

Pedal Power

The newsletter of Greenwich Cyclists. Issue 51, December 2005

What, no ceilidh?

We regret that the annual ceilidh on 17 December advertised in previous issues has had to be **cancelled**. If you had paid for tickets and not had a refund yet, call Karen at 01322 311181 or e-mail

greenwichceilidh@aol.com.

Lock out the thieves

Although D-locks are the best, they should not be used alone e.g. add a cable or click lock. Cable locks are alright and very flexible to use but can be sawn through. Locks are a good investment despite the initial outlay (D-locks start from £35.00 upwards). Check the London Cycling Campaign website for more information, www.lcc.org.uk and www.soldsecure.com (a non profit company that checks out security products).

Maintenance classes

Another series of maintenance classes will be held in the New Year. Beginners class (mainly tyres - one session in January) and Intermediate (brakes, gears etc. - two sessions in February) - dates to be confirmed next month. There is a modest charge for these classes and advance booking is essential. If you want to learn how to look after your own bike, e-mail Julian (see back page) to book for either or both these classes.

Christmas Fun!
See the back page...

Rides and Events

See back page for a selection of rides. For a full list of rides organised by this and other borough groups, or to check for updates, go to any of these websites:

www.greenwichcyclists.org.uk ; www.lewishamecyclists.net ; www.southwarkcyclists.org.uk

All the Greenwich-organised rides and events, unless stated otherwise, are 'turn up and go' and start from 'CSG' (Cutty Sark Gardens, by the river in Greenwich). Please feel free to come along.

Go West to Richmond the alterno trip (26th Nov)

Six of us head out to Richmond Park. Liz boasted her new Thorn touring bike on its first outing, boy were we jealous! Instead of the usual ride along the river we went due South, with the faint hope of finding a fleeting sun.



Mainly Traffic-free ride along The Waterlinks way, Sustrans Route 21, just past Catford and took a left towards Crystal Palace (*see Anil's photos*) where we had scrumptious victuals. From there wound our way West through quiet streets to Wimbledon. The usual friendly cyclists point us in the right directions along the way. Found part of the Wandle trail. Also found 8 Ball Choppers, need a motorcycle?

Off the road again onto Wimbledon Common which connects to Richmond Park. Swooshing through the trees, along a small creek and landed lunch at the vegetarian restaurant under Richmond Bridge. A bit crowded, but good food made up for it.

2 riders road headed off into the sunset and 3 of us rode on along the Thames Path to Putney Bridge. Nice view as we watched the rowers glide past us along the river. Another rider headed home for the helping hand of Lemsip.

Now that the posse was only 2, we stopped at the last chance saloon somewhere in Wapping. Double shots and back on the trail home, 50 miles of fun.



*The first bike shop we find in Bethlehem,
we're getting a tandem and trailer!*

Mayor's Ride 2006

The annual Greenwich Mayor's charity cycle ride to Erith will be on Sunday 26 March in aid of Motor Neurone Research. Would you be able to help with either publicity or marshalling? Contact Julian (see below).

December / New Year rides

CSG=Cutty Sark Gardens, Greenwich. See the websites for each local group listed overleaf for updates and additional rides.

Sat 10 Dec - Rochester to Maidstone/Tonbridge, 30 miles, partly offroad. Meet 10.00 Greenwich station. Leader - Barry.

Sun 11 Dec - Lea Valley. Meet 10.00 CSG. Leader - Ray.

CHRISTMAS DAY - wander round central London. Meet 10.00 CSG. Leader - Barry.

Wed 28 Dec - ride meeting 6.30pm at the Dog & Bell, Deptford.

Sat 7 Jan - Battle (40 miles). Meet 10.00 CSG. Leader - Ian (Lewisham cyclists).

Sun 8 Jan - Crystal Palace. Meet 10.00 CSG. Leader - Ray.

Contact Us

We meet on the first Wednesday of every month (next meeting 4 January) at 7.30 p.m. at the Armada Centre, 21 McMillan St, Deptford. See the website www.greenwichcyclists.org.uk, or email:

Chairperson: Julian@jadobson.demon.co.uk
Maintenance: Julian@jadobson.demon.co.uk
Press: Maria Robinson: mrobinson@copyprint.co.uk
Rides: Ray Suomi: Ray@dccnet.com
Treasurer: Derek Mark: derekmark@hotmail.com
Secretary: anthony.austin@reuters.com
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Webmaster: Andy Braben: abrahen@email.com
Training: Liz Delap: liz.delap@dial.pipex.com

Cycle Tracks

Top 10 bicycle tracks for Karaoke rides!

1. Queen, "I want to ride by bicycle" (1978)
2. Luka Bloom, "The Acoustic Motorbike" (1992)
3. Orbit, "Bicycle Song" (1996)
4. Pink Floyd, "Bike" (1967)
5. Poopiehead, "Cycling is Fun" (1995)
(2nd verse is in Japanese, why?)
6. The Sugarcubes, "Motorcrash" (1988)
7. Madness, "Riding on my Bike" (1982)
8. Kermit and Miss Piggy, "Side by Side" (1981)
9. Kraftwerk, "Tour de France" (1983)
10. The Beatles, "Why Don't we do it on the road" (1968)

What's your best cycle track? Email the editor:
vanillavanderstappen@yahoo.co.uk

Photo competition

One of our members spotted this rare breed of cyclist in a European city. Have a go at these questions (reply to the editor as above) and/or suggest a caption!



1. Which city is it in?
2. What material is it made of?
3. How much was the sculptor paid for the creation (to the nearest 10,000 Euros)?

Bottom of the column

Forget the wonderbra, wonderpants is the new fashion gimmick. This gentle uplift in the Netherlands gives you that sought-for look. So babies keep shaking the donkey and reveal those padded pants with pride.

