

Foot Tunnel update

Barriers. Thanks to those of you who wrote following our plea for a Voluntary Code of Conduct in the last edition. It was mostly very positive, with many people in favour, and others who felt strongly that cyclists should walk at all times. It is unlikely that there will be any moves to erect barriers yet in view of the imminent tunnel refurbishment, but the issue of conflict between cyclists and pedestrians is one which needs to be reduced, especially with rising numbers of cyclists. A recent count by Greenwich Cyclists showed about 200 cyclists an hour between 7.00 and 9.00am.

Refurbishment. Please visit our website for more detailed information about Council plans to refurbish Greenwich and Woolwich Tunnels. The Council has agreed to keep us up to date and we will add changes to our webpage. A summary of major points is below:

A meeting with the Council to review plans took place on May 12th, at which we learned:

Work on both tunnels will be more or less concurrent in order to complete the project by the funding deadline of March 2011.

Lifts, to be completely replaced with automatic ones, will all be out of use for the whole duration. The Council agreed to look at the installation of wheel ramps on the stairs at the beginning of the project, at the request of GC. Work is likely to start in the autumn, but not before September 30th. Three months notice

must be given and statutory closure notices will be issued.

Tunnels will be closed for part of the refurbishment period. The Council is looking for ways to minimise closure periods, but the amount of closure is not yet known and depends on structural surveys and the need to complete major repairs. Work on tunnels is likely to start in early 2010.

All refurbishment has to take place within the constraints of listed structures and EU procedures. The character of the lifts and tunnels will be protected.

The Council is investigating alternative crossing arrangements for cyclists, but little concrete progress has been made yet. A ferry has been costed, but is prohibitive. GC suggested further investigation here, with the possibility of subsidy from other sources. GC would like to hear from any individuals or organisations with any suggestions for ferry alternatives. (see the website for "contact us" details). The Council appears to be receptive to ideas to mitigate the effects of closure. Talks with the DLR have not yet yielded any changes in their No Cycles Policy.

Readers may be interested to read Andrew Gilligan 's blog about the Foot tunnel at <http://greenwich.co.uk/andrew-gilligan/foot-tunnel-closure>

Can you help?

Police were called on Friday evening May 15th to the junction of Woolwich Road and the Kent-bound A102 (M) in Greenwich following a collision between a lorry and a female pedal cyclist, a police spokesman said.

London Ambulance Service attended. The woman was pronounced dead at the scene. Police had not yet been able to establish her identity.

The lorry did not stop at the scene. It is described as having blue material (e.g. canvas, or plastic sheeting) on its side. Anyone who witnessed the collision or has information that may assist police should call the Collision Investigation Unit at Catford Traffic Garage on 020 8285 1574.



Greenwich Cyclists have placed a white bike and flowers at the scene

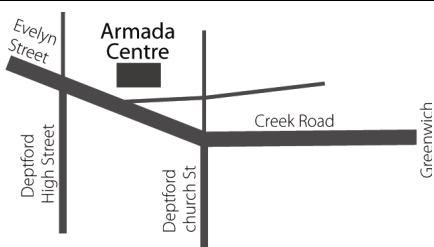
Cyclists back our bid for Greenwich contraflow

More than 300 cycling commuters signed our petition for a contraflow in King William Walk, the road which runs from the Foot Tunnel to Greenwich Park. At the moment it 's a one-way northbound after the junction with Romney Road, and you risk a fine if you ride it up to the park gates. The only legal way to do this is to cycle from the Tunnel on King William Walk to the junction with Romney Road, turn right into the one-way Nelson Road, left at the lights into Greenwich High Road, left again into Stockwell Street and left into Nevada Street to bring you to an awkward right turn across traffic into the park. Scores more signed an online petition and the documents are due to be presented at the next full meeting of Greenwich Council. As well as approaching the council, which as the highway authority would need to alter the road alignment, we 've made the same request -- or a cycle contraflow on the east side of King William Walk up to the park -- during a cycle route inspection meeting commissioned by the Royal Parks.

Rides & Events - Some of the upcoming rides and events for Bike Week. For up to date information on these and others join our yahoo group, details below

◆ 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 low-cost cycle training and cycle maintenance . ◆ Bring your own food and drinks for all rides, some rides may stop at a convenient pub and or café for lunch. If you are in any doubt then please check with ride leader beforehand.

Date	Event	Meeting Time & Place	Leader & Contact Details	Notes
Sat 13th & Sun 14th June	Between 12noon & 7pm, the ground and skies above Blackheath, south east London, will come alive with bikes and kites of all shapes, sizes and colours as the Blackheath Bike and Kite Festival once again gets underway. The event, sponsored by Transport for London, is being held during National Bike Week. The weekend-long festival will have something for everyone. Renowned UK mountain bike stunt display team, Team MAD, will demonstrate death defying leaps, jumps, hops and balancing skills, using only their custom made stunt bikes. Kids can also get in on the act with special interactive in-between show skill sessions as well as being able to sample over 20 different types of bicycles thanks to the Company of Cyclists. Guided out rides are being arranged to various locations locally according to the capabilities of the riders providing an ideal opportunity to find safe local cycle routes around Greenwich. Greenwich Cyclists will be there running a stall and fun kids events.			
Monday 15th June	Oxleas Woods & Sutcliffe Park	Cutty Sark Gardens 6:30pm	Stephen Craven 07982 225131 - No texts please	12 Miles approx, some off road so not suitable for racing bikes
Tuesday 16th June	Circular Tower Bridge Ride	Cutty Sark Gardens 6:30pm	David Senior 020 8858 7570	Circular route to Tower Bridge and back, mainly riverside paths.
Wednesday 17th June	Waterlink Way to South Norwood Country Park and back	Cutty Sark Gardens 6:30pm Ladywell Fields 6:45pm	Andy Braben 07890 215317 - No texts please	
Thursday 18th June	Dome/River Way/ Pilot Inn	Cutty Sark Gardens 6:30pm	Sarah Ellis 07900 677706 - No texts please	Easy off main road past the dome
Friday 19th June	Lee Valley Canal	Cutty Sark Gardens 6:30pm	Liz Delap 07963 761039 - No texts please	A ride along the Lee Valley canal to Springfield Marina and back.
Sunday 21st June	Midsummer Madness	Cutty Sark Gardens 2am Southwark Needle 2:30am Bar Italia, Frith Street, Soho 3am	Barry Mason 07905 889005 - No texts please	The annual ride to Primrose Hill to watch the sun come up on the longest day of the year.



Contact us

We meet on the first Wednesday of every month (next meeting 3rd June - open to all) at 19.30 at the Armada Centre, 21 McMillan Street Deptford See our website www.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.

Join our mailing list

[Http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/greenwichcyclists/](http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/greenwichcyclists/) Email us at enquiries@greenwichcyclists.org.uk

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