

# NEWS

***This month:** More local councillors back Space for Cycling; Northern Ireland's draft Bicycle Strategy; and infrastructure funding*

## STAY IN TOUCH

**CYCLECLIPS:** CTC's free weekly email newsletter – email your membership number to [membership@ctc.org.uk](mailto:membership@ctc.org.uk)

**CYCLE CAMPAIGN NEWS:** CTC's monthly campaigns bulletin. Sign up at [ctc.org.uk/subscribe-to-cycle-campaign-news](http://ctc.org.uk/subscribe-to-cycle-campaign-news)



• Newcycling in Newcastle organised a family ride this summer to demonstrate public demand for Space for Cycling

Left: D Buckingham

## SUPPORT GROWS FOR SPACE FOR CYCLING

More and more local councillors are backing the national campaign for cycle-friendly road conditions. CTC's **Robbie Gillett** examines where and why



**OVER 10,000** people have taken part in the national Space for Cycling campaign, and around 500 councillors have backed its calls for high-quality cycle-friendly conditions. Cycle campaign groups across the country have been pivotal in enlisting local authority support.

In Newcastle, more than 60% of councillors have signed up to Space for Cycling, thanks in large part to the efforts of the city's campaign group, Newcycling. Committee member Katja Leyendecker explained: 'Since we began in 2010, working with local councillors has been key for us. We had petitioned the council previously in 2013, as well as running councillor travel surveys, a councillor cycle-about, and cycle infrastructure safaris. We also proposed a cycle manifesto motion, which was adopted by the council in 2011.'

For the Space for Cycling campaign, Newcycling has again engaged with councillors – and encouraged its supporters

to do so, via its 800-person mailing list and its popular Twitter feed with 1800 followers. As well as getting councillors to discuss cycling issues, Newcycling organised a 'Quiz Your Candidate' hustings at a recent ward by-election, ran a family-friendly bike ride in May, and published a ward-by-ward map of supportive councillors. The group is now looking to embed Space for Cycling campaign principles into the city's transport policy.

### Postcards from Leicester

Meanwhile, the Leicester Cycle Campaign Group (LCCG) demonstrated the demand for Space for Cycling by getting supporters to fill in specially-created postcards. 'They were delivered in batches to ward meetings or councillor surgeries,' said Steve Massey from LCCG. 'It gave us useful face-to-face contact. We are pleased that the mayor and council are very supportive of cycling and

recently backed removing a lane of the central ring road to provide high quality infrastructure for cycling and walking. We feel people were spurred on by these gains to ask for more.'

### CTC/Cyclenation Conference

Space for Cycling (which is supported by generous funding from the Bike Hub levy, run by the Bicycle Association) is not just about enlisting the support of councillors. It's also about providing a national framework for local campaigning, which is why it's run in collaboration with Cyclenation, the federation of local cycle campaign groups. The annual CTC/Cyclenation Conference, hosted this year by the London Cycling Campaign, is a great opportunity to exchange campaign ideas. It's at Lambeth Town Hall on 22 November.

*For details of this and other local campaigners' training events, see [ctc.org.uk/local-cycle-campaigning](http://ctc.org.uk/local-cycle-campaigning)*

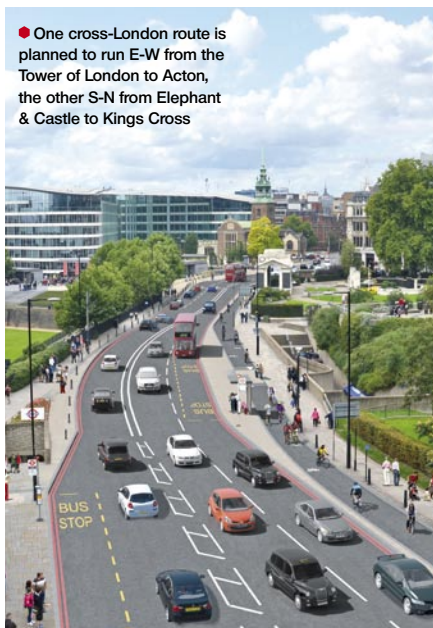
## CYCLING PLANS FOR LONDON, WALES & N.I.

**WHILE WE** await the Whitehall Government's 'Cycling and Walking Delivery Plan' (see page 12), plenty is happening elsewhere in the UK.

