

CHESTERFIELD CYCLE CAMPAIGN



CAMPAIGN UPDATE

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CAMPAIGN CHAT

September 22nd was **European Car Free Day** and the Campaign had its market stall in place for the event, with a good turn-out of eight members to 'man' the stand.

Due to the work near the Portland Hotel we were relocated to Burlington St, which wasn't an ideal location. Most people seemed intent on getting to another part of town, not meandering about as they do in the main market.

The planned 'Critical Mass' ride was cancelled due to lack of support - it was felt that at least twenty people were needed for the desired effect, but only eight volunteered. No new members were signed up this time.

The second meeting of the newly-formed **Transport Users Group** took place on October 2nd. This group is hosted by Chesterfield Borough Council and has representatives from this Campaign, Railfuture, Living Streets, National Bus Users Group, Ramblers and the Institute of Advanced Motorists.

We were given a presentation about the Staveley Works area and its regeneration and were asked to

identify key transport issues. As this group is still 'bedding in' we were asked to identify items for future meetings.

The next meeting is on December 4th and will concentrate on access to Chesterfield Railway Station and the new rail franchises. For future meetings we have Cycle Strategy and Parking Strategy on the agenda.

The latest Derbyshire County Council (DCC) **Cycle Liaison Meeting** took place on 16th October.

Rebecca Pennyfather, DCC officer for integrated transport, mentioned that the Council were setting up an Accessibility Study for Chesterfield which could involve the production of a cycle map for the public's use and as a planning tool. This is good news as the latest Chesterfield cycle map (May 2007) had to be completely funded by the Campaign.

Mark Shewring, our contact within Chesterfield Borough Council (CBC), was unable to attend the meeting this month so the Campaign has written to him regarding various issues with the

new **Locker Scheme** (details elsewhere in this issue).

A publicity campaign had been promised when the Scheme was launched, along with notices beside the lockers containing information on charges and how to obtain keys, but this failed to materialise.

We know of at least one instance where a cyclist visiting Chesterfield wanted to use the lockers but never managed to locate them! We have now added details to our Campaign Notice Board at the railway station.



Lockers at the coach station

Another issue concerns the lockers near the coach station, which are quite small. Some users have experienced difficulty getting their bikes into them, particularly tall bikes and those loaded with panniers. We have recommended

that this style of locker should not be used in future.

The padlocks on the coach station lockers have recently been renewed, after complaints from the Campaign that they had become rusted and difficult to operate. If you experience any problems using the lockers please let the Secretary know.

So far, there have been around a dozen regular users of the lockers, mostly for one- or two-day periods with one user making weekly bookings. Please use the lockers whenever you can - demand for these facilities will help to influence Council decisions on investing in future cycling proposals. We are hoping that the Scheme can be expanded with the addition of new lockers beside the Tourist Information Centre.

Campaign members and Sustrans Rangers Pip Riley and Paul Balderson have had success in getting Derbyshire County Council to collaborate with Sustrans to add the Hipper Valley and Holmebrook Valley routes to their mapping. They have also been working to sign the Trans Pennine Trail diversion around the Staveley Northern Loop road works - see page 5 for more.

Work to the new NEDDC reception on **Saltergate**, which involved removal of the cycle stands nearby, is still ongoing. However, we have been assured that they will be reinstated by the time the work is complete.

And finally, Campaign member Nicola Peck has taken over from Alastair as editor of the newsletter.

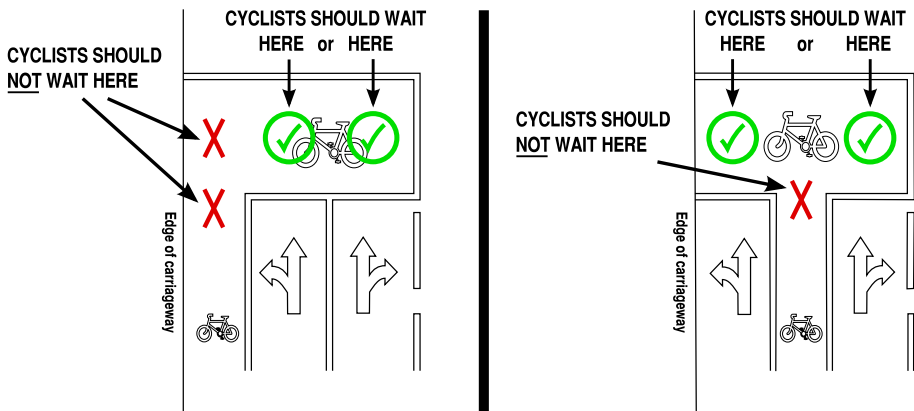
If you have any news to report or suggestions for future articles please get in touch - details on page 11.

