

Pedal Power

The newsletter of Greenwich Cyclists. Issue 53, March 2006

A BETTER FUTURE

FOR LONDON AND THE CYCLIST?

London and the Tour de France

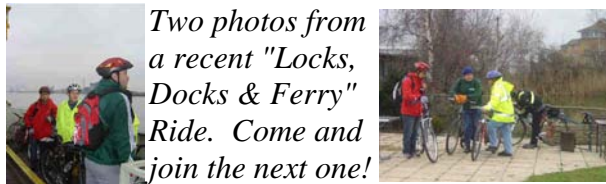
London has been chosen to host the start of the 2007 Tour by the Tour de France organisers and the Amaury Sport Organisation. This is an exciting moment for cycling for both amateurs and professionals alike in the UK. This may trigger greater public interest in cycling as well as more investment in training and facilities (from private and the public sectors).

London and the Olympics

London Cycling Campaign and Sustrans are making plans to deliver lower carbon emissions by setting up walk and cycle paths to all venues for the 2012 London Olympic Games. A big plus is that these green routes will continue to be used long after the Olympics is over. Greenwich cyclists have 2 representatives taking part in these green initiatives. As an example they are working closely with Donald Anyiam on the Greenwich Council about a Greenwich route map to the Olympics.

Leading by example?

David Cameron made a great start to show how green he is by cycling to work on a cold winter morning. But it turned out sadly to be a one-off stunt; apparently it was difficult to forsake the comforting relaxing warmth of his 4 wheeler outside of Parliament. Of course he does have a punishing schedule!



Two photos from a recent "Locks, Docks & Ferry" Ride. Come and join the next one!

Rides and Events

See above 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.

Feb / March rides

February

Saturday 18: to Richmond and back (route to be confirmed - lunch at Richmond). Meet CSG 10am. Contact: Ray 07932 189328.

Sunday 19: Towpaths Canals and a Lake. Mainly off-road ride including lunch in Regents Park and taking in Hyde Park, Trafalgar Square, Tower Bridge. Meet CSG 10am. Approx 45 miles. Contact: Ray 07932 189328.

Thursday 23: Afterworker: Meet 6.30pm Southwark Needle. A very slow ride to 56A Info Shop (Crampton Street, SE17 3AE) for a South London Radical History Group evening. Contact Barry 07905 889 005.

Friday 24: Critical Mass. Meet 6pm at the National Film Theatre under Waterloo Bridge for a slow meander around Central London (Bit political).

Saturday 25: Locks Docks and One Smoking Ferry (Southwark Cyclists Group).

Sunday 26: Off-Roader. Down the Thames Path to Thamesmead before heading into Lesnes Abbey and Bostalls Woods. A ride suited to mountain and hybrid bikes. 30 miles. Meet CSG 10am. Contact: Ian 07986 872205

March

Saturday 4: Decathlon Event - Canada Water. Details to follow.

Sunday 5: Thames Path East. Down the Thames Path to Erith. Details to follow.

Friday 24: Critical Mass (as above).

Sunday 26: Mayor's Charity Bike Ride to Erith - see over.

Rules of the Road

Some bike signs



"Cyclists only." This sign is displayed at marked cycle lanes on one-way streets where cyclists can ride in both directions, some pedestrianised roads (eg part of Lambs Conduit), and narrow entries blocked to motor traffic.



"This route is recommended for cycling." Such routes include roads with or without continuous cycle paths, and some quiet, narrow one-way lanes to indicate that cyclists can ride in both directions (eg Mill Street, near Tower Bridge).



A path is split with painted lines or different surfaces for cyclists to use one side and pedestrians the other. (Pedestrians usually ignore the distinction.) If the surfaces are different, the cycle side is usually tarmac and the pedestrian side is brick or cobbled.



Indicates a path which pedestrians and cyclists share (eg Woodpecker Street). Also can be a section of path near traffic lights and road crossings. On these paths, pedestrians have priority over cyclists.

And in case you don't know the "No cycling" sign, here it is.



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).

Learn to ride with confidence

Following the Mayor's Ride, Greenwich Cyclists are offering cycle training for adults and/or children, starting with Free "Taster" Sessions on **Saturday, 1st April**. These will run as follows:

10.30 am - 12.30 pm Level 1A: For those who have never ridden before or have not gained confidence and skills in basic off-road manoeuvres.

1.45 pm - 3.45 pm Level 1B: For more advanced off-road manoeuvres in preparation for road use.

Training at your doorstep will take place on the river path just east of the Waterfront Leisure Centre in Woolwich.

Normandy Trip - Easter

12 April - 18 April: 60 miles a day cycling from St Malo to Caen. Depart Midday 12 April for a train to Portsmouth, and then the overnight ferry to St Malo. The route will follow the coastline. Option to camp or stay at B&B's. Return 18 April 09:00 ferry from Caen.

If you want take part, give Ray a buzz on 07932 189328 to get details for the meeting on the 22nd February, as the ferries need to be booked by 2nd March latest.

Liz Delap is also organising training to Levels 1, 2 or 3 of the National Standards for those of you who wish to advance your skills and build up confidence. Training will take place during weekends or evenings from the second half of April to the end of May or during the autumn, delivered by qualified instructors in small groups or on a one to one basis. See our website for details.

If you would like to sign up for any training please contact Liz Delap on 020 8691 2065 (e-mail see below)

Contact Us

We meet on the first Wednesday of every month (next meeting 1 March) 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
Planning: anthony.austin@reuters.com
Webmaster: Andy Braben: abrahen@email.com
Training: Liz Delap: liz.delap@dial.pipex.com

