

August 2009

Lambeth

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The news update for people who want to make a difference



Cyclists take the driver's seat at the Country Show

Around 170 cyclists took advantage of the opportunity of climbing into the cab of a large lorry at the Lambeth Country Show last month, so that they could see for themselves how much the driver can and can't see from the driving seat. The idea of the event was to increase cyclists' awareness of the extensive blind-spots in the driver's view, which exist in spite of the large number of mirrors in the cab.



Lorries pose the biggest danger of serious injury or death to cyclists and this event formed a part of Lambeth's on-going cyclist/HGV awareness campaign, being run in partnership with the council's waste management contractor, Veolia, and the council's cycle training provider, CTUK. The campaign includes regular events in Lambeth's parks offering cyclists the chance to see the view from the cab, wide-spread cycle training for school children and Lambeth residents, and cycle awareness training for the drivers of the council's refuse and school bus fleet. The training for lorry and bus drivers includes a classroom session as well as practical cycle training, so that lorry drivers have a chance to experience the road from the cyclist's viewpoint.

Much of the feedback received by visitors showed that although many cyclists are aware of lorry drivers' blind-spots, many had no idea how extensive they were. Cyclists also commented on how helpful it was to talk to the cycle trainers who were on hand to give advice on safe positioning round an HGV.

The event was so popular that 50 people had to be turned away.

TfL have produced a fantastic video about road sharing with large vehicles, see www.tfl.gov.uk/cycling



Winter Wheelin'

We appreciate that it is still summer, and we hope that it will be long and hot, but we want to make sure that you are well equipped for cycling through the winter. We therefore invite you to come to our Winter Wheelin' events in September to get your bike fixed up and get some free lights and high vis goodies. We will be at the following locations between 5.30pm - 7.30pm:

- **Brockwell Park** - 1 September
- **Clapham Common** - 8 September
- **Waterloo** - 15 September
- **Streatham** - 22 September

For more information email cycling@lambeth.gov.uk

Cycle Fridays



Transport for London (TfL) and the London Cycle Campaign (LCC) have joined forces to provide led commuter rides

from various locations around the city to central London destinations. Following on from the led rides provided by LCC during the tube strikes, the rides are being provided to help first time commuters onto their bikes. The rides in Lambeth start at the corner of Coldharbour Lane and Brixton Road on the corner by KFC. The ride will start at 8.00am and will end up at Russell Square although the marshals will discuss extra drop-offs on the day.

For more information see www.tfl.gov.uk

The Camberwell Travel Plan Group explained



The Camberwell Travel Plan Group promotes sustainable travel in an area blighted by heavy traffic: Camberwell town centre. Camberwell sits at the crossroads of two major roads; is a major bus interchange, and is not served by the tube. The narrow pavements and wide roads create a stressful walking environment. It is a 'through-route' rather than a destination.

The travel plan group first came together in December 2006 with funding from the EU OPTIMUM² scheme. Kings College Hospital, South London and the Maudsley Hospital, the Institute of Psychiatry and major local employers are key members and the group includes representatives of Southwark and Lambeth Councils, the charity Living

Streets and local residents via the SE5 Forum. It is facilitated by the Camberwell Area Management Team, based at Southwark Council.

The production of green travel plans based on the findings of staff travel surveys, by the three medical institutions, forms the core work of the group. The group is also pressing for physical improvements that would increase people's ability to walk and cycle around the town centre.

In July 2007, the group hosted the 'Camberwell Transport Summit', which brought together local residents and agencies. A number of actions were recommended, from de-cluttering of pavements to re-configuration of road space. These and other ideas have been illustrated in a 'vision for Camberwell' prepared by Living Streets. Southwark Council is currently bidding to Transport for London for an 'area based scheme' – a major improvement scheme for Camberwell Green junction – which would incorporate many of these proposals.

For more information contact Katherine on 020 7525 6433 or Katherine.pitt@southwark.gov.uk

A new crossing feature enhances Brixton Road for pedestrians and cyclists



Stockwell Avenue is now linked up to Brixton Road with a new cycle path. The popular route now allows for cyclists to share the passageway with pedestrians and avoid the gyratory on Brixton Road. The scheme is part of the Brixton Road improvements by Transport for London and was designed by Lambeth.

Cycle specific measures allow cyclists to safely enter and exit Stockwell Avenue using the traffic lights. The pedestrian crossing has also been moved to be better for the users desire line. These changes are a part of a masterplan to make Brixton a more pleasurable experience for pedestrians and cyclists.

For more information about this and other schemes taking place in Lambeth email cycling@lambeth.gov.uk

Events in September

The **Urban Green Fair** takes place again on 20 September on Brockwell Park between 11am-7pm. The sustainable transport team will be on site with crazy try-out bikes co-ordinated by Company of Cyclists.

For more information email cycling@lambeth.gov.uk

The **London Skyride** (formerly Freewheel) takes place on 20 September. This is the day when Londoners can dig into their sheds, garages and lofts, dust off their bikes and enjoy cycling for the day around a traffic-free London.

For more information see www.britishcycling.org.uk/skyride

Our **Me and My Bike in Lambeth photography competition** is in full force now. Send in photos of you with your bike in Lambeth to win a bike. Add a few words about your experience of cycling in Lambeth and send in your entry by 30 September.

For more information see www.lambeth.gov.uk/meandmybikeinlambeth
