

CHESTERFIELD CYCLE CAMPAIGN



CAMPAIGN UPDATE

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Cycle race at Queen's Park



www.chesterfieldcc.org.uk

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CAMPAIGN CHAT

In February, there were exhibitions displaying plans for the major developments at the former **Dema Glass and Arnold Laver/Trebor sites**, and developers have now submitted a planning application for the new football stadium and Tesco superstore on the Dema site.

From a cycling perspective, the Dema plans are very disappointing with compulsory cycle stands being the only concession towards this form of transport. At the time of writing, plans are still awaited for the other site, called Waterside, but from the exhibition it promises to be much more cycle-friendly.

A volunteer cleanup around the **Trans Pennine Trail and River Rother** was organised on 17th February and Campaign members were among the 47 people who turned up to help.

The huge team effort completely cleaned up the area from the floodgate to Holbeck Close, filling a huge skip full of rubbish and returning the area to its natural beauty.

On 29th February, the Campaign was involved in organising a showing of '**An Inconvenient Truth**', a film about climate change. Around 55 people came to the showing and there were talks afterwards from Melanee Livesey (CBC Climate Change Dept.), Ian Openshaw (CBC Councillor and Campaign Member) and Andy Holdaway (Campaign Member). Andy spoke about Transition Towns – more on this elsewhere in the newsletter.

The **leisure centre at Staveley** is now completed and open for business. Cycle racks are available near to the main entrance.

Elsewhere in Staveley, a new ramp has been constructed at Cemetery Road allowing easy access to the Trans Pennine Trail.

The Campaign ran its first **Family Ride** of the year on 29th March. Despite the discouraging weather, thirteen hardy souls turned up for a four mile ride which took in a loop starting from Queens Park and taking in sections of the

Holmebrook and Hipper Valley Trails. The next ride is on May 31st – see page 5 for more details.

Chesterfield played host to the **East Midlands Cycle Forum** on 5th April. The event was attended by 30 cyclists from around the area who heard presentations from ourselves, Les Ford, Trans Pennine Trail officer, Hugh McClintock of Nottingham Pedals and an update on Derby as a cycling demonstration city by Dave Clasby and Andy Salkeld. In the afternoon, the Campaign led visitors on an cycle ride taking in some of the major developments in the town.



The latest **Cycle Liaison Group meeting**, hosted by Derbyshire County Council, was held on 8th April. The Hipper Valley Trail extension is progressing and some funding has been allocated. The hope is that work

will start this financial year. East Midlands Trains do not consider lockers a high priority at Chesterfield Station but are planning to add 10 further Sheffield stands. Further afield, the Staveley to Beighton stretch of the Trans Pennine Trail will be resurfaced and vegetation cut back this summer. The full minutes of this meeting are available on our website in *Publications -> Minutes*.

We now have a new **Cycle to Work** representative, member Bill Leverett. If you would like more details on buying a bike for commuting at a substantial discount please get in touch with him. Additional information is also available on the website. The Cycle to Work Scheme is suitable for companies of any size. We have already had interest from Chesterfield Royal Hospital, as well as a Campaign member working for a small company with 4 employees.

Over the last few months we have been working hard to improve the **website** and make it a comprehensive resource for anyone looking for information about cycling in Chesterfield.

Unfortunately, changes at the web hosting company led to serious problems which made access to the website extremely difficult during March and April.

We seem to have got everything back under control again, so if the problems have put you off visiting the website for a while please come back for another look! And if you have any thoughts or opinions on cycling that you'd like to share with other members, remember that the forum is available for discussion.

The new **toucan crossing on Derby Road** is now operational. On the western side, there is a widened pavement for shared cycle and pedestrian use, but this only runs as far as Lord Roberts Road. The Campaign's eventual aim is to get this connected to the cycle routes through the former Bryan Donkin site.

Paul Balderson, Campaign member and local Sustrans Ranger called a meeting to discuss the possibility of building a **new bridge over the River Rother**. The aim would be to provide a cycle link from the Trans Pennine Trail just

north of Tapton Lock, to the proposed development on the former Pearsons Pottery site, Pottery Lane East. This would form the first stage of a route to Whittington Moor and beyond.