Cycle to Work Scheme

Did you know that if you currently cycle to work, or would like to start, then you could save around 40% on the cost of a new bicycle and safety accessories? However, this benefit is only available if you are able to buy a bike through your employer. The Campaign wants to work with companies in Chesterfield and help them to set up their own Cycle to Work schemes, so that it can be made available to as many people as possible.

Would you like to see a scheme started by the company you work for? If so, please contact the Secretary (details on page 11) with the name and address of your company, together with the names of the most suitable people for us to contact.

USING ADVANCE STOP BOXES



STAVELEY NORTHERN LOOP

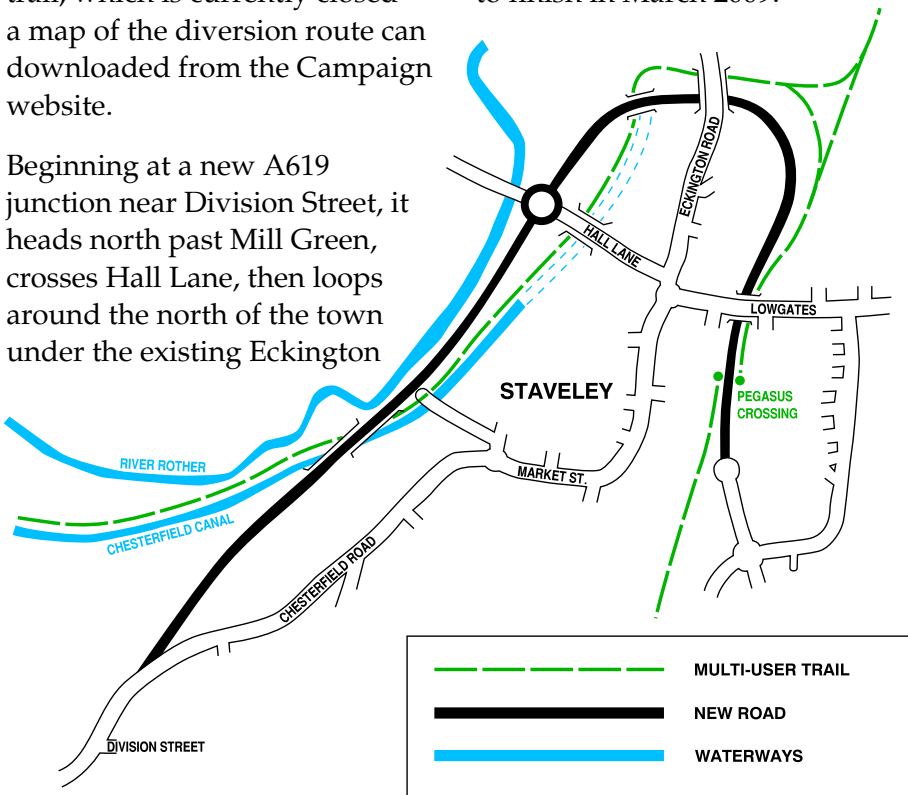
Those of you who live in, or cycle through, the Staveley area will have noticed the major works which started earlier in the year.

The Staveley Northern Loop is being built to complement the new Markham Employment Growth Zone (MEGZ), and will allow traffic to bypass the town centre. A large section will follow the route of the existing trail, which is currently closed - a map of the diversion route can be downloaded from the Campaign website.

Beginning at a new A619 junction near Division Street, it heads north past Mill Green, crosses Hall Lane, then loops around the north of the town under the existing Eckington

