Cycle Campaign Network (This Campaign is a member)

Cycle Lockers

The Campaign was asked recently to a meeting with Chesterfield Borough Council to discuss cycle locker provision in the town.

You may be aware that there are cycle lockers located in the town already at three locations:

The new coach station, these are padlocked by the Council at the moment pending a new scheme..

Vicar Lane shopping area, the keys are held by the Vicar Lane manager - not always easy to locate.

Magistrates Court, these lockers have been vandalised and are not in a very secure area.

The Council originally asked the Campaign if they had any ideas to increase the use of the lockers. Ex secretary Tim Moran of Organic Heaven agreed to hold the keys and run the lockers on behalf of the Council.

The Council felt that although they had no problem with Tim running the scheme it would be better kept in house.

So the proposal is that all the lockers are run from the Tourist Office near the Spire.

Keys will be issued from there for

all the lockers for a small monetary charge. The padlocks are high security and the keys are a similarly high price! So a deposit of £10 is being talked about. However, on production of a current Cycle Campaign membership card there would be no charge of £10, just the hire charge which we hope will be 50p per day with Sundays being free.

Now it is obviously not always convenient to have to get a key from the Tourist Office before using a locker and if the Tourist Office is closed you won't be able to get a locker but for ease of getting the scheme off the ground the committee think this is the best system.

We hope it will be possible to ring to reserve a locker and if there is demand some lockers will be available for weekly use.

The lockers at the Magistrates Court we hope to have relocated to the railway station. there are questions of security to be answered and as Midland Mainline run the station they have the final say. Members of the committee and CBC met a representative from MML in late November and had a positive response.

We also asked for a Campaign noticeboard at the station which was agreed to.

2007

Already we have some dates for events next year.

18/1/07

DCC Strategic Cycle meeting, Matlock

May Day

Campaign stall in New Square

Bike Week in June

Campaign stall in town and at Queens Park event.

22/9/07

'In Town Without My Car' or European Car Free Day. We hope to organise an event.

16/10/07

DCC Strategic Cycle meeting

October

East Midland Cycle Groups meeting in Chesterfield

Although we missed publishing a revised cycle map this year, we agreed at our last meeting to push it through and launch it during Bike Week next year.

If we could coincide this with our signing project we hope this will raise cycling's profile in the town.

We also hope to publish a trails leaflet at the same time.

Other News

Work has started at the old Donkin site. This will eventually see the cycle path from the Queens Park extended across Park Road to Hipper Street South and a new Toucan across Derby Road to allow access to Hasland.

Copenhagen is about to have a 'green wave' traffic light system for bikes. If you ride at a set speed all the lights will be on green going into the city in the morning and coming out in the evening. This is only in the bike lanes. I wonder what CBC's reaction would be to such a scheme?

One of our members is interested in publishing a 'Green map' of Chesterfield.

www.greenmap.com

Contact:
jessiemarcham@pasturesgreen.me.uk

In one year's time Eurostar will move to St Pancras from Waterloo making it very easy from Chesterfield to catch a train to Paris or Brussels. In the winter there is a direct ski train and in the summer there is usually a direct service to Avignon.

Chesterfield to Sweden, Summer 2006

Campaign Secretary, his wife and two children (10 & 7). Brompton towing a Radical Cyclone trailer, wife on Dutch bike, bar bag and panniers, 10 year old with panniers and 7 year old with small bag on rack.

Cycle to railway station, MML to London. Wife and children in taxi, folded Brompton and two child's bikes in a second taxi. I cycle to Liverpool St on Dutch bike towing trailer.

Liverpool Street to Harwich. meet up with Danish couple who have been cycling in Eire. They love cycling here, everyone so friendly! Overnight on boat to Esbjerg. We planned to cross Denmark to Vejle (70 miles) doing about 20 miles a day. We had pre booked Youth Hostels and incorporated a two night stay at the Legoland hostel.

Leaving Esbjerg a gentle climb into a headwind, not good for 7 year old! Plus a couple of wrong turnings while we get used to the signing. First hostel good and Italian meal in town said to be the best ever!

Next two days very pleasant cycling through more or less flat farmland. Cycle route on quiet roads but very little traffic - or bikes! Children enjoyed Legoland, another British family arrived by bike.

Last full day of cycling in Denmark crossing what must be the hilliest bit. Me urging the children on by

saying we must drop down to coast soon, we did but right at the last minute down a path almost too steep to cycle down. Guess what the hostel was on the other side of the town up an equally steep hill.

Next day was a 3 hour train ride to Frederikshavn in the north. The train was late and in a very British way was terminated early. We had to join another crowded train. Many bikes, prams, very overcrowded.

Next morning cycled to ferry to cross to Gothenberg (3 hours). Excellent cycle network. Train for 1 hour, as we got off Dutch bikes inner tube exploded! It had split around the valve (had a spare). Cycled 12 miles onto an island called Tjorn and got soaked for the first time.

Stayed at a farm for a week just swimming, crabbing and eating. Only downside alcohol only avail on mainland and on weekdays so cycled back on Monday morning! Returned to Gothenburg the same way and stayed on an old sailing ship. Next morning a short cycle to the ferry, overnight to Newcastle, cycled along the Tyne to the railway station and caught a Virgin train back home.

Everything worked as we had hoped, we only got absolutely soaked once!

All enjoyed the holiday and 7 year old especially proud of herself!



Cycle signs approaching Billund in Denmark

I came across this festive cycling card on this website:

http://dev1.boomersdomain.com/cgi-bin/store_pedalinghistory_2&boutus.html

I know its a ridiculously long address but they have loads of cycling graphics, models etc - only drawback is they are in the USA!

Web Bits & Bobs

Cycle Lighting

When must you use cycle lights?

When riding on a public road, cycle path or public place between sunset and sunrise or in conditions of seriously reduced visibility during the day.

What is required?

The picture summarises the minimum, but having lights of 4 colours or more are also permitted.



This poster explaining cycle lighting requirements is published by Cambridge Cycle Campaign. It is available to download at: www.camcyde.org.uk/resources/lights



www.velorution.biz/

In London this time and selling all sorts of useful bikes and bits.

207 in 2007

The Campaign has about 175 members, lets try to get that to over 200 during 2007. If you know anyone who cycles and isn't a member get them to join. The more members we have the more likely our voice will be listened to!

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**Chesterfield shops
giving a discount to
campaign members**

Organic Heaven
Theatre Yard

J E James Cydes
Whittington Moor

To report road faults tel 0845 605 8058

Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each
month at 7.30pm in the Urban Studies Room at the
Market Hall, Chesterfield

Future meeting dates;

12th Dec, 9th Jan, 13th Feb, 13th March

Welcome to new members

Andy Holdaway Irene Hayward
Jessie Marcham Darren Clegg
Anthony Witham
Lisa Cannon
Paul Gregory

Membership Form

Full Name _____ Tel _____

Address _____

Email _____

Membership Type (please circle)

Adult £5 Family £10* Unwaged £2.50 Under 18 £1

*Family membership includes 2 adults and all children under 18
living at the same address, please give names and ages of all
children below:

Please send this form to the CCC Membership Secretary,
116 Baden Powell Road, Chesterfield, S40 2RL
NB these details will be stored on computer