Northern Ireland's Department for Regional Development (DRD), whose responsibilities include transport, has issued a draft Bicycle Strategy. It is full of good intentions, but so far no targets or funding. These will hopefully follow though in a Delivery Plan, to be developed once the Strategy has been adopted. It reflects a growing momentum for change, which was in large part instigated by the late Tom McClelland, formerly CTC's lead volunteer campaigner in Northern Ireland.

The Welsh Government has been consulting on two guidance documents relating to the Active Travel (Wales) Act, passed last year. One outlines the process that Welsh local authorities are required to follow in mapping existing walking and cycling provision, then mapping proposed networks of high-quality provision to be developed over successive years. The other sets proposed standards and guidance on designing for walking and cycling. Both are excellent documents. The weak link is the lack of funding to implement the plans!

● One cross-London route is planned to run E-W from the Tower of London to Acton, the other S-N from Elephant & Castle to Kings Cross



Left: Transport for London's East-West Cycling Superhighway

Transport for London has also been consulting on new cycling design standards, as well as an updated Cycle Safety Action Plan (CSAP2). CTC has broadly welcomed both.

Boris Johnson has attracted headlines with his plans for a 'Cyclists' Cross-rail network for London' – two high-profile routes through central London. Both involve protected cycle lanes, priority at junctions and reallocation of road-space to cyclists. Some details need work, but the plan's boldness is heartening.

More at [ctc.org.uk/campaigns](http://ctc.org.uk/campaigns).

## SHOW US THE MONEY

Six campaigning groups, including CTC, have come together to back amendments to the Infrastructure Bill to force the Government to plan for greater investment in cycling and walking. With transport funds diverted to major road

building and other large infrastructure projects, cash for walking and cycling is in danger of falling off a cliff after 2016.

An amendment to the Infrastructure Bill, currently before Parliament, was tabled by Lords Berkeley

and Judd in the House of Lords. It proposes a system of investment similar to that used for the railways, which has helped drive rail traffic to levels not seen since the 1920s. Cycling levels have been stagnant at 2% of journeys since the 1990s, while in Germany they have risen from 10% to 14%.

If the amendment were adopted, the Government would be required to publish a Cycling & Walking Investment Strategy, and then answer to Parliament if the ambitions in it were not met. The Strategy would: set a long-term vision to increase walking and cycling rates; earmark funds for the next five years; set out specific schemes, such as London-style cycling measures; and provide targets.



● Investment in walking and cycling is being marginalised

## FROM THE CHAIR OF CTC

DAVID COX

THERE'S A HINT of autumn outside now but still lots of good riding time left, and a great summer to reflect on.

CTC put a lot into RideLondon in August. On the Saturday, our Dr Bike volunteers were out in the sunshine, fettling bikes for queues of new cyclists. Sunday saw CTC's fundraising riders amongst the throng battling through Hurricane Bertha. Hats off to the marshals and volunteers, many from CTC, waving us through with cheers and claps.

Enough of London: on to the York Birthday Rides, and a memorable ride up into the Wolds with CEO Paul and a keen bunch of riders. A cloud tracked us across the big sky and finally soaked us on the last hill! As usual, it is the volunteers who make these events, organising everything, planning great rides, and in one case entertaining us with amazing jazz and pop singing.

Now we are looking forward to the Cycle Show at the NEC in Birmingham, and to meeting visitors and members on our stand. As the evenings draw in, Councillors will be going to our Member Group AGMs to find out what local volunteers and campaigners have been up to. I cycle daily and enjoy the organisational side, but want to thank the volunteers who make things happen, nurture new riders, campaign for better and safer provision on and off road, and who raise our cycling ambitions and make it all worthwhile.



# CHANGES ON COUNCIL

**NATIONAL COUNCIL** is the governing body of CTC, a group of ordinary CTC members who feel they have something to offer the club and want to take an active role in running it. Members are elected to Council for a three-year period, with one third of the Councillors standing down each year. Nominations were recently sought for members to represent the Eastern, London, West Midlands, and Yorkshire & Humber regions for the three years from 1 January 2015 to 31 December 2017. There was also a vacancy in the North East.

In the Eastern region, two nominations were received for the two seats, so existing Councillors Martin Cockersole and Jim Brown are re-elected. In the London region, one nomination was received for the two seats, so new Councillor Kristian Gregory is therefore elected. In the West Midlands region, two nominations were received for the two seats, so existing Councillors David

Cox and Dan Howard are re-elected. In Yorkshire & Humber, three nominations have been received for two seats, so an election will be required. Ballot papers are included with this issue of Cycle for all members in the Yorkshire & Humber region.