The meeting was attended by members of the Campaign, Sustrans' East Midlands representative, Derbyshire County Council Greenways department and the Canal Partnership. All parties agreed that it was a worthwhile project which would not be too difficult.

The Campaign had a successful **May Day** with three new members and one renewal! Lots of members came down to the stall and a pleasant time was had chatting and catching up. Around ten members took part in the march through town.

Accessibility Study

The Campaign has been invited to participate in an Accessibility Study alongside Derbyshire County Council, Chesterfield Borough Council and Sustrans.

The purpose of the study is to produce a Cycle Strategy for Chesterfield, Bolsover and NE Derbyshire. This will take the

form of a digital map marked with routes, for the use of planners and other interested parties. There is a possibility that there could also be a printed map for general use.

The first in a series of meetings took place on 6th May. Sustrans

area officer Patrick Davies also urged that additional measures such as cycle training and route signing be included in the strategy. One of the first actions will be a cycle route audit of Chesterfield centre which the Campaign has been asked to help with.

FAMILY RIDES 2008

The next ride is on **Saturday 31st May**, this time from Queen's Park to Tapton Lock, returning via Tapton and the Trans Pennine Trail.

The meeting point is by the bike racks outside Queen's Park café (by the bridge), gathering from 2 pm onwards for a social chat and departing at 3 pm.

The rides will be accompanied by Campaign members at a pace to suit all but individuals ride at their own risk. By their nature, these rides are suitable for children and returning cyclists to gain experience whilst enjoying cycling in a group.

On **Saturday 26th July**, we'll be holding a longer ride taking in some of Chesterfield's sustainable buildings. Leaving from Queens Park at 3 pm, the route will be around 10 miles with an anticipated finish time of about 5.30 pm. All are welcome to bring a picnic for after the ride, or just get an ice cream from the café!

Beyond that, the following ride is planned for **Saturday 27th September**. The route has yet to be decided but look out for announcements in the next newsletter and on the website.



TRANSITION TOWNS

Transition Town Chesterfield is an exciting new initiative aiming to make our town more resilient and sustainable.

Transition Towns are popping up all over the country in response to the twin problems of peak oil (the end of cheap oil) and climate change.

The idea is that groups of ordinary people get together to find positive and practical local solutions for reducing reliance on oil, relocalising the economy and building community – which could certainly include more cycling, amongst other things!

Here in Chesterfield, we're in the early stages of the project, busy raising awareness and

building a network. We have a programme of film screenings running at the moment, and hope to hold a big launch event in the autumn. After that there should be all sorts of exciting discussions and practical projects taking off.

To find out more about Transition Towns nationally, visit www.transitiontowns.org.

To get involved, join the Yahoo group by sending an email to transitiontownchesterfield-subscribe@yahoo.com, or phone Andy on 01246 210704.

CYCLE TO WORK SCHEME

Chesterfield Cycle Campaign is aiming to increase levels of cycle commuting in the town, and working to increase awareness and uptake of the Cycle to Work Scheme.

Detailed information about the scheme is available on the Campaign website at www.chesterfieldcc.org.uk and we are contacting companies to introduce it.

If you think the scheme would be appropriate for your workplace, we'd like to hear from you. We're also looking for more volunteers to make phone calls and send emails. Please contact Bill Leverett at cycletowork@chesterfieldcc.org.uk for more information.

BIKE WEEK 2008

Bike Week is the UK's biggest annual promotion of cycling and all things bike-related. It's all about getting out and about on bikes and encouraging more people to cycle, more often.

Cycling is fun, healthy and, with so much attention focused on climate change, it's an ideal way to reduce car usage and help the environment.

The events planned are:

Friday 13th June: Transition Town Chesterfield film showing, 'The Power of Community: How Cuba Survived Peak Oil'. Starts 7.30 pm at the Central Methodist Church, Saltergate. Free entry and all are welcome.

Saturday 14th June: Chesterfield Cycle Campaign will have a cycling information stall and Dr Bike at the Queen's Park Fun Day from 11 am to 4 pm. As well as lots of information about cycling, new members can sign up on the day and we'll have maps, pens and other items available to buy.

Monday 16th June: Critical Mass Ride. Contact the Secretary or see the website for more details.

