

# Camden Cyclist

Camden Cyclists' News December 2010/January 2011

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**London  
Cycling  
Campaign  
Camden**

## Seasonal Celebration!

Our December Members' Meeting will celebrate the season, our achievements over 2010 and our plans for 2011 with Indian snacks, a variety of drinks, a slide show and music.

We'll be at our usual venue: Primrose Hill Community Association, 29 Hopkinsons Place (off Fitzroy Road) NW1 8TN on

**Monday 13 December at 7.30pm**

There's a committee and business meeting at the same place an hour before for any interested activist.

**Brent Cyclists** have invited us to join their seasonal social evening on **Tuesday 7 December** at The Crown 142-152 Cricklewood Broadway, Cricklewood, London NW2 3ED from 7pm.

**New Year meeting** will be on **Monday 10 January 2011 7.30pm**, in the same place.

## Car Free Camden



As an early introduction to the Festive Season, Camden ran a car-free celebration of life without the automobile on Sunday 21 November.

Camden High Street was closed to all traffic and there was a street party.

There was Rollapaluzza roller racing and live music. Cycle maintenance was provided by Doctor Bike.

Camden Cyclists ran a slow bicycle race on a Barclay's hire bike. Some riders managed to spend a very long time to complete the 25 metre course. We are grateful to Cloud 9 Cycles for generously providing us with the First Prize, a Kryptonite lock & chain, for the race. Second prize was a track pump donated by Camden Council. T-shirts by Anthony Lau (also donated by Camden Council)

were awarded to the runners up.

Anthony Lau is the designer of the cycle parking shown here.

As darkness fell, the Christmas lights were switched on.

Permission to close the High Street was granted too late for this event to be publicised sooner.



## Potholes...

BBC London has now introduced a new website with an interactive map that you can use to report road defects. It's also possible to upload photos there. It's at <http://yourpotholes.crowdmap.com/> The CTC's [www.fillthathole.org.uk](http://www.fillthathole.org.uk) is still running and very popular.

It is worth reporting potholes. Councils ought to respond and you have a better chance of receiving compensation should you come to grief in a reported hole.

Camden Cyclists intend to hold three 'Spot the Pot' rides in the spring, initially in the south of Camden but then exploring West Hampstead in May.

## Ken Worpole

Writer, long-distance cyclist, social commentator and long term London Cyclist columnist, Ken Worpole spoke at our November meeting.



Ken read from two of his books. He described the embarrassment of being seen using a notebook in public and how he overcame this by writing on beer mats and cigarette packets in *Staying Close to the River*. He told us how his legs had become so accustomed to cycling that walking became very painful.

## Websites for Winter

While it's cold wet and dark outside, a night at the computer may seem more attractive than time on the saddle.

I have been surfing a mixed bunch of sites.

The Cycle Parking 4 London map on <http://www.cycleparking4london.org.uk/index.asp?PageID=12> shows clickable links to cycle racks and comments about their utility and location. Unfortunately, at the time of writing (21/11/2010) no streets or other landmarks are shown on this map, making it next to useless. The idea is great; mark out where you'd like to see cycle parking but the execution needs improvement!

**Gift Membership to LCC** is available on <http://lcc.org.uk/index.asp?PageID=195>

This page seems free of glitches and there's a special offer of a **free London Cycling Guide** for orders before 31 December.



One of the best indications of the availability of hire bikes is at <http://oobrien.com/vis/bikes/>. Each circle indicates the size of the station and cycle availability by colour. Clicking on a station will give its street address and a graph of usage over the last day.

## Gloucester Slips Car Park, Regent's Park

Bikes: 27

Spaces: 9



Given the disproportionate cyclists' death toll from Large Goods Vehicles, a visit to LCC's No More Lethal Lorries petition on [www.no-more-lethal-lorries.org.uk/](http://www.no-more-lethal-lorries.org.uk/) seems timely.