

# PEDALS

THE POWER BEHIND NOTTINGHAM'S CYCLISTS

Pedals Newsletter no 99,  
Spring / Summer 2014

## Work on new River Leen path extension south of Basford progressing well

As this newsletter goes to press work is well underway on the extension of the River Leen Greenway between Bulwell and Basford (part of Sustrans National Cycle Network Route 6) under the Ring Road (Western Boulevard) towards Wilkinson Street, near the NET Depot and Park and Ride site and include one stretch on a causeway. Completion is likely in late July or August, we understand.

This extension, designed in cooperation with Sustrans will provide a much more direct and generally better route between Basford and the Radford and Hyson Green areas, as shown on the map, on page 2

The photo shows a group of Pedals folk, on our post AGM ride to Mill Lakes, Hucknall, on 29 March, inspecting the early progress of work at the Wilkinson Street end of the new path.

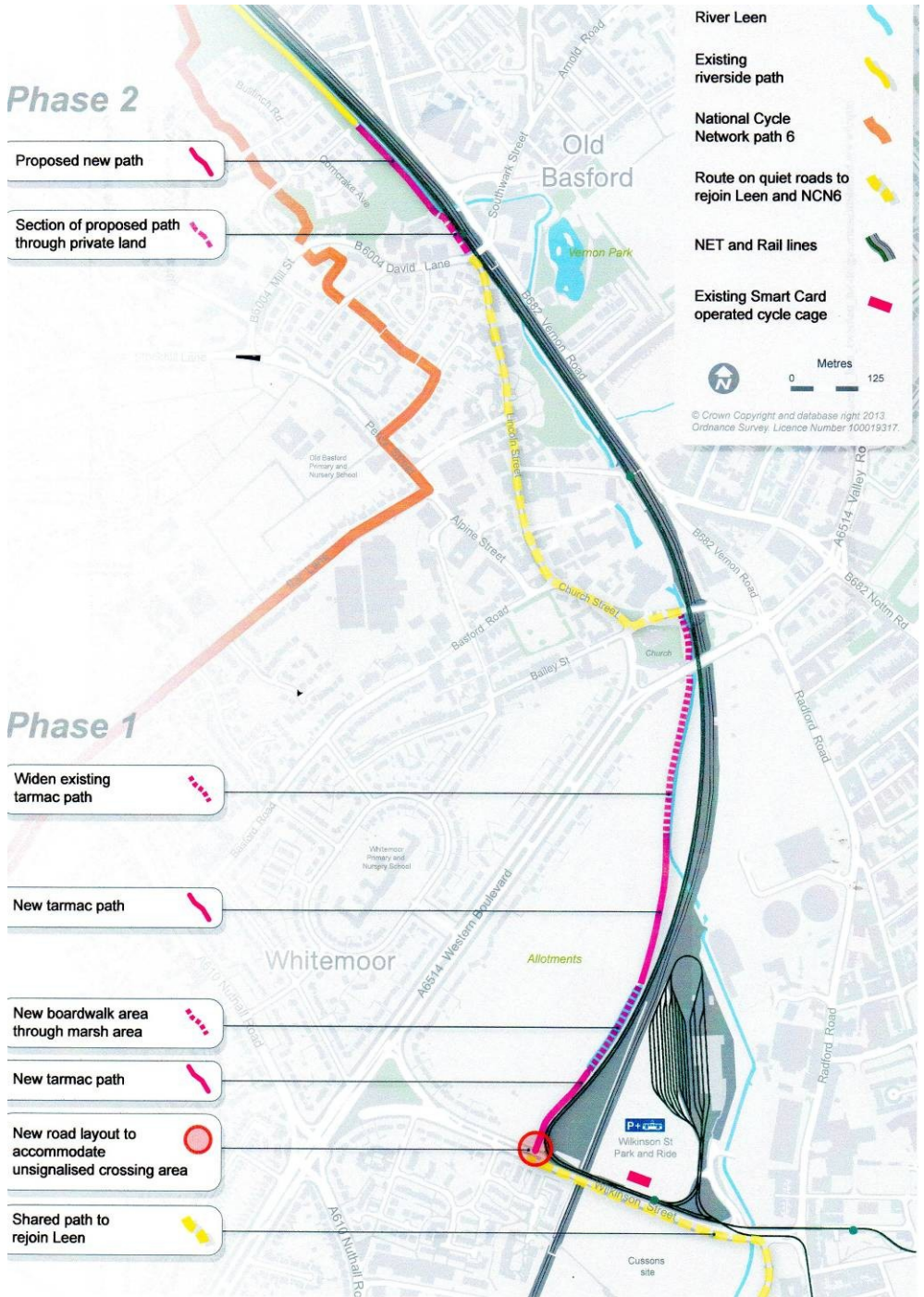


At the Bulwell end of the path there has been some discussion about ways to upgrade the connection, also part of NCN6, towards Mill Lakes and Hucknall, etc.