Colin Brown and Roger Crosskey (right and below right) have decided not to seek re-election to Council. Chair of CTC David Cox said: 'On behalf of Council and our members, I would like to thank our retiring Councillors for their contribution to our work. Their enthusiasm, wise counsel and rigorous thinking will be missed.'

'Colin was always ready to ask the challenging question and draw on his wide experience. Roger's understanding of governance and commitment to fairness and equalities has been invaluable. But my abiding memory of our outgoing Councillors for London is a hectic evening ride through dark Surrey lanes and



Left: by cyclingforall.org

woods from National Office to Worpleson's tiny rural station. Roger led on his custom tourer, then the athletic and lycra-clad Colin on a hybrid, while I followed in my suit on a low-g geared Brompton, utterly lost and pedalling furiously!

## GOODBYE TO SUMMER

**MORE THAN** 500 cyclists are expected for the 20th edition of Emitremmus Desrever, Stevenage CTC's annual ride to mark the end of British Summertime, which this year is on 26 October. The main event is a 100km ride from Stevenage to Saffron Walden and back, although there's a 67km Emit Lite too.



Emitremmus is an audax event and counts towards the CTC Tourist Competition. You have up to 8 hours, and not less than 3 hours 30 minutes, to cycle via Nasty, Buntingford, Hare Street and Clavering to Saffron Walden then back again through Great Chishill, Shaftenhoe End, Barkway, Reed, Therfield and Weston. There will be controls and refreshment stops at Hare Street (near Buntingford), Saffron Walden, and Therfield. This is the route that's been ridden by Laura and Emma Trott, Phil Liggett and many others over the years.

The Mayor of Stevenage will start the rides from Fairlands Valley Park, between 9.45am and 10.30am. Entry is £7 for CTC members, with advance entry recommended. Visit [stevenagectc.org.uk](http://stevenagectc.org.uk) for online entry or phone the secretary (see page 78) for a paper copy.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### • GLASGOW BIKE CLUB

Glasgow's Bike Club, a partnership between CTC and Youth Scotland, is recruiting and training fifteen 16-24 year-olds from disadvantaged backgrounds across the city. Bike Club will support them so they can gain the Platinum Youth Achievement Award by helping them start and lead a sustainable cycling group in their community. Bike Club already has eight new volunteer Peer Mentors, who have their first training course in early October. For more details, see [youthscotland.org.uk/projects/bike-club.htm](http://youthscotland.org.uk/projects/bike-club.htm)

### • CHRIS PECK PACKS BAGS

**CTC's Senior Campaigner Chris Peck left CTC just before Cycle went to press, after eight years working for the charity. He will be working as a consultant and also studying. He will be missed.**

### • CTC TOURIST COMPETITION DRAWS TO A CLOSE

There's just one month remaining in this year's CTC Tourist Competition, which ends on 31 October. Participants earn points by taking part in a wide range of different rides – long ones, shorter ones, off-road rides, and special events such as freewheeling and map-reading competitions. These take place across the country. Find out how the leader boards are looking on the event website: [ctc.org.uk/ctc-tourist-competition](http://ctc.org.uk/ctc-tourist-competition). There's also information there on how to join in; October isn't too late to earn some points. Events are listed online at [ctc.org.uk/uk-cycling-events](http://ctc.org.uk/uk-cycling-events). Details of the winners will be announced in the next issue of Cycle.

### • ON COURSE FOR WINTER

**CTC has a range of maintenance courses to help you keep your bike running through the winter. From basics like pre-ride checks and mending punctures, through adjusting brakes and gears to looking after fleets of bikes, we are specialists in helping you help yourself. We can even show you how to keep the winter grime off your bike. There's more information at [bit.ly/Wfzd4v](http://bit.ly/Wfzd4v). CTC is also running a series of first aid courses for cyclists through the autumn. These two-day courses will show you how to prevent further accidents, get help, and apply emergency first aid. See more at [bit.ly/WgNsGx](http://bit.ly/WgNsGx)**

### • TOUR OF BRITAIN

CTC's partnership project Cycle Chilterns was instrumental in bringing the Tour of Britain to the area on 12 September. As this was after Cycle went to press, we'll have a report next issue.