

Camden Cyclist

Camden Cyclists' News April/May 2012

Website: www.camdencyclists.org.uk

Enquiries: info@camdencyclists.org.uk

emailing list: camdencyclingcampaign-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

@camdencyclists on Twitter



Monthly Meetings

Our monthly meetings are usually held on the **third** Monday of every month. We meet at Primrose Hill Community Centre, 29 Hopkinsons Place (off Fitzroy Road) NW1 8TN.

Members' meetings start at 7.30pm and are preceded by a business/committee meeting at 6.30pm to which any interested cyclist is welcome. Next meetings are on 16 April and 21 May (Annual Meeting).

Helen Pidd



Helen Pidd has just returned from Berlin, where she has been a correspondent for The Guardian and The Observer. and is the author of Bicycle – The Complete Guide to Everyday Cycling.

We are delighted to welcome Helen as **Guest Speaker** on **21 May 2012** at **8pm**.

This follows immediately after our Annual (General?!) Meeting at 7.30.

Spring Rides

James' Orbital Ride is on **Sunday April 1**, so you may only be able to read about it in the online version of this Newsletter. It is a long campaigning ride (about 70 miles), which is designed to highlight the delights and dangers of the North and South Circular Roads. (A406 & A205) We hope to meet riders from other London boroughs en route. It hardly overlaps with Barnet's Great Divide Ride held on 25 March.

Unless otherwise stated, waypoints are on or very close to the North or South Circular Roads.

Meet Swiss Cottage by Hampstead Theatre at 9.15, leave at 9.30. Ride up Finchley Rd & Hendon Way.

The ride will not leave a waypoint before time, but may run late. In the boroughs of Redbridge and Waltham Forest, the route will be near the NCR, but not on it. Cycling is prohibited here.

Where the NCR uses a flyover or underpass, the route will use the roundabout or gyratory and rejoin it afterwards.

Borough	Boundary Location	Est Time
Start	Swiss Cottage	0930
Brent	Ace Cafe	1000-1015 Coffee
Ealing	Hanger Lane Gyr, Sthn Exit	1045
Richmond	Kew Green	1115
Wandsworth	Rocks Lane Junction	1145
Lambeth	Clapham Common North Side	1215
Swk/Lewisham	Dulwich Park Cafe	1245-1400 Lunch
Greenwich	Burnt Ash Hill	1430
Newham	Woolwich Ferry	1500-1530
Redbridge	A13 at Gascoigne Road	1600
Waltham Forest	South Woodford Station	1700 Tea
Enfield	Meridian Way @ Angel Rd Stn	1800
Barnet	Junction w Bounds Green Rd	1830
Finish	Swiss Cottage	1900

Contact: James Brander 020 7267 3585

James' Thames Towpath Ride is on **Sunday April 15th**

Meet at Interchange Studios, (Old Town Hall) Haverstock Hill, NW3 4QP

(100 m up from and opposite Belsize Park tube station) at 10.45 for 11am start.



Ride along the Regents Canal & Thames towpaths to Richmond, returning via Wimbledon Common, the River Wandle and Clapham Common. Lunch and tea stops. Shouldn't need lights! About 35 miles; lunch will be at a pub in Mortlake. There is one amazingly steep hill but the route is otherwise quite easy. Tea stop on Wimbledon Common, all things being equal.
Contact: James Brander 020 7267 3585

The BIG Ride

LCC's 'Love London, Go Dutch!' campaign has its BIG Ride on **Saturday 28 April**. The route in Central London will be closed to motor traffic, making this a ride suitable for all the family. There is a serious political aspect to this ride; we wish to demonstrate the importance of cycling to mayoral candidates and other politicians just days before the mayoral and GLA elections. Camden Cyclists will be leading a feeder ride to this event. **Meet 10am** at Swiss Cottage by Hampstead Theatre. The main ride will gather near Speakers' Corner at 11am for a start at 11.30. Read about the ride on <http://tinyurl.com/6wk588r> The route goes down Park Lane, Piccadilly, Regent Street, Pall Mall, Cockspur Street, Whitehall, on to Parliament Square, Bridge Street then along Victoria Embankment to Blackfriars Bridge.



The BIG Ride will be a carnival affair, with riders encouraged to dress themselves and/or their bikes in **red and white** (the campaign colours), come in fancy dress, bring bells and whistles - anything you like to add to the sense of occasion. Route of closed roads is on <http://tinyurl.com/7y9g5fl> We will escort riders back to Camden if they wish from a collection point near to Blackfriars Bridge, which we'll arrange on the day.

Veloteer Inspection ride (5)

Kentish Town inspection ride
Saturday 5th May 2012 at 11 am
Meet outside Castlehaven Community Centre,
NW1 8RU



We will ride round the Kentish Town area to share knowledge of good routes and to note the places where improvement is needed. We'll finish at about 12.30 with lunch in a pub, where we can discuss and make notes on what we've seen. If there's time, we'll conclude with a look at some streets in Tufnell Park.
Contact jean AT dollimore.net or Jxchamberlain AT candg.me.uk

Bikes Alive

Bikes Alive is continuing with its fortnightly Go Slow rides at Kings Cross on Monday evenings at 6pm. There is one on 26 March and presumably another on **Monday 9 April**. In view of revelations that TfL were instructed to ignore cyclists when modelling this junction, it may be worthwhile raising the profile of the issues by continuing to support the movement, which is not yet officially supported by LCC. Bikes Alive is also supporting Climate Rush on 19 April.

Spring cleaning London's filthy air Thursday 19 April

"Next month, we're joining with Climate Rush in support of their Clear Air Zone initiative. We meet at DEFRA's head office (17 Smith Square, SW1) at 6pm; then we're cycling and walking to somewhere which - by the magic of peaceful direct action - we'll transform into London's cleanest road, free of traffic fumes. *Imagine a road with no cars, no toxic fumes - a safe space for children to play, for cyclists to ride, and for pedestrians to walk.*

You're encouraged to bring your feather-duster, some children's games, and food for a picnic..." There's more background on the Climate Rush website at <http://tinyurl.com/7c4lv8n> Air quality is an increasing concern and cyclists may be particularly badly affected by pollution from motor vehicles.