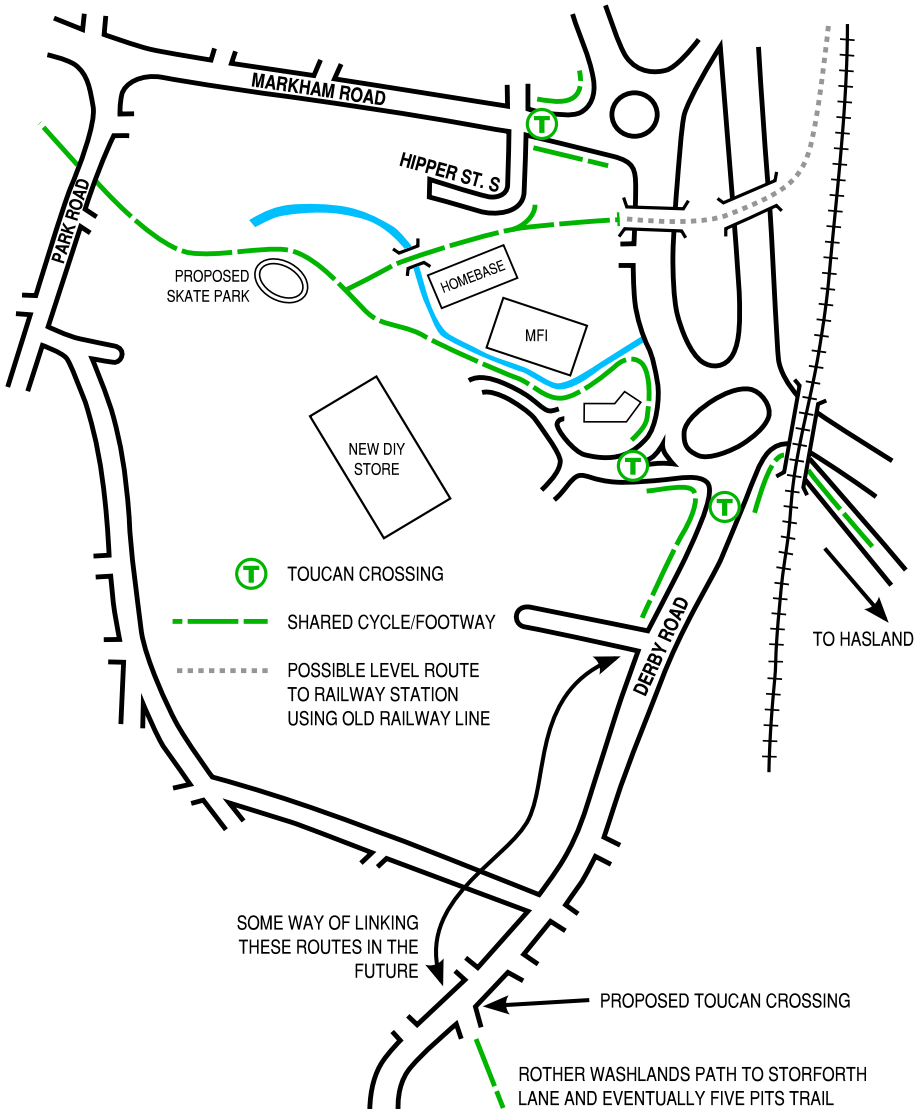
Road and Lowgates bridges (which will be rebuilt) before rejoining Erin Road.

A new multi-user trail will be constructed alongside the road, restoring connections between the canal towpath and the north-south section of the Trans Pennine Trail. A Pegasus crossing, south of the Lowgates bridge, will allow trail-users to cross the new road. Work is due to finish in March 2009.



FORMER BRYAN DONKIN SITE

Work is progressing well here and by the time you read this the new roundabout should be operational. Already the Toucan crossings at the entrance to the site are in place and also the Toucan across Derby Road to Frankie & Benny's, which will allow access to Hasland.



One downside of the work is that the existing path alongside the River Hipper is now closed until May 2008. However, the benefit will be that a new cycleway will be built from Park Road to Hipper Street South with another link alongside the Hipper to Derby Road.

Along the Derby Road and around the roundabout the footpath is shared by cyclists

and pedestrians. Where the site finishes near the St Johns Ambulance training building the nicely surfaced path abruptly stops!

Eventually the plan is to link this area to a new Toucan crossing of Derby road nearer Jawbones Hill which will give access to the Rother Washlands path. The exact route of that link is yet to be determined.

LIGHTING UP FOR WINTER

When must you use cycle lights? When riding on a public road, cycle path or public place between sunset and sunrise or in conditions of seriously reduced visibility during the day.

What is required? The picture summarises the minimum, but flashing lights of 4 candelas or more are now permitted.

Rear Lamp

One red light, marked BS3648 or BS6102/3 (or equivalent), positioned centrally or offside, between 350mm and 1500mm from the ground, at or near the rear, aligned towards and visible from behind.