Friday 20th June: Pub supper for members only, at the Peacock Inn in Cutthorpe.

Saturday 21st/Sunday 22nd June: Not a local event, but cyclists' organisation CTC is holding its York Cycle Show 2008 - a great opportunity for an informal members' day out 'en masse'!

For the latest information, check out the Bike Week page on our website, www.chesterfieldcc.org.uk.

14 - 22 JUNE 2008



DEMA GLASS SITE DEVELOPMENT



A planning application has been submitted for the former Dema Glass site - the location of the proposed new Chesterfield football ground and a Tesco Extra store.

When the developers held a public exhibition in February, members were disappointed to see virtually no mention of cycling facilities. After taking this up with Chesterfield Borough Council planning department we were assured that cycling infrastructure would be built into the scheme. However, when the final application arrived for our comments, there was no change from the details presented at the exhibition.

The Campaign has replied outlining what we would hope for, including:

- Good access across the roundabout from the canal, direct to the entrance of Tesco with cycle parking.
- A route through the site, traffic-free if possible, from Lockoford Lane to Pottery Lane West.



We are also pressing for an upgrade to the existing footpath from Lockoford Lane to Canal Wharf. This path and the canal path would then provide parallel walking and cycling routes, either side of the A61, from the town centre. We await the outcome of the application.

WATERSIDE DEVELOPMENT

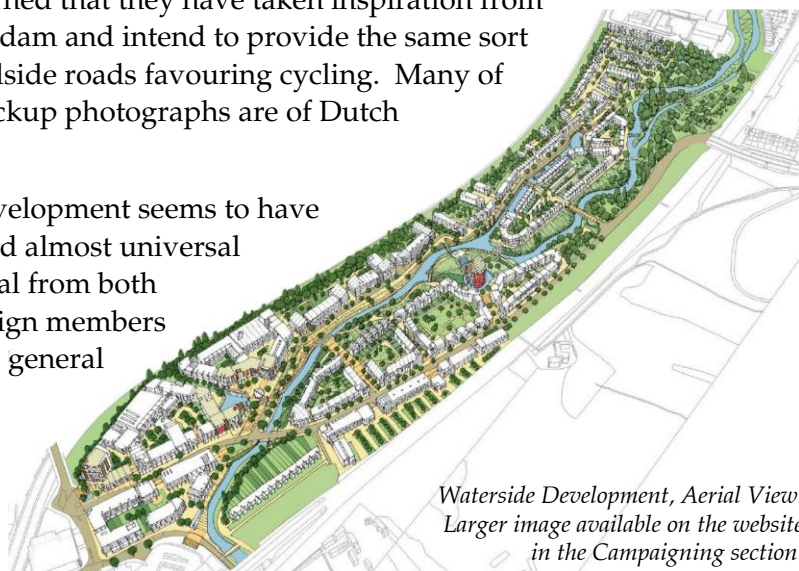
Also held in February was an exhibition outlining ideas for the Waterside development. This is a corridor of land, east of the A61, from the former Trebor site, past Arnold Laver's, to the present Tesco site.

The area will be completely redeveloped to provide a new canal basin to the south, a separate river and canal running through the old Laver site and new shops, housing and business premises. Green spaces will be incorporated in and around the area and the Trans Pennine Trail will be routed away from Brimington Road along the new canal alignment.

The developers also want to link Infirmary Road to the development with a new bridge over the A61 for cyclists and pedestrians. In addition, they would like to continue the route eastwards, over Brimington Road and the railway into Tipton Park but a significant difference in levels could present problems. An enhanced walking and cycling route to the railway station will also be provided.

From conversations with the developers, the Campaign has learned that they have taken inspiration from Amsterdam and intend to provide the same sort of canalside roads favouring cycling. Many of the mockup photographs are of Dutch scenes.

The development seems to have attracted almost universal approval from both Campaign members and the general public.



*Waterside Development, Aerial View.
Larger image available on the website
in the Campaigning section.*

MEMBER NOTICES

MEMBERSHIP BIKE STICKERS

Every new member of the Campaign, and every member renewing their membership receives the yellow and black circular campaign badge stickers.

