

The Camden Cyclist

October/November 2008 Camden Cycling Campaign Newsletter

Camden
Cycling
Campaign

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 every month at Primrose Hill Community Centre, 29 Hopkinsons Place (off Fitzroy Road), London NW1 8TN. An hour before the main meeting, at 6.30pm, we hold a business/committee meeting to which all interested members are welcome.

Derola Murphy

Will be 'In Conversation' with Camden Cyclist as our **Guest Speaker** for meeting on **Monday 13 October 7.30**. Ms Murphy was given a bicycle and an atlas for her 10th birthday and then travelled extensively on two wheels after the death of her dependent disabled mother. Her travels are chronicled in the many books she has written.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Monday 10 November 7.30pm A chance to discuss topical and political cycling issues.

Deputation to Camden Council

Several Committee members formed a deputation to try to persuade the Council to prevent motorcycles becoming permitted in Camden-controlled bus lanes. Hackney and Lewisham have already decided to do this. Motorcycles pollute disproportionately and can intimidate inexperienced cyclists. Whilst appearing to be sympathetic to our cause, the idea was effectively swept aside by citing 'confusion at Borough boundaries' and the desire to take the matter to the Association of London Authorities.

The full deputation text is on: <http://tinyurl.com/5t4zub>.

Maintenance Workshops

Part II of our early autumn course takes place on Saturday 18 October. There are still a few unbooked places on our late autumn course, which will be held on Saturdays 15 November and 13 December, at Velorution, 18 Great Titchfield Street, London, W1W 8BD from 14.00-18.00. Contact Stefano to book a place. The course fee is £50.



Regent's Park

The Royal Parks have decided to allow cycling on the Broad Walk for an 18 month experimental period from 8 August 2008, the last 6 months of which will be used to evaluate the trial. This step has been little publicised but if few people ride, it is possible that the demand would be seen as low and the cycling ban would be reinstated. We'd like cycling to be seen as popular and non-confrontational so use it (responsibly) or lose it!



Summer Rides

John Chamberlain led a Family Ride along the Lea Valley on July 27, one of the few hot days we had this summer!



George and Jean's Hertfordshire ride on 31 August, was rather wetter and puncture-prone, but managed to avoid major roads. There's more about it on: <http://www.camdencyclists.org.uk/newsitems/ccc/ride-08-08>

Summer Talks

Richard Ballantine (Hampstead resident, CCC member and author of Richard's Bicycle Book etc.) spoke about cycling at Primrose Hill Library on 23 July. Controversially, he supported pavement cycling



Lionel Shapiro

Paul Braithwaite gave an illustrated talk about his travels with the Bicycle Adventure club at our August meeting. This is a non-profit organisation whose members are encouraged to take part in leading tours. Stunning scenery militated strenuous climbs but heavy luggage was carried and accommodation was high in comfort! Paul hopes to lead a party in Italy next year.

www.bicycleadventureclub.org

CTC Council



Avigail Veicht

I have been elected to CTC Council, to serve for London for three years from 2009-2011 inclusive. This is due, in no small part, to the enthusiasm and support of Camden Cyclists, as well as some from other London Boroughs.

I should like to thank all those who made this possible and hope to serve your interests to the best of my ability.

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 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)

A very important element of my recommendation of Siberia would be the extraordinary quality of the silence. In our developed world there is no silence any more. Even at night there's always the distant rumble of traffic or the sound given off by electric pylons. There's always something, however small. So the silence was the first thing I noticed about Siberia, the completeness of the silence. An interesting thing is that a lot of younger people are frightened by complete silence. I have experienced that, travelling with a young person - she was really scared. She couldn't take it.

Another thing is the beauty and the variety of the Siberian landscape. You get the impression that Siberia is just thousands and thousands of miles of identical forest. But, of course, it isn't like that at all. There are magnificent rivers, mountain ranges, deep valleys ... well, it's superbly varied, the little area I was in - which was only 6,000 miles across. I don't know that every inch of Siberia has been mapped, but I imagine it probably has, even right up to the top.

Then there's the people. Wonderful people, wonderful hospitality. And so pleased in the areas I was - obviously I kept off the tourist track as much possible - touchingly pleased that you're there and taking an interest in their part of the world. They are quite cut off, even now, despite the internet and what have you. They're linked to the outside world but it's a different experience to sit down and talk to someone face-to-face, obviously....

Extract of interview with Dervla Murphy
The Independent 19 November 2006