The City Council are keen to stage a 'big splash' to make the opening of the route, and we will give details of this on the Pedals website, when they are fixed.

- ***This path project is one result of the City Council's Draft Rights of Way Improvement Plan, due for finalisation this autumn after a second round of public consultation, lasting 12 weeks from 18 May – see p3***



## HAVE YOUR SAY ON NOTTINGHAM'S DRAFT RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (ROWIP2) 2014

The ROWIP is a statutory document which sets out how a Council plans to make improvements to its local rights of way network, including routes for disabled, walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

Following consultation with citizens and user groups during 2013, Nottingham's 2<sup>nd</sup> ROWIP was recently approved by the City Council's Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transportation, Cllr. Jane Urquhart, and is now ready for the next stage of public consultation.

The ROWIP2 Consultation Draft and Feedback Form will be available on the City Council's website at [www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/transportconsultations](http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/transportconsultations) between 18<sup>th</sup> May and 11<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

All responses will be reviewed and incorporated into the final ROWIP2 where appropriate.

The final Draft will then be presented to the Council's Executive Board for approval and adoption later this year.

## Cyclists and the NET extensions update



After much campaigning over the last couple of years it now looks as though there will be **properly surfaced and wide paths alongside three stretches of the new NET routes** due to open in December, although we are still unsure whether all of these will be signed as legal cycle paths or shared paths.



These are:-

- Chilwell to Toton on the Chilwell tram route, connecting through the Toton park and ride site across the A52 to and from Stapleford, as well



as the Erewash Valley Trail and other local routes.

- Wilford Lane to Ruddington Lane, past Wilford, on the Clifton route.
- Ruddington Lane to Farnborough Road (Clifton), past Silverdale, on the Clifton tram route



Both of the last two new paths will link to several other paths in the Clifton, Wilford and Compton Acres areas, including the existing shared paths north of Wilford Lane and on Ruddington Lane to and from Ruddington.

Another improvement forming part of the new tram layout will be the provision of a **proper toucan crossing** to connect Castle Bridge Road with The Meadows across Queen's Drive and the tram lines on Meadows Way.



**Citycard bike hire hubs** have now been installed at the locations on NET Line One, including the Phoenix Park and Wilkinson Street park and ride sites, and at Hucknall Station and similar facilities will be provided at both the new terminal park and ride sites, at Toton and Clifton.

While being grateful that routes for cyclists at tram work sites have generally been kept open, we regret that it has too often been thought necessary to erect '**Cyclists Dismount**' signs at tram works sites, unlike, for example at tram works sites in Montpelier in France, photographed recently by Julian Bentley; see the second photo below



- *To keep up to date with tram-related roadworks and closures visit:*

<http://www.thetram.net/construction-about-us/>

# New Cycle Safety Junction Schemes now complete

Both the two local DfT. funded Cycle Safety Junction schemes were completed recently.



One is at the Dunkirk flyover junction, including the provision of proper toucan crossings on both the Abbey Street and Beeston Road sides of the junction.

The one on Abbey Street provides a safer link to the new Academy (NUAST) being built on the former Dunkirk Fire Station site as well as to and from the cycle path on the east side of the Ring Road (Clifton Boulevard) down towards Clifton Bridge etc.



The other local scheme, at the junction of Mansfield Road with Forest Road East, was completed a few weeks earlier, and makes

it easier for southbound cyclists on Mansfield Road to turn right into Forest Road East and North Sherwood Street etc.

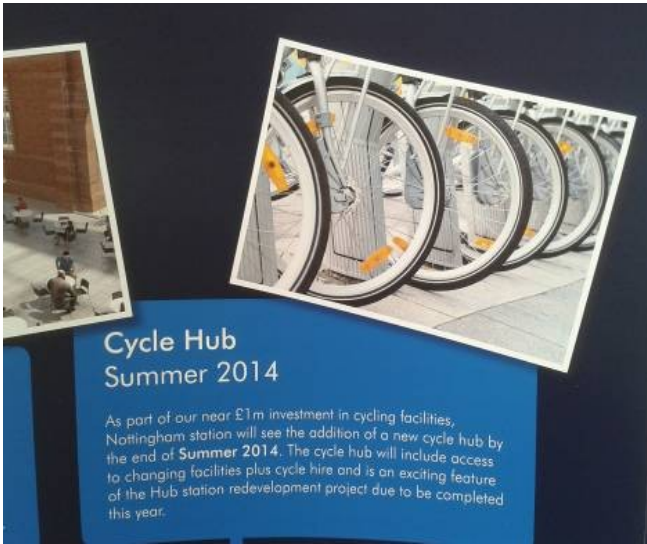
The City Council plan further changes to increase the value of this facility, including better crossing arrangements at the Shakespeare Street end of South Sherwood Street by the Orange Tree pub.

