

**Autumn Newsletter 2016
(no. 104):**



New EMT Cycle Hub at Nottingham Station Why is this so poorly planned and promoted?

In May East Midlands Trains opened their new Cycle Hub on the south, i.e. Queen's Road, side of Nottingham Station, but Pedals thinks that this has been very poorly planned and promoted.

We have now had many complaints on several issues including:-

- Very poor cycle access, especially bearing in mind that the already busy Queen's Road will soon be taking a lot more traffic with the City Council's plans for next year to

divert most through traffic from Collin Street and Canal Street in the Broad Marsh area.

- Very poor signing of the new facility, by the entrance, within the Station and on the main approach routes
- Lack of publicity on how to obtain the fobs to access the facility, on payment of the £10 fee.

We therefore arranged a meeting on 19th September to discuss these with Sarah Turner and colleagues from EMT, as well as Keith Morgan from the City Council. Peter Briggs, Hugh McClintock and Paul Abel attended from Pedals, and Adrian Juffs from Ridewise.

Comments were also made at the meeting about the poor state of the older Secure Bike Compound on the north (Station Street) side of the Station, opposite Loxley House, and accessible with a Citycard (for free). The doors often do not close properly and maintenance has been much neglected, with weeds growing everywhere, and much litter, very much giving the impression that cyclists are a second rate form of station user!

As a result of the meeting a series of actions were agreed and it was also agreed to meet again in 3 months to review progress. We will also invite Russell, who will soon be taking over a new retail business in the hub (based on his successful experience in running such a facility for EMT at Sheffield station) to a Pedals meeting to discuss its operation, once it is up and running.

Wheelie good news

Our cycle hub is open at Nottingham station.

Here are some of the features of our cycle hub

- £10 Lifetime membership for only £10
- Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- 140 secure bike spaces with CCTV to help keep your bike safe and safe
- Fully-stocked bike shop including repair service, perfect for all your cycling needs
- Changing facilities and toilets
- Information screens so you can check train times and platforms

Cycle Hub

If you'd like to become a member of our cycle hub, talk to one of our friendly colleagues in the station.

EAST MIDLANDS TRAINS

addressing before the full opening, now likely to be during November.

We welcomed the increased priority for cyclists but emphasised the importance for a series of measures to ensure that these changed priorities are understood and respected by all road users, including drivers turning right and left across the new path. These, we said, must include consistent priority signs and markings, as well as temporary signs to help spell out the changed priorities. These have now been installed.

We have also commented in the continuing presence of the lighting columns in the middle of the new cycle path on the QMC side of the Dunkirk Flyover roundabout, emphasising the need for these to be removed or, at the very least, to be made much more conspicuous with diamond markings on the approaches.

The new route includes some innovative facilities which have not been introduced before in Nottingham and indeed which have still only fairly recently been authorised for use by the DfT anywhere in England. These include:

Western Cycle Corridor first phase nearly complete

As we go to press final work on the first phase of the new Western Corridor 'Cycle Superhighway' is nearing completion, covering the stretch from Wilford Street to Dunkirk and a series of major changes on Castle Boulevard, Abbey Bridge and Abbey Street.

In late August a group of Pedals members were invited by the City Council to take part in a ride along the new route, to give interim feedback and suggestions for areas of concern which we thought needed



- Low-level traffic signals, as now installed at the junction of Castle Bridge Road with Castle

Boulevard (see photo)

- A 'Cycle Zebra' crossing (adjoining a standard zebra crossing) on Abbey Bridge (see photo)



Meanwhile, one way to continue is to cross over Castle Boulevard via the restored toucan crossing by the Brewhouse Yard Museum, and continue up Castle Road etc towards the toucan crossing of Maid Marian Way at the west end of Castle gate. Preliminary work on this 'Quiet route' started in mid-October.

The value of this route, as part of a through route for cyclists between Castle Boulevard and Canning Circus will be enhanced by a series of measures soon to be introduced by the City Council, including a contraflow cycle lane on The Ropewalk and Postern Street.

We have recently commented on the details of these proposals and the need to provide a good link between this route and the canal towpath near the Nottingham Archives via Wilford Street, etc.

We are also continuing discussions with the City Council about ensuring safe connections between the new Castle Boulevard cycle path and the Broad Marsh Centre as part of the major traffic changes for this area on which work is due to start year.

Further feedback would be welcome, especially once the route is fully complete and officially open!

Several people have commented on the fact that the new route appears to ' peter out ' at the Wilford Street end, once you get past the Brewhouse Yard Museum. The route does indeed much need more continuity, some of which will come next year with the major traffic changes in the Broad Marsh area with the removal of motor traffic from Collin Street, etc.