Rear Reflector

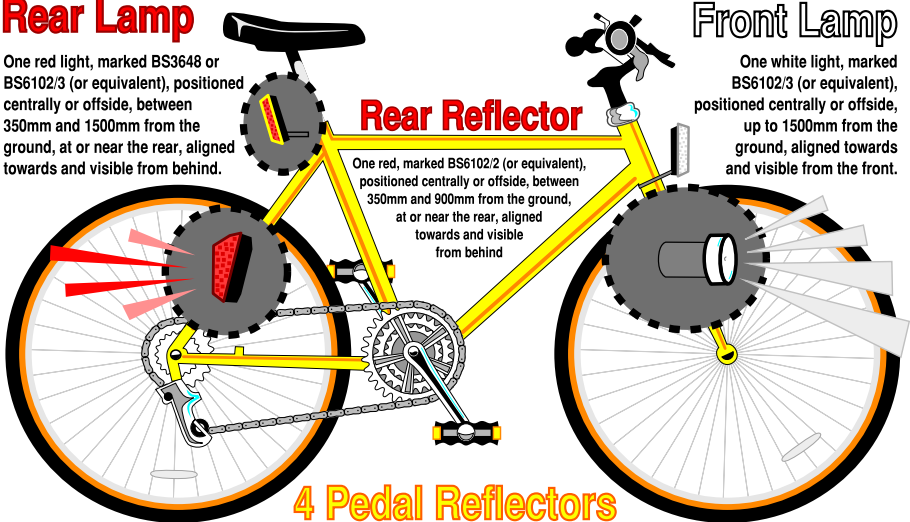
One red, marked BS6102/2 (or equivalent), positioned centrally or offside, between 350mm and 900mm from the ground, at or near the rear, aligned towards and visible from behind

Front Lamp

One white light, marked BS6102/3 (or equivalent), positioned centrally or offside, up to 1500mm from the ground, aligned towards and visible from the front.

4 Pedal Reflectors

Four are required, coloured amber and marked BS6102/2 (or equivalent), positioned so that one is plainly visible to the front and another to the rear of each pedal.



BICYCLE LOCKER SCHEME

At present there are two sets of operational bike lockers in the town, at the coach station and at the end of the Vicar Lane shops. The keys are held by the Tourist Information Centre (TIC) near the Crooked Spire.

To hire a locker you must go to the TIC (opening time 09.00 - 17.30 Summer, 09.00 - 17.00 Winter), fill in a form and pay your money! One day is 50p and one week is £2.50.

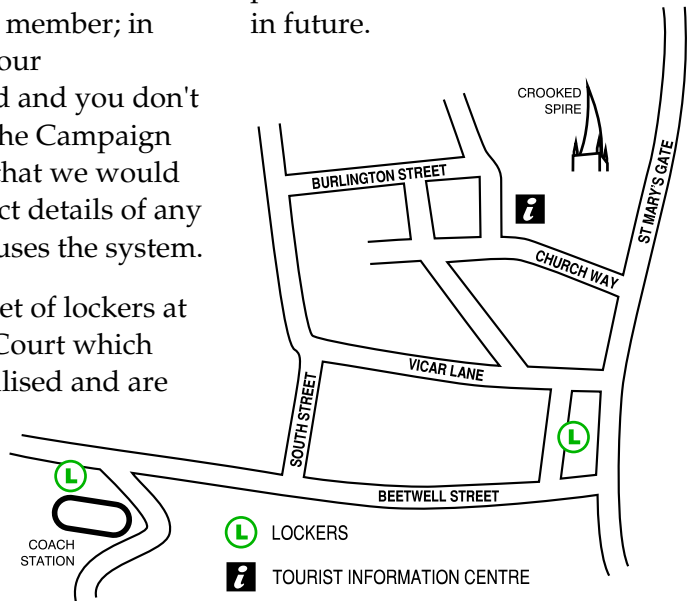
The deposit for the key is £10 unless you are a Chesterfield Cycle Campaign member; in that case show your membership card and you don't pay a deposit! The Campaign has undertaken that we would release the contact details of any member who abuses the system.

There is a third set of lockers at the Magistrates Court which have been vandalised and are

unusable. We have been trying for a year now to get them relocated to the railway station. Both CBC and Midland Mainline have agreed to the move but neither has actually got on with it!

As the rail franchise has now changed we hope for progress in this matter. You can help by contacting Mark Shewring of CBC at the Town Hall and East Midlands Trains (details below).

The Campaign committee will press for lockers near to the TIC in future.



Mark Shewring, CBC: mark.shewring@chesterfield.gov.uk
East Midlands Trains: getintouch@eastmidlandstrains.co.uk

CCC WEBSITE AND ONLINE FORUM

The website is now operational; it is a hub of news, conversation and community. However, we do need people to make it really good.