We would appreciate feedback please on these new arrangements from users of both these junctions!



## New City cycle map this summer

We gather that a further edition of the Nottingham cycle map is due out this summer. Meanwhile, don't forget that you access the map online at <http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/Cycling>



## Nottm Station cycle parking hub expansion to go ahead soon

The long-awaited expansion of the Secure Bike Compound / Cycle Hub is still due to go ahead in the next few months and we have been awaiting for several months for East Midlands Trains to arrange a meeting with Pedals to discuss these plans.



Access will be by Citycard smartcard, to help security. Remember that Citycards, which now give access to several secure bike compounds, are available for anyone who applies, not just City residents. You can register at:

<http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/Cycling>

## City centre and residential cycle parking

We are pressing the City Council to provide more cycle stands in the City Centre, particularly to replace the stands usually now occupied by Citycard bikes and Police decoy bikes.

We also have reminded them of the need to encourage secure residential cycle parking, especially in flats and houses with insufficient space for this. We would like to see something here like the recent successful Bikehangar project in London

<http://www.cyclehoop.com/products/cycle-shelters-and-canopies/>



## City Council website pothole reporting

*To report a pothole of other cycle route problem in Nottingham visit*

<http://cycling.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/>





## Beeston Station cycle parking improvements

We much welcome the recent great improvements in cycle parking at Beeston Station, which are proving very popular.

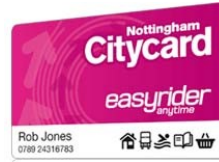


## Citycard bike scheme update from Russ Morton:

The Citycard Cycle Scheme continues to grow in both infrastructure and more importantly in usage.

There are now 12 hubs in the scheme as detailed below and 18 mobile Phone hire locations.

In the last year we have had over 7000 days hire, this is a combination of long term hire and Mobile phone hire, and the use of the hubs continues to increase.



## List of current mobile phone hire locations and the proposed locations

Citycard Cycles Hubs

Broadmarsh Bus Station

Nottingham train Station

Lace Market Car park

Colwick Park and Ride

Queens Drive Park and Ride

Hucknall Tram P+R

Bulwell Tram P+R

Wilkinson Street Tram P+R

Phoenix Park Tram P+R

Victoria Leisure Centre

Victoria Shopping Centre Car Park  
(Temporarily closed due to car park resurface)

Clifton Leisure Centre (due to open in the next few weeks)

- **For more information contact Russ Morton, the Citycard Bike Scheme Project Officer,**  
[Russ.Morton@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:Russ.Morton@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)





## **Pedals comments on HS2 rail and HS2 cycleway plans:**

**In January Pedals made a detailed response to the DfT consultation on the controversial plans for the extension of the High Speed Railway (HS2) phase 2, from Birmingham to Leeds.**

In this area this is proposed to cross the Trent to the north of East Midlands Parkway Station, on a new bridge to be built about 200m east of the existing Midland Main Line bridge, before skirting the east side of Long Eaton towards the proposed East Midlands Hub station at Toton. From there it would follow north, near the Erewash Valley Trail, on the Notts / Derbs border, and then run just east of the M1 up towards Tibshelf and east of Chesterfield towards the Rother Valley between Sheffield and Rotherham.



This part of the new rail route would follow the first phase, from London Euston to Birmingham, and is due to be built in 20 years, at the same time as a similar extension to Manchester from Birmingham.

### **HS Cycleway feasibility study**

In our response we emphasised the importance of the alignment for the new railway not severing existing cycle routes such as the Erewash Valley Trail and Sustrans National Cycle Network routes 6, 15 and 67 etc. but rather ensuring that the detailed rail plans incorporate high standard crossing points for such routes.



The DfT and their consultants, including the Dutch firm Royal Dutch Haskoning DHV and John Grimshaw, former CEO and Director of Sustrans, are also now working on a feasibility study for an HS2 cycleway to run within 3 miles of the new rail route. This study is involving extensive consultation with interested parties including local authorities and cycling groups, and is due to be finished by the end of the year when a series of options would be presented to Ministers to decide on for future action.

