

May 2009

Lambeth

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The news update for people who want to make a difference



St Thomas' and Guy's cycle awareness day

The Lambeth sustainable transport team and Southwark Council have been working closely with St Thomas' and Guy's hospital to help them raise the profile of their cycle to work scheme and to help their BUG (bicycle users group) to organise three cycle awareness days set to take place over the summer.

The first of these cycle awareness days was held on May 13 and it was a great success. Staff and students turned out in droves to learn about cycle training, talk to HR about the cycle scheme and get their bikes serviced for free by Dr Bike. Between the two sites of Guy's and St Thomas' Dr Bike serviced over 40 bikes.



The metropolitan police also attended with their HGV awareness road show and attendees were able to sit in the cab of the lorry, chat to the driver and experience first hand how much and how little a lorry driver can see when out on the roads, many people found this fascinating and said that it had definitely changed their cycling for the better.

The day was also an excuse to promote the cycle to work scheme where your employer can buy you a bike of your choice 'tax free' and you pay it back in small chunks over a period of time, you can get approx 40% off the price of a brand new bike. Ask your own employer if they are a part of the scheme.

For more information about these schemes please email cycling@lambeth.gov.uk or call Eric on 020 7926 0677

Lots of walks in London

The ramblers are organising a Family Fun Walk for Get Walking Day 2009 which takes place on Saturday 30 May. Registration begins at 10.30 at Blackfriars Settlement, 1-5 Rushworth Street, London SE1 0RB, nearest tube Southwark. All are welcome to join the walk and there will be freebies and refreshments for all. There is no need to book and the event is free.

For more information call 020 7926 8998 or email Kirsten.hubmann@ramblers.org.uk

Open Garden Squares

On 13-14 June you can visit gardens that are not normally open to the public. You can enjoy special activities and discover gardens that you didn't know existed. Transport for London are sponsoring the event and are organising guided walks to some of the gardens.

For more information please see www.opensquares.org

Invisible food walk

Transition Town Brixton are organising a fun and informative walk around Loughborough Estate on 23 May. Participants will interact with plants in the area and are then encouraged to go home and make jam, soup and cakes with recipe cards supplied. The walk is free to join but a place must be booked. Please do this by calling 07963 446605 or emailing openbracket@riseup.net.

For more information about invisible food see <http://transitiontowns.org/Brixton/InvisibleFood>

DIY  PLANET REPAIRS

Road safety scheme success

The London Borough of Lambeth's biggest ever road safety scheme has cut accidents by more than 60% in its first year. The £4M scheme to improve 2km of Wandsworth Road between Stockwell and Clapham was completed in spring 2007 after several years' work. New figures now show this project has cut the total number of accidents from an average of 40 a year to just 15, none of which were serious. The improvement scheme has transformed the road for pedestrians, cyclists and other road users, cutting traffic speeds, improving the appearance of the area and most importantly, leading to improved road safety.

Abu Barkatoolah, Head of Transport Planning and Strategy says: 'The improvements are having a real and positive effect on the quality of life for people who live locally and use the area regularly, but most importantly it is reducing injuries and accidents. It has been a complex project involving funding from a wide range of sources and I'd like to thank those who contributed to the planning process.'



Wandsworth Road (A306) is a busy arterial route situated on the western side of the London Borough of Lambeth. Part of the so-called 'south circular' route, it handles around 2 800 fast moving vehicles in the morning peak, during which 270 pedestrians also cross it per hour. It contains a mixture of small retail/commercial premises, a large supermarket, petrol stations, entrance to a park and some quite long residential sections, with a college and several schools on these local streets, some of which are subject to traffic calming.

School Travel Plan Success

Lambeth's school travel team would like to congratulate Lambeth schools who have just received approval from Transport for London for their completed school travel plans.



"Congratulations to those schools who have completed their school travel plan this year. There are now only 3 schools left to engage with in Lambeth. We will continue to offer support and resources to schools with a school travel plan and will be aiming to engage remaining schools by the end of this year. Travel plans are a great tool in tackling car use and since 2004, car use has decreased 25% to 15% of school journeys, whilst walking and cycling have increased. This is all down to the hard work of our schools who are keen to

make a difference to their local environment." said David Graham, Lambeth's School Travel Advisor

All schools with an approved travel plan have access to initiatives such as Walk on Wednesday, Bike Week events, cycle training and competitions linked to sustainable travel.

Transport for London and The Mayor of London have set a deadline for all schools in London to complete a travel plan by the end of 2009. 97% of Lambeth schools (independent and state schools) have an approved school travel plan in place.

For more information email dgraham2@lambeth.gov.uk

Award nomination

The King's College Plaza improvement works mentioned in the March edition has been nominated for best public realm scheme at the national transport awards! The scheme helped to improve the area for pedestrians and reduce the fear of crime.

Brixton station receives award

On 5 May Brixton overland station, managed by Southeastern, received a Safer Station Award.

The award, made under the Secure Stations Scheme managed by the Department for Transport and British Transport Police, is an assurance to passengers and staff over real efforts made to deter crime and anti-social behaviour. It is also the result of partnership working with a range of organisations including Lambeth Council, Transport for London, and the British Transport and Metropolitan Police.