There are forums for discussion of local events and a personal message system so that you can communicate more privately. Hopefully you will find it a useful and enjoyable resource.

The forums are useful for many things including discussion of various issues, recent issues discussed were *Royal Hospital*

Cycle route??, Cycle Lockers at Chesterfield Train Station and Green Oil.

We also have the archive of past newsletters available for your pleasure so if you can't find your last issue and you need an article? No problem! Just pull up the issue and there you go.

Finally it has on the home page current News regarding the campaign and occasionally general cycling news. So please come to the website, register, and join in the community!

Registering to Use the Forum

Although anyone can read the forum, if you would like to write a message you must first become a registered user so that you can be identified as its author.

Create an account by clicking on the 'Create one' link at the bottom of the menu. Enter your real name, a username (this is the name that will be displayed in the forum, many people use a nickname), your email address and a password. Click 'Send Registration' and within a few minutes you should receive an email asking you to confirm your registration.

Follow the instructions in the email to activate your account, then login with your username and password whenever you would like to add to the discussions. Once logged in, you will see new links in the forum which are not available to 'guest' users; post new topic, reply and quote.



The image shows a screenshot of a web login form. At the top, it says "Login Form". Below that are two input fields: "Username" and "Password". Under the password field is a checkbox labeled "Remember me". Below the checkbox is a button labeled "LOGIN". At the bottom of the form, there is a link for "Password Reminder" and another link that says "No account yet? Create one".

OTHER CYCLING NEWS

The government has now published the latest version of the **Highway Code**. Following a campaign by CTC (Cyclists' Touring Club), over 40 rules have been changed to the benefit of cyclists. The most significant of these were rules 61 and 63.

Original proposals would have compelled cyclists to use cycle lanes and facilities 'where available'. As you may have experienced, the quality of some cycle facilities leaves a lot to be desired and there are situations where it is either safer or more convenient to use the roads. Had these proposals remained unchallenged it would have seriously under-mined cyclists' right to use the road, and weakened any legal defence in the event of a road accident if it could be argued that the cyclist should have been using nearby cycle facilities (regardless of practicality) instead of the road.

The revised Code now states that "use of these facilities is not compulsory and will depend on your experience and skills, but they can make your journey safer".

CTC is supporting an initiative to help clear the roads of debris such as broken glass, metal, gravel and other rubbish. The British Motorcyclists' Federation (BMF) has produced a '**Rubbish Roads Ahead**' booklet and is writing to every local highway authority urging them to clean-up the areas of carriageway used by two-wheeled vehicles.

Chesterfield Cycle Campaign have contacted Derbyshire County Council to find out how they plan to respond to this new campaign. Remember you can also report on- and off-road problems at www.FillThatHole.org.uk and www.ClearThatTrail.org.uk.

www.bmf.co.uk/upload/documents/1189709339_rubbish_roads_booklet_web.pdf

Sustrans' Connect2 is a project which aims to improve local travel in 79 communities around the UK by creating new walking and cycling networks for everyday journeys. By means of bridges, tunnels and other crossings it will overcome barriers like busy roads, rivers

and railways so you can get to where you want to go by foot or bike.

Connect2 is now among the final four projects competing for a single grant of up to £50 million from the Big Lottery Fund's Living Landmarks: The People's Millions. All of the projects will be featured on ITV in early December and the winning project will be decided by a public vote. Voting opened online on 26th November at www.thepeoples50million.org.uk. This is a great opportunity for Connect2 and for cycling so make sure you cast your vote!

A new bicycle hire scheme, called **Vélib**, has been launched in Paris. Over 10,000 bicycles are currently available from 750 racks situated around the city, and it is planned to have around 20,000 available by the end of the year. The scheme is aimed at

people who are making short journeys. Once a small joining fee is paid, the first 30 minutes of hire are free, with charges starting at one euro for journeys longer than this.

Contacting the Campaign

We'd really like to hear from members about anything to do with cycling.

Do you have any ideas for campaigning activities; what are your views on the facilities in Chesterfield; do you know any good rides in the locality that you'd like to share with others?

You can write to the Secretary at 4 Inkerman Cottages, Ashgate, Chesterfield, S40 4BP or email secretary@chesterfieldcc.org.uk.

For newsletter articles, the deadline for submissions is 1st February 2008. Please email newsletter@chesterfieldcc.org.uk.

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	Tom Foster
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 the Urban Studies Room at the Market Hall Chesterfield. The next meetings are on 11th December, 9th January, 12th February and 11th March.

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..... []

* 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.