### **Regional workshops and information gathering**

The study has included a series of regional workshops, including one for the Derbyshire



and Nottinghamshire area which took place in Beeston in early March, hosted by Broxtowe Borough Council. The aim of these was to gather detailed information on existing routes in the area and aspirations for new ones and upgraded ones which could form part of the HS2 cycleway project and its links.

Both Pedals and Ridewise, as well as Sustrans and the Derby Cycling Group took part in this meeting and have made detailed suggestions for a wide range of places that such a route could serve, including major leisure and tourist destinations as well as residential and employment areas.

### **Pedals ideas: new Trent crossing for cyclists?**

Pedals is particularly keen to see a new cycleway across the Trent included alongside the new HS2 bridge in the area between Red Hill / Thrumpton on the south bank and between Trent Lock and Attenborough on the north bank.

This would greatly improve safe connections across the Trent and link in turn with a whole series of existing and proposed routes on both sides of the Trent, in Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire, including the further sections of Sustrans NCN route 15 included in the A453 M1 to Clifton widening scheme and links via the Soar Valley to Loughborough and Leicester and west across the M1 towards the National Forest etc.

Several options are being considered including how far the new route would be off-road and traffic-free, whether it would be mainly rural or urban, and what provision it would have for other users, especially pedestrians.

The broad intention is to aim for a high quality 'state of the art' route, learning from best practice in countries such as the Netherlands and helped by the major input of Dutch consultants to the study.



### **Bike Security Advice update**

Since the last Pedals newsletter there have been a series of meetings, involving The Big Wheel, City Council, Sustrans and the Nottinghamshire Constabulary to review the performance of the Bike Shepherd scheme and to raise the profile of bike security advice.

- **To find out more see this section on The Big Wheel website:**  
<http://www.thebigwheel.org.uk/change-your-travel-2/cycling-2/secure-your-bike/>



# Updates from Sustrans and Ridewise



## Sustrans Update

### ***Matt Easter, Regional Manager, East Midlands***

Sustrans is continuing to deliver the Ucycle project in Nottingham but is now also delivering Bike It with mainly secondary schools and also managing two Neighbourhood Smarter Travel Hubs in the centre and South of the city. All of these projects are going well.

The Ucycle project has now delivered nearly 500 cycling activities over the last three years and has engaged with over 13,000 people. Our bike counts continue to show a steady increase in cycling at both Universities and the Hospital Trust in line with targets set for the project. Sarah Briley and Clare Collins the Sustrans hub officers are developing a series of activities in the centre and south of the city and will be producing maps for each ward that provide information of local sustainable travel options.

They are also going to be doing further cycle, walking, public transport audit work, hopefully further accessing local opinion and ideas in the process.

Sustrans has been managing the Cycle Safety and Links to Communities Fund on behalf of DfT. It has therefore been pleasing that Nottingham has accessed the cycle safety fund for the work in Dunkirk including new Toucans on Beeston Road and Abbey Street and on Mansfield Road

with improved access over Mapperley Road and Forest Road and improved access into the city centre via North Sherwood Street.

Hopefully there will soon be an opening of the new River Leen route improvement, North of Wilkinson Street funded by the Links to Communities Fund.

Unfortunately both of these funds will not be available in 2014/15 to Local Authorities and this is disappointing as it partly funds our infrastructure officers and will mean fewer cycle routes will be improved across the country in 2015/16.

We have been working with the city council to look at improvements to the inner city orbital for cyclists and recently provided a workshop to Highways officers and others about our ideas to improve from a cycling point of view key points along Maid Marian Way, Derby Road, Talbot Street etc.

We are hoping that we will be providing further support and specific design advice regarding some of the schemes proposed originally in the Nottingham Cycling City ambition bid and now being taken forward by the city council, with the potential for funding from the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership.

There is a lot of uncertainty at the moment regarding future funding both for smarter choices behaviour change work and cycling infrastructure improvements. Therefore a critical challenge for Sustrans and other partners and cycling advocates is to keep the pressure on nationally, regionally and locally to ensure that all opportunities to invest in cycling are taken.



## **Sustrans Ucycle Project update** **From Adam Batty**

The Sustrans Ucycle project has been continuing its work in 2014; to get more people out on bikes across its six partners organisations; the University of Nottingham, Nottingham Trent, Nottingham Universities Hospital Trust, Bilborough College, Central College and New College.

Adam Batty the current Project Officer at the University of Nottingham has started 2014 by focusing on travel planning and New Year travel resolutions. He has also been working with the Health Promotion team to promote the health benefits of cycling.

