Campaigning for cycling in Derby since 1979

DCG Newsletter

www.derbycyclinggroup.org.uk

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ALL THE BEST FOR 2011

We were lucky enough to get a photo of Santa during his recent visit to Derby and are pleased to see that he has traded in his polluting reindeers and now has an eco friendly mode of transport. Look out for him next year on the Mickleover R54 cycle path.

A recent visitor

Cycle Crackers

- What is a ghost-proof bicycle? One with no spooks in it.
- Did you hear about the vampire bicycle that went round biting peoples arms off? It was a vicious cycle.
- Which is the cheapest bicycle you can buy? A penny-farthing.
- Why couldnt the bicycle stand up for itself? Because it was two-tyred.
- Which Elizabethan sailor could stop bikes ? Sir Francis Brake.

All groans to Mark Crossley for finding the jokes.

Facebook

If you are on Facebook you are encouraged to join the Derby Cycling Group Facebook Group. Login to your Facebook account and then search for ”Derby Cycling Group”. You should find the group information and there should be a ”Join” icon at the top of the page - click on that and you’re joined!

ON A BICYCLE

By LES SIMS

- On a bicycle, you are 15 times more efficient than a horse and rider, in terms of energy consumed per km travelled, and you can travel further and faster.
- On a bicycle, you can travel over 1000kms on the energy equivalent of one litre of petrol.
- On a bicycle, you are about six times as heavy as your vehicle, but in a car the vehicle is twenty times as heavy as the driver.
- On a bicycle, you are protecting yourself from the Western diseases of heart disease, high blood pressure, stress and obesity.
- On a bicycle, you provide a motor, which unlike any other motor, improves its power, its life, and its efficiency the more it is used.
- On a bicycle, you use less energy than a car uses to power its headlights. One car headlight uses 60 watts, whereas a little more than half this will propel a bicycle and its rider.
- On a bicycle, if used regularly, you can expect to live ten years longer than the average non-cycling person.
- On a bicycle, you can travel four times faster, and much further, than you could walk.
- On a bicycle, you can literally have your cake and eat it, since you burn off 8 calories per minute, the equivalent of 11kg of fat per year for one hours cycling each day.

DCG WEBSITE

By IAN DENT

Please visit the DCG website for up to date information on the group’s activities. In particular, try the ”Discuss” forum where you can see the latest situation with the various campaigns we’re involved with as well as get information on forthcoming events. Your contribution (either on new events or comments on our approach to existing campaigns) is really welcomed.

DCG 30th Birthday Party

The Cycling Group celebrated its 30th birthday during the summer (I know

its a year late!) and Paul McCormack created this poster to commemorate the event. An excellent party with cycle rides and other activities was organised by Dave Clasby to whom the committee extend thanks. Now for the next 30 years.

Birthday poster

Quality Streets

Sustrans are running a campaign to influence local councillors to push for better cycle friendly (and pedestrian friendly) streets in the local area. You can add your support by visiting `http://www.quality-streets.org.uk/`

Local Transport Plan

By TONY ROELICH

Its a very dry subject, with a very dry title, The Local Transport Plan, or LTP. However it is really important that cycling gets a good showing in Derbys next LTP because this document sets out what Derby City Councils priorities will be for transport until 2023. If cycling was not mentioned in the LTP it would be very difficult to get new cycle routes, or to extend cycle training or promotion.

Derby Cycling Group is a member of the LTP Steering Group and we have kept cycling in the spotlight during the development of the plan, with the highlight being our seminar in May, "A City Designed for Cycling". Here fifty councillors, senior council officers, DCG members and other cyclists and cycling groups heard our presentation and vision for the future of cycling in Derby and then discussed a wide variety of cycling issues. Cycling was well represented in the Three Wishes promotion which the city council ran earlier this year and Active Travel received the most comments of all the transport themes during the LTP3 public consultation in September, so Id like to give a huge thank you to everyone who contributed to these consultations; it was noted by the LTP team.

The LTP3 document has now been launched, and a pre-launch briefing was presented to the Steering Group in early October. The LTP team state that Derby City is looking at a "balanced approach" to transport planning with "emphasis on sustainable and active travel" however there will be less emphasis on "restraint demand" of car use than during the previous LTPs (i.e. since 2004).

The LTP Steering Group were given the following spending percentages for the different transport themes:

Theme	LTP2	LTP3
Active Travel	1%	5%
Asset Management	50%	65%
Network (roads)	25%	21%
Public Transport	10%	7%
Connecting Derby	14%	2%

So, there will be a modest, percentage increase in the proportion of budget spent on cycling and walking (though maybe not by value), although the increased emphasis on maintenance will also benefit cyclists, particularly on the road. The LTP team said they intended to get more cycling infrastructure delivered as part of other road schemes (e.g. when roads are resurfaced or traffic signals replaced, with more cycle lanes, advanced stop lines etc. installed as part of these works).

To date, no hard-fact projects have been mentioned by the LTP team and therefore DCG will continue to press for:

- A firm commitment to the creation of an integrated cycle route network covering the whole city by 2023.
- The short term creation of a Strategic Cycle Network Development Plan to guide the creation and design of the cycle network.
- The retention of the Cycle Derby team to continue to deliver their outstanding services to school children and other young people which has seen numbers regularly cycling to school rise from 1% of the school population to over 7% since 2005 (on a target of 4%).
- The inclusion of cycling considerations and facilities into all planning appraisals and the design of all road schemes.

Of course, we dont yet know how much money will be available for the transport budget, although we do know it will be greatly reduced from previous years. It will not be an easy ride ahead, but DCG intends to work hard to secure the best we can for cycling, and to promote the wider benefits which cycling gives and the fantastic return on investment that cycling projects habitually deliver.

DCG Committee

The DCG committee is keen for any members interested in becoming more involved in the group to join the committee, either as one of the vacant committee positions (chair or minutes secretary) or as a general "without portfolio" member. All are welcome to attend the monthly meetings at the Brunswick PH (first Tuesdays of the month, 7:30pm, upstairs).

Member email addresses

If you have received this newsletter through the Royal Mail then this is because we don't hold an up to date email address for you. We realise that not everyone is (or wants to be) electronically connected and we're very happy to continue to send newsletters via the post to those who wish. However, it is a lot easier (and a lot more cost effective) to use email for those who have such technology. If you have received this in hard copy but have an email address please send details to membership@derbycyclinggroup.org.uk so that the records can be updated.