Please use them on your bicycle either on the rear mudguard or frame. This identifies your bike especially when parked in the town or elsewhere. This also helps the Campaign when doing a count or survey of cycles, and ensures that a recruitment leaflet is not left on your bike! --

Membership Secretary

KEEPING CYCLE PATHS CLEAR

Many of our off-road urban cycle routes e.g. Rother Washlands, Hipper Valley, Holmebrook Trail etc. have quite long stretches of tarmac surface which are only cleaned very spasmodically by the Borough Council.

Debris is frequently found on these routes; tree branches, stones, litter, broken glass,

besides dog mess, discarded fast food etc. Overgrowth of trees and shrubs can also be a problem.

We ask members wherever possible to assist other cyclists by removing items from the route which are particularly hazardous to riding i.e. tree branches and twigs, large stones and drinks cans etc. Other hazards, such as dog mess, discarded fast food, and broken glass should be reported to the council to prompt them to clean the area. Likewise for overhanging trees, brambles, and over-full litter bins.

Whilst it is not our responsibility to clear the cycle routes, it does not help the promotion of cycling, especially those people trying to change their mode of transport, by them having to negotiate the various hazards identified above.

The Borough Council's attention is being brought to bear on this subject, but if everyone can help in this it would be greatly appreciated. -- *Campaign Committee*

OTHER CYCLING NEWS

£3M ANNOUNCED FOR CYCLE TRAINING

In March, it was announced that over £3m would be dedicated to provide cycle training to nearly 80,000 school children by March 2009. The funding will support the new National Training Standard, Bikeability, which has replaced the old cycling proficiency test. In Sheffield, they received a grant of £60,680 to train 1,517 children. In Derbyshire, training is delivered by volunteer cycle trainers and the County Council's view is that Bikeability would conflict with their existing programme. By not adopting Bikeability this area is denied access to funding and many children within Derbyshire are missing the opportunity of training altogether.

Welcome to

Joan Westwood, Brampton
Malcom Ryley, Walton
Alison Salvadori, Spital
Davina Reynolds (child),
Whitecotes Lane
Bruce & Lesley Blanchard,
Holymoorside
David Collett, Whittington Moor
Carol Dawson, Whittington
Moor
Darren & Sarah Smith, Tibshelf
Nick Roberts, Walton
Martin Harris, Brimington
Robin & Linda Davies-Holmes,
Hady Hill
Paul Eyre, Wingerworth
Samantha Ball, St. Augustines
Wayne Harris, Brimington

Farewell and good luck to

Hannah Lawrence, Ashgate
Lewis Davenport, Brampton

Chair	Joe Clark
Vice Chair	Chris Allen
Secretary	Alastair Meikle, 01246 520820 secretary@chesterfieldcc.org.uk
Treasurer	Barry Kay, 01246 555943
Membership	Pam Kay, 01246 555943
Website	Robert Kirby webmaster@chesterfieldcc.org.uk
Newsletter	Nicola Peck newsletter@chesterfieldcc.org.uk

**Chesterfield shops
giving a discount to
Campaign members:**

Organic Heaven
Theatre Yard
J E James Cycles
Whittington Moor

GET INVOLVED!

Campaign Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm in Meeting Room 1 (across from the Urban Studies Room) upstairs at the Market Hall Chesterfield. The next meetings are on 10th June, 8th July, 12th August and 9th September.

Greendrinks is an informal gathering of 'green' minded people and takes place on the first Wednesday of each month from 7.00pm at Chandler's Bar, St. Mary's Gate, Chesterfield.

Visit the forum on our website at www.chesterfieldcc.org.uk to contribute your ideas and opinions.

To report road faults, telephone Derbyshire County Council on 08456 058 058.

Membership Form

Full Name Tel

Address

.....

Email

Membership Type (please tick)

Adult, £5 [] Family, £10* []

Unwaged, £2.50 [] Under 18, £1 []

Optional donations welcome.....[£]

* Family membership includes 2 adults and all children under 18 living at the same address. Please give names and ages of all children below:

Please send this form, together with a cheque or P.O., payable to "Chesterfield Cycle Campaign" to: CCC Membership Secretary, 9 Ashgate Avenue, Chesterfield, S40 1JB.

NB. These details will be stored on computer.