There has been a great up take overall and current stats show that cycling is now up 110 %0 at the University of Nottingham since the project started in 2009 Sarah Eanor has been continuing her work in the FE Colleges by getting teachers and student groups on board to work on cycling projects.

Some highlights include a cycling fashion project which involves fashion students creating cycling specific garment, public service students have started to involve guided rides into their lessons and six students volunteers have taken up the role of promoting cycling to theirs peers.

The QMC side of the project under James Grundy's guidance has been working hard

to increase participation on the cycle to work scheme and this has increased year on year.

Finally, at Nottingham Trent University Dave Hobday has been working on recruiting more cyclists through significantly increasing cycling infrastructure, opening up the cycle workshop for staff and students and running Dr Bike sessions which have been well attended.



## **RideWise Ltd Summary Review –** **2013/14**

### ***Gary Smerdon-White, Chairman***

The year has been one of building upon the merger of the Greater Nottingham Transport Partnership, the Big Wheel and RideWise and our successful bid to manage a community hub in the north of the city, using the TravelRight brand, in order to promote sustainable travel.

Local Sustainable Travel Fund Funding has made a major difference in the level of activity related to walking, cycling and the use of public transport.

The GNTP has been working with the City to start discussions with businesses on the development of the local transport system beyond 2019 to 2032.

The Big Wheel has continued working with businesses to promote sustainable travel with commuters and this has included free cycle training and promotions in the workplace for all businesses liable for Workplace Parking Levy.



RideWise supports a large number of cycling activities from maintenance classes, Dr. Bike sessions, schools and family cycle training, leisure rides and promotional events – this is for a number of partners including Sustrans. TravelRight as managed by RideWise has extended into Broxtowe and Gedling Boroughs.

We are running regular events for people with disabilities and have trained many of our colleagues to work more effectively with that audience.

This has all meant that we are close to having trained 1000 people in the last 12 months (more than doubling the numbers for a few years ago), worked with over 60 businesses on travel promotions and we have promoted sustainable and active travel to tens of thousands of people.

The impact on the company has been immense with 15 staff and 30 cycling instructors available to us although there are still times when we are so busy we struggle to get sufficient instructors. We expect the present levels of activity to even increase next year however it has to be recognised that there is high reliance on LSTF and at present that funding stops at the end of March 2015



## TravelRight Broxtowe gets underway!

### ***Update from Gina Musa, TravelRight Broxtowe Project Manager.***

TravelRight Broxtowe community project is underway in Broxtowe Borough. Along with TravelRight Gedling, it builds on the successful programme of TravelRight North, all delivered by registered charity, Ridewise.

Their aim is to:

- Help residents expand their range of walking, cycling and public transport options, to save time and money and CO2.
- Provide travel support to jobseekers, apprentices and learners.
- Increase health and wellbeing through forms of active travel.

Project Manager, Gina Musa said “We are looking forward to seeing local people dust off their bikes. Broxtowe has some great cycling lanes, off road routes and pathways that can really help to speed things up, or be meandered along!”



*Brock, the Broxtowe Badger, The Mayor of Broxtowe, Cllr. Iris White and Gina Musa (Broxtowe TravelRight Project Manager)*

Free cycle training is available to people living and working in Broxtowe Borough. Group training is run from Beeston, Stapleford, and Eastwood, plus the option of free 1:1 training.

Training includes beginners, improvers and family sessions, plus weekly led rides. Cycle maintenance courses are running to learn the basics of fixing your bike and Dr. Bike mechanics will be at local events over the next year!



*Community cycling photo from an event at Hickings Lane, Stapleford.*

All of TravelRight's services are free and include personalised journey planning, information on guided walks, public transport ticketing information, local events, and opportunities to volunteer and learn new skills.

For more information on any of the above, visit [www.travelright.org.uk/broxtowe](http://www.travelright.org.uk/broxtowe) call 0115 917 3423, or email [travelright.broxtowe@ridewise.org.uk](mailto:travelright.broxtowe@ridewise.org.uk)

Like TravelRight on Facebook to get events and promotions info: [TravelRight Broxtowe](#)  
Follow on Twitter [@TravelRightBrox](#)

TravelRight Broxtowe is jointly funded by Broxtowe Borough Council and Nottingham City Council's Local Sustainable Transport fund. The LSTF programme has been developed through joint working with a

range of partners including Nottinghamshire County Council.



