

Pedal Power

The Newsletter of Greenwich Cyclists



Issue 67 May/June 2008

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM will be held on Wednesday 4 June, 7.30pm at the Armada Centre, followed by a buffet at the Dog and Bell (no charge for food but buy your own drinks). The AGM is chaired by Charlie Lloyd of LCC.

You are welcome to turn up for the meeting, but please let Anthony know if you intend to come for the buffet, or if you wish to nominate someone (or seek nomination yourself) for a committee post - you have to be a LCC member to stand.

Mayor's Charity Bike Ride

This year it is taking place on the 22nd of June. Unfortunately at this time we have no other details than that to give you.

Bike Week

Turn over for all the details of our events and rides organised as part of this years Bike Week (14th - 22nd June)

Spring Holiday Cycling Course

Children from three Lewisham schools took part in cycling activities from Monday to Friday during their school holiday. There were two courses, mainly for year 6 children, all already at level 2 of the National standards.

The children learnt level 3 skills (dealing with busy roads, roundabouts and traffic lights), proper use of gears and carried out a map-reading exercise. They also did some rides around south-east and central London, both on and off-road. Cycle instructors Liz Delap and Anthony Austin from Greenwich Cyclists assisted with the work. "We were really impressed with their enthusiasm for riding and how disciplined they were on the busy roads", both instructors said "but it was harder to get them to concentrate when they were off-road."

For the final two days of each week the group headed for the Lee Valley Country Park, some 25 miles along the Greenway and Lee Valley canal, spending the night at the Lee Valley Youth Hostel and returning the next day. They did a night ride while they were at the hostel. "It was quite a sight to see 15 sets of back lights snaking ahead and reflected in one of the many lakes in the Park", said Liz, who was bringing up the rear. "Later they switched off their lights and we had a look at the stars"

In all they cycled about 125 miles each week. Some of the children coped easily with this distance while others were very tired by the end of the week.

Freewheel Returns

Over 100 cyclists from Greenwich took part in the first "Freewheel" ride last year and enjoyed riding through central London completely traffic-free for a day as well as visiting lots of related stalls and sideshows in St James's Park.

It's happening again on Sunday 21 September, and we are told there will be more traffic-free streets this time. There's no charge to enter but you do have to pre-register at www.londonfreewheel.com or 020 7983 4856.

Don't worry if you have never cycled into the city before: we will be leading a gently-paced ride from Woolwich and Greenwich into London on the day. If you're thinking about cycle commuting but haven't got the confidence yet, this could get you started. Contact any of the committee for more info.

Sustrans Signing Survey

The Thames Path forms part of the Sustrans National Cycling Network. Sustrans is a civil engineering charity which designs and builds routes for cyclists, walkers and people with disabilities.

Greenwich Cyclists are a contact point for the route from Greenwich to Dartford. Sustrans has designated April as signing month: a time to check for missing/damaged signs.

On 5th April we surveyed the path from Greenwich to Erith, and noted a few signs near the Yacht club that were obscured by bushes, and a few places where it would be nice to have a Sustrans sign.

If you know of signing problems between Erith and Dartford (or other problems such as poor surface), please contact Julian Dobson at julian@jadobson.demon.co.uk.

There will be a ride beginning during May to put up new signs/clear bushes (date to be confirmed)



You can help improve Greenwich's cycling facilities

If you want a new cycle path, bike parking, better road access for bicycles, etcetera, please let us know by emailing your suggestions to Greenwich Cyclists' Planning Officer, Anthony Austin - austin970@btinternet.com

Greenwich Cyclists Bike Week Programme: June 14th - June 22nd 2008

- Please check your bike before joining a ride. Bring a spare inner tube and water to drink.
- All children to be accompanied by an adult.
- See www.greenwichcyclists.org.uk for ride details, as well as low-cost cycle training and cycle maintenance.
- Bring your own food and drinks for all rides, except Food will be sold at cost at the BBQ. Bring your own drinks (off licence near by).