Keeping up the pressure on sorting tram-related issues for cyclists

Well over a year since the opening of both new NET routes there are still several issues for cyclists which we want to see sorted out.

Most important is still the fact that we know that several cyclists are having falls on tram tracks, at least in the High Road (Beeston) – Chilwell Road area.

These problems were featured in a special BBC1 Inside Out programme in September, produced by Marie Ashby, to which we contributed, and which also mentioned similar issues for cyclists in Sheffield and Edinburgh.

It is very important that we build up a detailed picture of these incidents, how many there are (severe or slight), their location, and other details. We have learnt from the experience of Cycle Sheffield in

making it easier for local cyclists to do this via the Pedals website.

The idea is that if you go to <http://pedals.org.uk/tram-accident-reporting/> there is a form where you can record details of any incident, along with a map.

If you click on the exact location where the incident happened on the map it populates the latitude/longitude of where it happened.



One other significant development in response to our lobbying was the recent decision by the County Council, on an experimental basis at least, to remove 2 of the 3 most awkward barriers for cyclists on the tramside path past Wilford on the Clifton NET route. This we very much welcome, while keeping our fingers crossed that this change does not produce a backlash and a demand for the barriers to be reinstated!



We are encouraging Nottinghamshire Police to adopt a similar campaign

Meanwhile, Gary Smerdon-White from Ridewise is doing some work for the City Council on a Shared Use Respect campaign to promote more shared respect and mutual understanding between different road users. We discussed this with him at the Pedals October meeting.

Other changes nearby are now planned by Tramlink and the County Council including easing of the awkward barrier immediately north of the Wilford Lane tram stop, and enhanced measures to ensure the safety of cyclists and walkers crossing the tram tracks on this stretch.



Sustrans Bennerley Viaduct project

For more information contact Kieran Lee, Community Engagement and Development Officer, Kieran.Lee@sustrans.org.uk or visit www.bennerleyviaduct.org.uk

For more information on the Friends of Bennerley Viaduct (Chairman, Jeff Wynch, local Sustrans Ranger) email: j.wynch@btinternet.com or visit www.bennerleyviaduct.org.uk



Police target motorists passing too close to cyclists

Like many other cycling groups we have welcome the recent launch of the Police Campaign in the West Midlands to target motorists passing too close to cyclists: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-37384899>



Trent Lane-The Hook foot / cycle bridge plans

For updated information on the slow and tortuous progress of this ambitious project

<http://pedals.org.uk/proposed-foot-cycle-bridge-over-the-trent-update/>

or email Hugh.McClintock@ntlworld.com



Sad News of the death of Pedals activist Lawrence Geary

We were very sorry in September to hear the sad news of the death on 5 July of Lawrence Geary who was one of the mainstays of Pedals for many years, up until 2006. Until he became seriously ill late last year he continued to have responsibility for the stock of Pedals publications.

His funeral was at St Edmund's Church, Holme Pierrepont on Friday 22nd July,

complete with New Orleans style jazz band and umbrellas/parasols.

As we to press plans are being finalised by the Lady Bay Community Association for a special meeting on 26 October to commemorate Lawrence's role as a community activist.

This will include a special slot about his many vital contributions to Pedals, especially with regard to the successive editions of the Pedal Pushers' Guide to Nottingham and the City County Forest Leisure Rides Book, and his involvement in 1987 in the 'Pothole Golf' tournament, pictured below.



Using the Cyclescape website to discuss local issues

We are now strongly encouraging the use by Pedals members of the Cyclescape website to encourage exchange of views on local issues for cyclists.

- **Visit the Pedals section on this national cycle campaigning site at <http://nottingham.cyclescape.org/>**
- **A User Guide can be downloaded at <http://blog.cyclescape.org/guide/>**

Pothole or other problem reporting

See the 'Report a road, path or cycleway problem or fault' info on the Pedals website for appropriate contact details:

<http://www.pedals.org.uk/>

Keeping in touch with Pedals – Website and Facebook

To keep in touch with Pedals visit our website, www.pedals.org.uk, which is regularly updated.

You can also follow us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pedalsnottingham>



Discounts for Pedals members at local bike shops



Don't forget that with your Pedals membership card you can get discount at several local bike shops.

A full list of local bike shops, highlighting those offering discounts to members, can be found on the Pedals website at http://www.pedals.org.uk/looking_after_your_bike

Pedals contacts:

For general enquiries email contact@pedals.org.uk

Pedals officeholders:

Contact details are on our website at http://www.pedals.org.uk/contacts_list

Pedals QR code for quick response access from your Smartphone to our Website!



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Next issue

The next issue will appear in May 2017.
(Editor: Hugh McClintock: email Hugh.McClintock@ntlworld.com)

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