## **New free Cycling for All events now taking place monthly on the Queen's Drive Park and Ride site**

Ridewise has launched its 2014 programme of Cycling for All sessions for all abilities, following their successful 2013 series of events. They take place on **the third Sunday of each month up until 19 October.**

Cycling for All is a programme of free drop in events, in a safe accessible environment based at **Queens Drive Park & Ride site near Clifton Bridge.**

**Drop in between 10am and 1pm at Queen's Drive Park and Ride, for a morning of free cycling fun for all ages and abilities.**

The goals are to help individuals improve their health and well-being, enjoy freedom and independence and most of all have fun!

These inclusive sessions are aimed at getting everyone onto their bikes from beginners to experienced cyclists.



**There is a range of bikes to try out, including fun bikes, family bikes, an ebike (new this year!) and specialist bikes to support people with disabilities to cycle.**

There will be one to one support available for people with disabilities to try out our range of bikes.

A qualified team of cycle instructors will be available to offer **free training and advice**, whether you want to learn to ride for the first time, to practise riding as a family or to get advice on what type of bike might be best for you.

Once you're happy on a bike, why not go on a short led ride along the River Trent and follow this with delicious refreshments by Pulp Friction Smoothie Bar Project.

**Don't forget to bring any bikes from home for a free check-up with Dr Bike.**

- *If you'd like to discuss any specific requirements in advance, please email Kate Mack ([kate@ridewise.org.uk](mailto:kate@ridewise.org.uk)) or call the Ridewise office on (0115) 955 2288*
- *More information on Cycling for All can be found on the Ridewise website at: [www.ridewise.org.uk/ride/cyclingforall](http://www.ridewise.org.uk/ride/cyclingforall)*



## Guided Rides:



**Explore Nottingham by Bike rides, organised by Ridewise**

- *More information on the Ridewise website at [www.ridewise.org.uk/ride](http://www.ridewise.org.uk/ride)*





## Nottingham Velo Venturers

An open riding group who organise bicycle rides to suit most riders (if you are a novice please check ride details fully).

All sorts of Bike Rides for all sorts of Riders - AT LEAST one ride a month - Regular Ride is the THIRD WEEKEND OF EVERY MONTH.

Other rides added to suit the season/inspiration.

ALL WELCOME.



Many rides this year will have been themed by former Rural Rides Leaders - so a wealth of knowledge and experience is behind all planned rides.

All riders participate at their own risk: we advise that you are responsible for your

own Road Safety and insurance for Personal Injury.

See Facebook for more information.



## Local mass bike rides

**Cycle Live Weekend Festival of Cycling, 21-22 June including the Great Notts Bike Ride**

*More information at*

[www.cyclelivenottingham.co.uk](http://www.cyclelivenottingham.co.uk)

*Or email:*

[cyclelive@perfectmotion.org](mailto:cyclelive@perfectmotion.org)

## Life Cycle 4, Sat 31 August:

*see: [www.nottingham.ac.uk/supportus/currentfundingpriorities/theuniversityofnottinghamslifecycle/theuniversityofnottinghamslifecycle.aspx7](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/supportus/currentfundingpriorities/theuniversityofnottinghamslifecycle/theuniversityofnottinghamslifecycle.aspx7)*



## Notts Ride and Stride.

### Sat. 13 Sept.

This year's Ride and Stride, formerly known as the Historic Churches Sponsored Bike Ride, will be on Sat. 13 September from 10.00-16.00

- **More information at**  
<http://nottshistoricchurchtrust.org.uk/ridestride-nottinghamshire/>
- **Or by email from**  
[nottsrideandstride@gmail.com](mailto:nottsrideandstride@gmail.com)

## Promoting cycling in local schools in Nottingham

Dominic Sweeting, Sustrans Safe Route to Schools Officer, who has been based at Nottingham City Council since last year, came along to the Pedals meeting on 28 April to update us on his work.

They aim to create an active and sustainable travel culture in the school community to improve health and well-being, and to reduce carbon emissions and congestion.



Local schools engaged so far include Djangoly City Academy, Nottingham Emmanuel School, Blue Academy (Wollaton Park), Fernwood School, Big Wood School, Rushcliffe School and Sneinton C of E Primary School

The City Council are also promoting a project to promote cycling in local primary schools, Lifecycle.



because life is better  
on two wheels...



## SATURDAY 21 JUNE 2014

### VICTORIA EMBANKMENT, NOTTINGHAM

**Flexible** – Choose your distance (2.5, 7.5 or 10.5 miles) and your start time (Between 10am and 4.30pm)

**Suitable** – Ideal for families, beginners and young riders or anyone who just fancies an easy Saturday ride

**Safe** – Predominantly off-road on cycle ways, so no need to worry about traffic

visit: [www.cyclelivenottingham.co.uk](http://www.cyclelivenottingham.co.uk)



because life is better  
on two wheels...

