

The Camden Cyclist

December 2007/January 2008 Camden Cycling Campaign Newsletter

Camden
Cycling
Campaign

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Website at: www.camdencyclists.org.uk

Mailing list: 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, 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. Our December meeting includes

Seasonal Social Celebrations

We'll have a Guest Speaker to educate and entertain us, drinks and food.

Enjoy meeting Camden Cyclists informally!

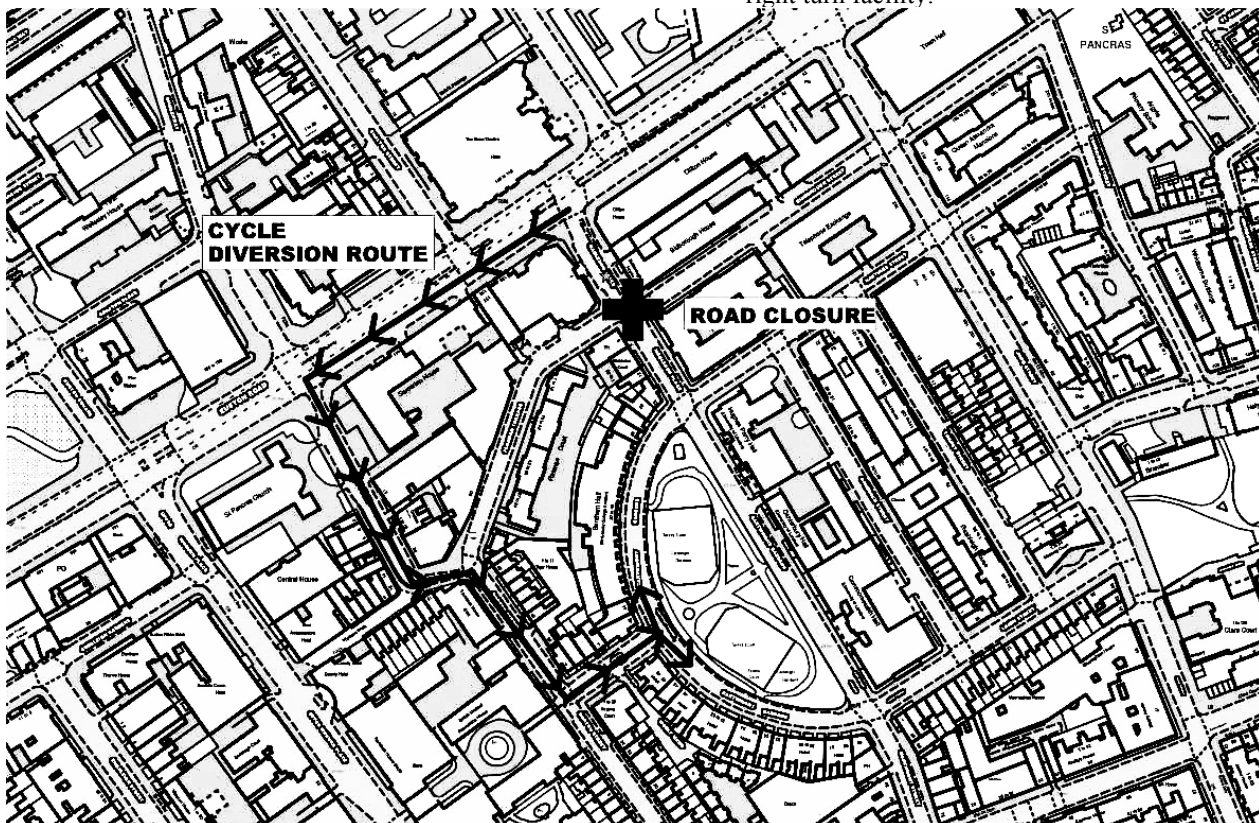
Primrose Hill CC, Monday 10/12/07 @ 19.30

Check our website for details nearer the time.

It will be business as usual for our January meeting on January 14.

Mabledon Place

In January, LB Camden will be carrying out safety improvements at the junction of Mabledon Place / Flaxman Terrace / Bidborough Street (marked with a cross on the map). Following CCC's requests for signed diversions for cyclists, they have provided us with the following information. (You may, of course, choose to walk the pedestrian route past the closure.)



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

The works are expected to take a maximum of 6 weeks, weather permitting. The need for a diversion will be minimised, but it's likely to be in place for most of the duration of the works. The programmed start is 14 Jan 2008. The diversion route will continue west along Euston Road for approximately 140m and turn into Dukes Road. Follow Dukes Road round to the left and then turn right into Burton Street. Take first left into Burton Place to reach Cartwright Gardens. Most cyclists would turn then right to reach Marchmont Street. Northbound cyclists would travel with the traffic diversion, following Hastings Street to Judd Street then re-joining Euston Road. To access Ossulston Street, cyclists will need to dismount and use the pedestrian crossing as there is no right turn facility.

St Pancras Protest



As we go to press, Eurostar services are starting to run from St Pancras to Belgium and France. Provision for cyclists is poor in terms of safe access, cycle carriage and parking. We are demanding a better deal, in conjunction with City Cyclists as well as our fellow cyclists in Paris and Brussels, who are demonstrating at their end of the route.

More details on <http://tinyurl.com/33x9cm>



Lionel Shapiro

Koy Thomson



LCC's new Director spoke to our October meeting. The full report of his talk is here: <http://tinyurl.com/2gt5w5>

He said what he found most striking about LCC was the energy and expertise of its members, and that he saw it as his role to promote this culture, not to develop a corporate "top-down" approach.

Cycling has huge potential to transform the urban environment and make our city more liveable.

Many who attended found Koy's attitude refreshing and inspirational.

At the same meeting, two representatives of Friends of the Earth addressed us about 'The Big Ask'

Culture Corner

'It was a splendid moonlight night, freezing, dead clear. ...I pedalled along the brightly lit middle of the street, ears aching with the cold; but I had drunk a good deal of wine at dinner and didn't feel the cold, in fact I was sweating. The bicycle tyres swished faintly on the hardened snow, and the dry dust they raised filled me with carefree joy, as if I were skiing. I rode fast, not afraid of slithering; and as I rode I thought of the surprise Alberto had said was waiting for me at the house. What was it: could Micòl be back? It was odd, though. Why hadn't she come to the telephone herself?...Could she possibly have arrived on her own at the very last minute, on the quarter-past nine express?

With the snow and the moon gleaming together even more intensely, I set off across Barchetto del Duca in the direction of the magna domus...Halfway across, a gigantic shadow suddenly loomed up in front of me. It was the dog Yor... The moment I recognized him fear changed into an almost equally paralyzing premonition. So it was true – I said to myself – Micòl was back. ...A few more turns of the pedals and then Micòl, Micòl herself: a small dark figure outlined against a glaringly white background, like a power station.... In a few seconds I would hear her "ciao".

"Ciao," said Micòl, standing there. "This is fine, your coming."

I had foreseen everything exactly: everything except that I would kiss her.'

[Giorgio Bassani, *The Garden of the Finzi-Continis*, translated from Italian by Isabel Quigly, Quartet Books 1989, p.188.

'Crap Cycle Lanes'

Are here: www.eye-books.com. Book costs £4.99, royalties to Cyclists' Defence Fund.