

Camden Cyclist

Camden Cyclists' News April/May 2010

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Resilience Hustings

In place of our usual monthly meeting, we will be joining Transition Belsize for Resilience Hustings on 14 April 2010 at St Stephen's Church, Rosslyn Hill, NW3 2PP, in conjunction with Friends of the Earth and Greenpeace. Resilience is about addressing the issues of climate change and fossil fuel depletion and facing the future challenges. Join us for an evening with prospective Parliamentary candidates. There will be films, exhibition stands and a chance to put questions to the potential MP for the marginal new constituency of Hampstead and Kilburn. See their response to our manifesto.

The meeting starts at 7.00pm, when you can see the posters. Films start at 7.30. More on:

<http://tinyurl.com/yI2ulp7>

Camden Cyclists' AGM

Our AGM will be held on Monday 10 May at 7.30pm. We'll review the year and elect officials for the next. After we have zipped through the formalities, we hope to have a **Guest Speaker**. We don't yet know who this will be, so watch our website.

At Primrose Hill CA, 29 Hopkinsons Place NW1



Celebrating 25 Years of Camley Street NP

On April 24 & 25, Camden Cyclists will make a presentation, have a stall and offer Dr Bike. London Wildlife Trust, who run the Park, are promoting a range of new projects focusing on sustainability through food growing and recycling and are also very interested in promoting sustainable local transport to Camden Residents. 12 noon-5pm both days. Contact Stefano. More on <http://www.wildlondon.org.uk/Naturereserves/CamleyStreetNaturalPark/tabid/124/Default.aspx>

Spring Rides

April 18th

Ride along the Thames towpath to Richmond, returning via Wimbledon Common, the river Wandle and Clapham Common. Lunch and tea stops. Shouldn't need lights! 35+ miles; lunch will be at a pub in Mortlake. One amazingly steep hill but otherwise quite reasonable. Tea stop on Wimbledon Common, all things being equal. Meet at Interchange studio on Haverstock Hill (100 m up from Belsize Park tube station) at 11am. Leader: James 020 7265 3585



May 9th

Family oriented ride to the Lea Valley and back. Lunch at a cafe by the river or bring your own. Easy paced with time to look around and visit the nature reserve. 18 miles on (mostly) quiet roads, cycleways and towpath. Meet at Highgate Road entrance to Hampstead Heath cycleway (near tennis courts, opposite NW5 1RP) 10.15 for 10.30 am start. Leader: John. 020 7485 2685

Apology

I gave the wrong dates for Bike Week in the last issue of The Camden Cyclist. The organisers put the event back by a week, rather late for some. Bike Week is from June 19 -June 27. The Cyclists' Breakfast will be on Wednesday 23 June. Paul Braithwaite's Peripherique ride will now take place on Sunday 27 June.

A Dreadful Start

2010 has so far been a bad year for cycling in Camden in particular and London in general. An elderly cyclist was killed, apparently by a car door, in Chalk Farm and a woman died after a collision with a bus in Holborn.

A cyclist collided with a pedestrian who later died near Euston. That cyclist has now been charged with manslaughter.

As always, our thoughts are with loved ones left behind.

The alarming number of cyclist fatalities has prompted us to prioritise this issue in our Cyclists' Manifesto.



Paul Braithwaite

Absent Olympics

We had hoped for Camden's streets to host Olympic road racing through Hampstead's hills. What was good enough for the Tour of Britain is apparently unsuitable for the Olympics. It seems cyclists are to be routed away from the city, possibly to Hampton Court and Windsor Castle.



Senior Cycling

On 7-8 April 2010, the Agewell project in Camden and Westminster boroughs will offer free bike checks, information about lessons and group rides, as well as refreshments, all in an effort to encourage more cyclists over 50.

Founded by cycling instructor Gwen Cook, Agewell started in summer 2008 in Hammersmith & Fulham with the help of an LCC-administered grant from the Community Cycling Fund for London.

The project provides subsidised cycle training and group rides to new and returning people over 50, and participants can sign up for five lessons for a total of only £10.

The new groups in Camden and Westminster are being supported by the local councils and money from the cycling industry's BikeHub development fund.

Cook said, "The councils are providing the instructors and the venues for the lessons and space for storage, Glastonbury House in Westminster and Castlehaven in Camden.

"It's really admirable these two boroughs have chosen to support this project, and they've supported it unreservedly. And well done to LCC, without whom it would never have happened."



Launch details

Camden

7 April 2010 1-3pm,
Castlehaven Community Centre
21 Castlehaven Road
London NW1 8RU

Westminster

8 April 2010 1-3pm,
Glastonbury House
Abbots Manor Estate, Warwick Way
London SW1V 4NT

For more information or to register, please contact Rosie Tharp or Lucy Cooper on 020 7234 9310.