**COME & WATCH  
FOR FREE!**

## SATURDAY 21 JUNE 2014

### VICTORIA EMBANKMENT, NOTTINGHAM

High speed, wheel-to-wheel action is the order of the day at the Nottingham Grand Prix. Expect a host of top quality races throughout the day including the Team Relay and the National B Race which will see top quality riders arrive in Nottingham. New for 2014 is the Cycle Live Omnium. Riders will take on a Time Trial, a Devil Race and a Scratch Race to earn enough points to be crowned champion.



visit: [www.cyclelivenottingham.co.uk](http://www.cyclelivenottingham.co.uk)







This year Nottingham City Council's Road Safety education team will be putting a real emphasis on getting future generations interested in cycling, by offering fun and free Lifecycle lessons to all of Nottingham City's Primary Schools.

Lifecycle aims to develop cycle skills in children, helping them understand the importance of being safe from a young age and this year's campaign will be aimed at providing lessons to years one and two.

- **To contact Dominic Sweeting, email:**  
[Dominic.Sweeting@sustrans.org.uk](mailto:Dominic.Sweeting@sustrans.org.uk)
- **For more information on Lifecycle visit**  
<http://www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/article/25490/Lifecycle>  
**or contact James Fee, Road Safety Technical Officer on (0115) 8765281 or email**  
[james.fee@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:james.fee@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)  
**to receive further information.**

## **Spokes Pop-Up Bike Café events - report from Katie Pollitt**

Spokes Travelling Cafe is a pilot project; leading towards a community bike cafe for Nottingham.

We are doing a run of 4 in April and May and we will do another 8 in early autumn. Great food, music and a bike mechanic on hand for simple repairs.

We hope to open in 2015 in a central location. It will be a cafe with a bike shop and bike workshop attached, it will also be a licensed music venue and workshop space for yoga/ arty stuff, etc.

We want to act as a hub for Nottingham's diverse and burgeoning cycling culture, promoting cycling at the heart of our business. whether that's learning how to fix your bike, proving somewhere for cyclists find each other and other cycling projects, being a point B for the end of a journey, getting families on bike, making it cool and everything we can to get more people on bikes and enjoying the joys of a thriving cyclist community.

Get in touch on facebook or directly with founder Katie Pollitt at one of the events

Andrew Martin, Chair of Pedals, is one of our Bike Doctors.

- *If you want to help or discuss this project get in touch with Kathleen Pollitt*
- *email: [nicobella18@googlemail.com](mailto:nicobella18@googlemail.com) or [facebook.com/SpokesTravellingCafe](https://www.facebook.com/SpokesTravellingCafe)*

## "Cycle boxes" – how much do Advance Cycle Stop Lines really help cyclists?



New "cycle boxes" or 'ASLs (Advance Cycle Stop Lines, as they are officially known) have recently appeared on 3 approaches to the Balloon Woods junction on the west side of Nottingham which some people have always found difficult to negotiate on a bike. This has renewed the debate among Pedals activists on the pros and cons of ASLs and their various permutations.

2-3 years ago, when the Department for Transport, asked for bids from local authorities for funding to improve the safety of cyclists at major junctions, Pedals agreed that this junction should be considered as a priority.

In fact, for other reasons, other junctions were chosen; 2 in the north of the county by the County Council and the Dunkirk flyover junction and Mansfield Road / Forest Road East (where work has recently been completed) by the City.



**Rule 178: Do not unnecessarily encroach on the cyclists' waiting area**

Both Councils however acknowledged that there was a serious safety issue at the Balloon Woods junction, which lies right on the City / County boundary and said they would investigate further what could be done.

At that time the County Council, under their previous anti-cyclist administration, were opposed to any more ASLs being installed, on the grounds that they "got in the way of drivers", their main transport priority! Some such schemes were removed or "modified" as in West Bridgford in 2011, a great setback for local cyclists!

That negative attitude changed with the change of political control last May and ASLs can now be considered again, though in a very tight spending situation.

It was therefore basically very welcome to see that ASLs were introduced at this complex junction though unfortunately the County Council somehow overlooked consulting us about their detailed proposals and we therefore missed the chance to comment on the lack of decent approach feeder cycle lanes, a common problem when ASLs are squeezed in, and there is a reluctance to lose general 'vehicle capacity'.

A short feeder lane makes it that much harder to reach the ASL in safety, especially if you are not a very confident cyclist.

A welcome feature however is that these ASLs have coloured surfaces, which does help to make them that much more conspicuous to drivers, improving the chances of their respecting them, at least if the surfaces are well-maintained!



