



## 'Camden Cyclist' Newsletter: June/July 2000

News for cyclists from the Camden Cycling Campaign (LCC), London.

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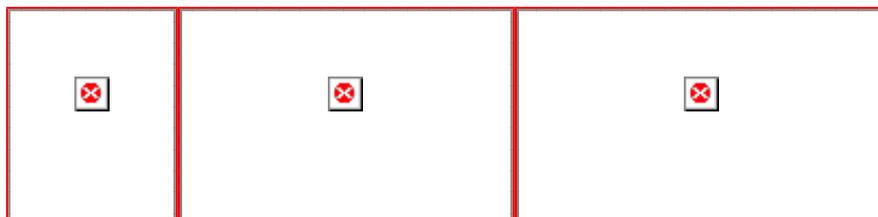
### [2000 Campaign Diary & Events Listings](#)

**Newsletter editor: Paul Gannon**

### **Royal College Street Official Opening**

The Royal College Street two-way segregated cycle track, proposed by Camden Cycling Campaign (CCC), was officially opened on 17th April by well known cyclist (and tv journalist) Jon Snow. Dozens of cyclists attended the open including a bunch of local kids who happily joined in the ceremonies.

Jon Snow congratulated Camden Council on adopting the proposal from CCC to start building high-quality cycle facilities which will actually attract new users. However, he also pointed out that the track is only a couple of hundred yards long and goes "from somewhere usefull to nowhere". He was referring here to the way the track suddenly ends on the approach to the Royal College Street/Camden Road junction.



*Click on thumbnails for a bigger picture.*

But the Royal College Street track is just a taster for what could be done on London's roads more widely, and later that day, at the Town Hall, Camden Council held a major presentation on the Seven Stations Link (SSL) - another proposal from CCC, this time for a truly serious "somewhere to somewhere" high-quality route, across north Central London. Initially CCC proposed a route between Paddington/Hyde Park and Liverpool St as a general purpose 'backbone' link which would have the added attraction of improving cyclist access to railway stations - making our plan a truly integrated transport project.



### *Seven Stations Link presentation in the Town Hall*

Camden is now consulting on its plans to build a high quality segregated route as part of the SSL; the consultation will be complete by the time you read this newsletter. And there are plans for the SSL to be extended to create a ring around Central London.

Whether this dream is converted into reality depends on Camden Council getting a positive response to its proposals (to counter the almost certain opposition from the taxi driver lobby). The Royal College St track is a template for what could be done with the SSL. Camden's section of the SSL would become the template for a wider implementation of high-quality routes in London.

But in the medium-term much more will depend on whether there is a political will in the Mayor's office for the type of measures that will be essential if cycling levels are to be increased.

The SSL won support at the meeting from the City of London, where major employers want better cycling routes so their employees can get to work, and from Central London Partnership which will garner private sector support for the project.

The Royal College Street track may quite short but its much longer than it was - and it may show the way to the future. Camden Council deserves every congratulation for its foresight so far. Let's hope it now has the courage to stand up to the taxi and 'white van' lobby - and as well the wisdom to extend the Royal College St track north towards Camden and Kentish Town, and south to meet the SSL.

### **CCC News and members info**

CCC has a well established e-mail system that allows members to circulate news and views very rapidly. We also have an exceptionally good website, but we are well aware that not everyone has access to 'the Internet', so we have decided to set up a 'phone tree' to provide a farther way of communicating important CCC news.

#### **No Email? Try our Phone Tree**

If you are missing out on late breaking CCC events/major news because you do not have email, join our phone tree. Then if something big is happening which has not been publicised in our newsletter, we can phone you. We would expect to call you around 3-4 times per year. Call Paul on 020-7482-6692 to join - everyone is welcome.

#### **On Email? Subscribe Free to our news service/discussion list**

If you are on email, make sure you join the existing 60 subscribers to CCC's free news service which gives you local news updates, the chance to comment on traffic schemes in Camden, plus the opportunity to join in our on-line debates. For more information and how to subscribe with just 10 seconds of your time contact [paulgasson@greengas.u-net.com](mailto:paulgasson@greengas.u-net.com)

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!**

CCC needs volunteers who can help with a variety of tasks such as stuffing our newsletter into envelopes,

writing letters to the local newspapers, taking part in traffic counts, or simply putting forward your views on what cyclists need in London. The tasks can be as simple as you like and you need only spare an hour a month. If you think you might be able to help please contact Jane Boardman to see if there is anything you can do: telephone 020 7794 9708.

## **CCC Members Evenings**

**2nd Monday every month from 7.30pm.**

**Mon 12th June & Mon 10th July**

Find out what has been going on, and what's coming up for cyclists in and around Camden, and have your say. Format starts with a 20 minute news briefing, then 1/2 hour discussion on any urgent issues, a debate on a topic agreed by those present, before degenerating into pure chit chat. There is also an option of a move to the pub to wind up proceedings.

Meet at the Castlehaven Community Centre, Hawley Road, NW1 Secure indoor cycle parking.

Map of where the Centre is (next to camden market): <http://www.greengas.u-net.com/CCCdiary.html#CastlehavenCCMap>

For more info: call Jane 020-7794-9708 or Paul at paulgasson@greengas.u-net.com.

## **The Millennium Festival of Cycling in Camden**

(the event formerly known as 'Bike Week')

**Sat 17th - Sun 25th June: All events are free**

**Sat 17th June: 12 - 4pm Dr Bike.**

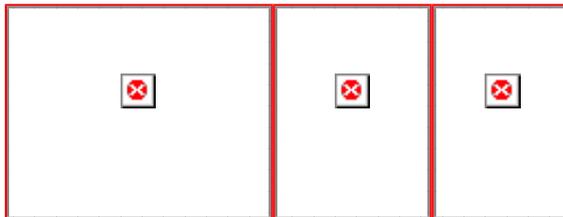
Checkup for your bike, with the likelihood of small repairs being carried out if the queues are not too long. Outside West Hampstead Library (at the Dennington Park Rd/West End Lane junction). Paul 020-7482-6692, paulgasson@greengas.u-net.com.

**Sun 18th June: 2pm On Road Cycle Training & Beginners Ride.**

Suitable for adults and children aged 10 or more (but must be accompanied by an adult). Meet Queen's Crescent (at its junction with Prince of Wales Road) at 2pm for on-road training in quiet streets, finishing on Hampstead Heath, with complementary ice cream en-route. Contact David on 020-7431-2964, darditti@darditti.com to reserve a free place

**Wed 21st June: 8-9.30am Cyclists Breakfast.**

Join in this highly popular and sociable start to the day, with free food, juice, Dr. Bike, celebs and entertainment. Find us in Ossulston Street outside the New British Library. Jane 020-7794-9708, or Paul 020-7482-6692, paulgasson@greengas.u-net.com.



*From last year's breakfast, which saw around 400 cyclists stop by - click on thumbnails*

**Sun 25th June: 10:00 North London Arrowhead Ride.**

Feeder ride to join this joint North London LCC event departs 10 am from Hampstead Old Town Hall, Haverstock Hill. We will converge with groups from Barnet, Enfield and Haringey for lunch in Hadley Green and in the afternoon visit the walled garden in Shenley Park for tea with cyclists from Hertfordshire. 40 miles round but could be shortened by train return. Contact David 020-7431-2964, e-mail [darditti@darditti.com](mailto:darditti@darditti.com)



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