

# The Camden Cyclist

April/May 2008 Camden Cycling Campaign Newsletter

Camden  
Cycling  
Campaign

Editor: Helen Vecht

Website at: [www.camdencyclists.org.uk](http://www.camdencyclists.org.uk)

Mailing list: [CamdenCyclingCampaign-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:CamdenCyclingCampaign-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Photo Gallery: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/camdencyclists/>

Cycle Route maps: <http://maps.camdencyclists.org.uk>

## Dates for your Diary

### Monthly Meetings

These are held at 7.30pm on the second Monday of the month at Primrose Hill Community Centre, 29 Hopkinsons Place (off Fitzroy Road), London NW1 8TN.

We hold a business/committee meeting an hour before the main meeting, at 6.30pm, to which all interested members are welcome.

**Monday 14 April 7.30pm.** A chance to discuss cycling news and campaigning issues.

**Monday 12 May Annual General Meeting, 7.30pm.**

Vote in the year's Committee, review the last year's progress and be inspired, educated and entertained by our Guest Speaker.

**Jenny Jones** will speak of how she has helped to change Ken Livingstone's plans for cycling within the capital. Jenny has been a GLA Member since 2000, was formerly Chair of the Green Party and is the mayor's road safety ambassador & green travel advisor.



### Spring Ride

Our first ride of spring will be led by James on Sunday 20 April.

Meet at the Interchange Studios (Old Town Hall), Haverstock Hill, London, NW3 4QP at 11 am, for a ride along the Thames Towpath.

### Siân Berry

We discussed the Green Party's manifesto for London with Siân Berry, the Mayoral Candidate, at our March meeting.



George Coulouris

Siân suggested pedestrianising Oxford Street and providing free insulation for homes. We also talked about car clubs as a way of reducing the number of cars on London's streets.

### New email list

We have set up a new mailing list called CCC News and Events to let members know about new campaigns and events of interest from time to time.

By default, all members of the London Cycling Campaign, living in Camden, will be added to this list if they have agreed to being contacted

If you would like to subscribe yourself please send an email to [news-subscribe@lcc.org.uk](mailto:news-subscribe@lcc.org.uk) (Some people with Yahoo email accounts have reported problems receiving these emails. We are working on this problem and hope to fix it soon.)

### St Pancras and Seven Stations

Following recent protests about poor provision for cyclists at the new Eurostar terminus, we now have more parking stands, though these are insufficient in number, accessibility and convenience.

Camden Council commissioned a Safety Audit and CCC members showed officers some potential danger spots [www.camdencyclists.org.uk/newsitems/ccs/safety-audit-02-08](http://www.camdencyclists.org.uk/newsitems/ccs/safety-audit-02-08) reports the events and shows the sites.

Following Jean's meeting with Karl Baxter from Camden, it's been agreed to sign and surface a quiet route linking St Pancras with the Seven Stations Link. Route & maps are on [www.camdencyclists.org.uk/camden/campaigns/eurostar/missing-link-11-07](http://www.camdencyclists.org.uk/camden/campaigns/eurostar/missing-link-11-07)

Work to make this link should occur within the next few weeks.

### Join LCC!

Camden Cycling Campaign is a London Cycling Campaign Local Borough Group.

Membership of LCC includes: Free third party insurance, Legal advice, Discounts at bike shops Discounts on Maintenance and Training courses, Bimonthly London Cyclist magazine Local Group Membership and more. Ring 020 7234 9310 (Mon-Fri 10am-5pm) or visit: <http://www.lcc.org.uk/index.asp?PageID=27> to join.

Membership costs £32 per year (£14 concessions, £23 additional members at same address) 3 months extra membership if paid by Direct Debit

We cycled everywhere together, first in Cambridge and then later in London, after we had both graduated and found work. Like everything else we had to learn about each other, this required patience, strategy and compromise. Ruth was always complaining that I would ride too fast. Sure enough, if I went in front, no matter how slowly I pedalled, I always seemed to be leaving her behind. I suspected, of course, that she was soft-peddalling just to prove her point. Come on, you keep slowing down, I protested once or twice. But this was met with robust denial. Sometimes, I would try riding alongside to be companionable, but it seemed to make her nervous about traffic or cramp her style. If a car came in sight, she would shoo me away. In the end, it worked best if I let her ride in front. As long as she set the pace, we bowled along at a brisk enough rate, and I was happy and comfortable.

Matt Seaton  
THE ESCAPE ARTIST: LIFE FROM THE SADDLE,  
Fourth Estate, 2003 £6.99  
A memoir of passion, loss and cycle racing by Matt  
Seaton,  
The Guardian's former Cycling columnist

### Looking Ahead...

**Camden Green Fair and Bikefest** is in Regent's Park on Sunday June 1st from midday to 7pm. Visit <http://www.camdengreenfair.org.uk/> for the latest information.



**Bike Week** is from 14-22 June. We will run a **new** 'Bike Bus' from Camden Square to Hampstead Heath on 15 June, so cyclists can ride in company through Camden's streets. The **free Cyclists' Breakfast** will be on Wednesday 18 June and Paul Braithwaite's Camden Periphereique ride 'rounds off' the week on Sunday 22 June

### Fitzjohn's Avenue

This busy Hampstead street has been subject to radical thinking, led by local residents, when trying to reconcile the many conflicting needs of shoppers, residents, scholars and workers. Kerbed cycle lanes and echelon (angled) parking are envisaged to slow traffic, enable more cycling to school and retain some useful car parking.

There's a full report in the Ham & High at:  
<http://tinyurl.com/yw9gwd>

### Doctor Bike Returns!

Doctor Bike is returning to his familiar West Hampstead haunt on Saturday 19 April, from 13.00 to 17.00. James will check your bike just outside the Library at the junction of West End Lane and Dennington Park Road, NW6