This use of colour is in marked contrast to the attitude of the City Council who for about 10 years now, have banned the use of colour on any cycle lanes or bus lanes, for aesthetic reasons, i.e. because the prevailing political attitudes is that this always makes the streetscape look messier.



This is the reason why there is no coloured surface on the otherwise very welcome new ASL installed by the City Council a few months ago at the junction of Crossgate Drive and Queen's Drive, west of The Meadows. This has been a great help to eastbound cyclists coming off the Birdcage Walk cycle path.



The reluctance to use coloured surfaces ignores the evidence of the clear safety benefits of using colour, as shown several years ago in some research at Heriot Watt University in Edinburgh, to which Pedals counterparts in Edinburgh, 'Spokes' drew our attention.

These kinds of consideration, quite apart from funding, mean that it is usually very hard to ensure that ASL schemes are as good as they could be in achieving real safety benefits for cyclists, even when drivers do respect them which of course is often not the case and a low priority for enforcement, unfortunately.

Hugh McClintock



## Pedals 35<sup>th</sup> birthday events

We are working in plans for a series of events this summer to celebrate Pedals 35<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## Pedals meetings change of time: back to 7.30pm

At the end of last year we tried an experiment with bringing forward the time of Pedals monthly meetings from 7.30 to 7pm., from January.

However, the AGM in March decided that this was on balance less satisfactory so at our 28 April meeting we decided to go back to our old starting time of 7.30pm, with effect from 19 May 2014.

- **Visit our website for general update on meetings: -**  
<http://www.pedals.org.uk/meetings>

These include

- Pedals hosting the next meeting of the East Midlands Cyclists Forum, in the early autumn
- A meal, probably in November.
- A workshop on cycle mapping, electronic and paper-based: if you are interested please contact Susan Young, email: [abiandsus@googlemail.com](mailto:abiandsus@googlemail.com)
- **Watch out for more updates on this on our website at [www.pedals.org.uk](http://www.pedals.org.uk) and on Facebook!**

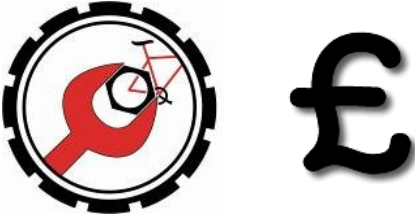
## Keeping in touch with Pedals – Website and Facebook

To keep in touch with Pedals visit our website, [www.pedals.org.uk](http://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 including:

- Bunney's Bikes, Carrington St.
- Cycle Garage, West Bridgford
- Cycle Inn, Beeston
- Arnold Cycles, Arnold.
- Cycle Garage, West Bridgford

*A full list of local bike shops can be found on the Pedals website at [http://www.pedals.org.uk/looking\\_after\\_your\\_bike](http://www.pedals.org.uk/looking_after_your_bike)*

## New Pedals Publicity Officer: Roland Backhouse

For the first time in many years we have found a volunteer to take on the post of Pedals Publicity Officer, Roland Backhouse. This was confirmed at our AGM in March.

- ***Roland's contact details are: m 0798 6668682, email: [roland@backhouse.org](mailto:roland@backhouse.org)***

## Pedals Committee contacts

Pedals Committee members now are:-

- Andrew Martin, (Facilitator)
- Peter Osborne, (Secretary)
- David Easley, (Treasurer)

- Larry Neylon, (Webmaster)
- Hugh McClintock, (Newsletter Editor)
- Roland Backhouse, (Publicity Officer)
- Peter Briggs
- Arthur Williams
- Susan Young.

Contact details are on our website at [http://www.pedals.org.uk/contacts\\_list](http://www.pedals.org.uk/contacts_list)

## Newsletter printed by Portland Print;

The Pedals newsletter is printed by Portland Print (formerly known as Portshel Press), based at the Portland College near Mansfield.

We deliberately choose them in order to support their very important work for people with physical disabilities.

## Next issue:

The next issue will appear in October 2014. (Editor: Hugh McClintock: email [Hugh.McClintock@ntlworld.com](mailto:Hugh.McClintock@ntlworld.com))

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





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## Life Cycle 4: Go the extra mile for Children's Brain Tumour Research

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**Sunday 31 August 2014**

Lakeside Arts Centre, University Park

Take part in one of our sponsored cycle rides to fight the UK's leading cause of cancer deaths in children

Come along to Lakeside Arts Centre to cheer the riders on and enjoy a BBQ and post-ride celebrations

[www.nottingham.ac.uk/lifecycle/getinvolved](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/lifecycle/getinvolved)