Weekend Rides

Date	Event	Meeting time & place	Leader & contact details.	Notes
Saturday 14 th	Historic South London	Cutty Sark Gardens 10am	Stephen 020 8858 2243 07982225131 <i>No text</i>	Historic South London - Dulwich and Crystal Palace. 15-20, picnic in Crystal Palace Park. Bring own food
Saturday 21st	Midsummer madness ride	Cutty Sark Gardens 2.00Am (Saturday Morning)	Barry 07905 889 005	This is a night time ride its Friday night Saturday morning
Saturday June 21st	BBQ hosted by a Greenwich Cyclist	Meet at the venue/Dulwich Park Call for address	Andy 020 8778 6377 07890 215317 <i>No text</i>	BBQ in a private garden with marquee. Five minutes from Tulse Hill rail station
Saturday June 21st	Feeder ride to Greenwich Cyclists' evening BBQ in West Norwood	Cutty Sark Gardens 6.00 pm	Andy 020 8778 6377 07890 215317 <i>No text</i>	BBQ hosted by a Greenwich Cyclist member in a private garden with marquee.
Sunday June 22nd	Mayors ride	Cutty Sark Gardens	Maureen Johnson 020 8305 0343	Organised by Greenwich Council

Family Rides

Date	Event	Meeting time & place	Leader & contact details.	Notes
Saturday 14th	Lewisham Council Bike and Kite event	Blackheath	.	
Sunday June 15th	Julian's Family ride to Surrey docks farm	Cutty Sark Gardens 10.00 am	Julian 020 8463 0801 07771 692344 <i>No text</i>	Bring sandwiches, or eat at the (v. good) farm cafe
Friday June 20th	Tom's Bike event on Blackheath	Blackheath Common at 3.00 pm <i>Finish 5.00 pm</i>	Tom Crispin & Teri Griffith 07919 447 316	Event is for children aged 3-11. Bicycle limbo, slow cycling, bicycle football, etc.

Daytime / Evening Rides / Events

Date	Event	Meeting time & place	Leader & contact details.	Notes
Monday June 16th	River Lee	Cutty Sark Gardens 6.30 pm.	Ian 07534 935633	
Monday June 16th	Cycle breakfast	Cutty Sark Gardens 07.00am – 09.00am	Sarah 07900 677706 <i>No text messages .</i>	
Tuesday June 17th	Ride to Pilot Inn, Greenwich Peninsula	The Crown Blackheath Village 5.30pm or Cutty Sark Gardens 6 pm.	Tom Crispin	
Tuesday June 17th	Ride to Tower Bridge and back	Cutty Sark Gardens 6.30 pm.	David 020 8858 7570	Through the foot tunnel before lifts stop. West along the north side over Tower Bridge. Return on south side.
Wednesday June 18	Southwark Needle, mystery tag ride.	Cutty Sark Gardens 7 pm.	Teri 07919 447 316 <i>No text messages.</i>	Riders take it in turns to lead for 10 mins each.
Thursday June 19	Waterlink Way.	Cutty Sark Gardens 6.30 pm.	Andy 020 8778 6377 07890 215317 <i>No text</i>	



Contact us

We meet on the first Wednesday of every month (next meeting 4th June - open to all) at 19.30 at the Armada Centre, 21 McMillan Street, Deptford.

See our website www.greenwichcyclists.org.uk

Join our mailing list

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/greenwichcyclists/>

email us enquiries@greenwichcyclists.org.uk



Greenwich Cyclists is part of the London Cycling Campaign (LCC)

LCC is the only organisation exclusively campaigning and lobbying to ensure the best possible routes, facilities and services for people who cycle in London. Membership benefits include: ● Free *London Cyclist* magazine ● Free third party insurance ● Up to 10% off bike gear at many London bike shops ● Free legal advice ● A special deal on theft insurance.

Join up today at www.lcc.org.uk and help make London a world class cycling city. Phone: 020 7234 9310.