

## Love Yr Bike

*Dr Bike, Free Cycle Training, Jenny Jones, Cycling Cinema and Yoga for Cycling! Join us at Love Yr Bike...*

Join cyclists from all over London for **Love Yr Bike**, a full day celebration of cycling at the Commonsides Centre, South Lodge Avenue, Mitcham on **Saturday, February 11th from 10am**.

Originally devised to mark the end of the successful Re:Cycle project in which young people were taught how to repair, upgrade and maintain bikes that had been



donated or abandoned, and named for the forthcoming St Valentines Day, the event has now grown to become one of the largest social events for cyclists in London.

The four separate areas at Commonsides will be filled with non-stop bike-related entertainment: a series of talks

and discussions on items ranging from the merits of cycling clothing to how to buy a secondhand bike or find the best route to work; Yoga for Cycling; a live wheel building demonstration; a Cycling Cinema; a cycle jumble with a wide range of cycle accessories at bargain prices; Dr Bike; a free healthy cyclist's lunch and lots of competitions and quizzes for all ages with some great prizes. Jenny Jones, the Mayor's Road Safety Ambassador, London Assembly Member and keen cyclist herself will be talking and then taking questions. Merton Council will provide free cycle training and the police will be advising on how to prevent your bike being stolen.

More events are being added daily and a website has been set up at: <http://www.love-yr-bike.co.uk>

Doors open at 10am and the event ends at 4.30pm with an 8 mile celebratory ride around the quiet streets and traffic-free paths led by the Pollards Hill Cyclists.

*Mark Dawson*

**There are feeder rides to LYB from several locations, including one from Croydon via the Wandle Trail. Easy paced and suitable for both families and individuals. Meet at Croydon Clocktower (Town Hall in Katharine Street), for a 10am departure. Email [jim@croydon-lcc.org.uk](mailto:jim@croydon-lcc.org.uk) for further information.**

## Bikes on trains ban

*Southern bans Croydon cyclists from rush hour trains*

The myth that is the Government's "integrated transport policy" has been further exposed by another ban on taking cycles on trains.

Southern, the train company which serves all stations in the Borough of Croydon have decided to enforce their self-declared peak time ban on "ordinary cycles" from 16th February 2006. The ban has been introduced stealthily: Southern originally announced it about two years ago; however only now have they decided to start enforcing it.

The ban will apply to all trains arriving in London or Brighton between 7am and 10am and trains leaving London or Brighton between 4pm and 7pm. There are no restrictions on cycles at weekends. Folding cycles are still allowed on any train.

### 5 minute action - email your MP now!

CTC has started a national campaign aimed to improve provision for mixed cycling-rail journeys, by emailing MPs. Go to <http://www.ctc.org.uk/campaigns> and then follow the [Rail Campaign 2005-2006](#) link.

By entering your post code and details you will get your MP's details, and a template email to send, or you can cut and paste the text into a real letter.

Do consider customising the text and making it more specific to the Southern bike ban, if you wish.

*Jim Bush*

## Cycling for Health

This initiative, being led by Active Lifestyles in association with Wheels for All/Cycling Projects, will be starting early in March. Targeting people with recognised and diagnosed health problems, as well as those who lack confidence or experience to cycle on road, Cycling for Health rides will be easy, mainly off-road and will not necessarily even need participants to have their own bikes. So be sure to recommend this to all your friends, neighbours and acquaintances.

As with all new projects, volunteer help would be welcomed from more experienced cyclists. Contact Andy Jennings on 020 8726 6144.

*Liz Mincer*

## Addiscombe Linear Park..... is coming!

Construction on Phase 1 of Addiscombe Linear Park began on 9th January. This section will run from Dalmally Passage (between Morland Road and Dalmally Road) to the end of East India Way off Lower Addiscombe Road, and it is hoped the section will be opened in summer 2006. Work has started at the Dalmally end, and in the first week they have already demolished the bridge over Dalmally Passage.

The Park will feature a shared-use cycle and footpath with wide grass verges to ensure good visibility, plus native trees and shrubs to provide privacy for neighbouring properties and habitats for birds and animals. Seats will be provided for people wishing to rest in this tranquil, new green space.

*Jim Bush*

## LCN+ reports



Gear up for a brighter cycling outlook in 2006... with scheduled implementation of better Croydon cycling routes this summer!

November saw two draft CRISP reports published, for LCN+ Links 42 and Link 43. Deadlines for responses were extremely tight, but Ruth Chapple and I got CCC's feedback in on time and are due to meet with Transport for London, Croydon Council and other stakeholders to discuss the reports in late January.

The Link 43 report arrived first and was, to be frank, not particularly inspiring, advocating very minimal measures for the A236 of the sort that we've all seen before (lanes interrupted by parking bays etc.), and which will definitely not lead to the significantly increased cycling levels that LCN+ is supposed to achieve. There's only so much that is likely to be done on this type of road under the current political climate, and our response to this report focussed on the need to address the achievable basics, especially speed reduction measures (which are largely absent from the draft report) that would meet recognised cycle-friendly infrastructure guidance and also benefit the wider community.

Jubilee Bridge is now subject to separate study. There's lots of over-capacity (3 lane carriageways instead of 1

or 2 lanes either side of the bridge) so hopefully we'll see some plans for decent cycling infrastructure here.

### **croydoncyclists web forum**

For up-to-date news on what's happening concerning cycling in and around London Borough of Croydon, why not check the croydoncyclists web forum? Go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/croydoncyclists> or just follow the links from the CCC website.

The forum has recently reached 90 subscribers, but still more would be welcome! Average number of posts is currently less than 2 emails per day, so you won't be totally inundated, and Yahoo also provide options for receiving messages in digest form.

The report for Link 42 (the planned back street town centre cycle route from Roman Way up to the High Street) was extremely positive, and we draw inspiration from that. Construction on parts of this route is scheduled to start in summer 2006, although the route won't be completed until the following financial year. Especially welcome, the report also included the much-needed "spur route" that will connect some ten thousand people living in and around the Waddon Estate to existing and planned routes to destinations such as the High Street, West Croydon and Sutton.

*Jeremy Rickard*

## Diary dates

### **Wandle Trail Feeder Ride**

...to Love Yr Bike event (see main text above).  
Departing **10am, Saturday 11th February** from the Clocktower in Katharine Street.

### **CCC meetings**

**2nd Wednesday of the month, starting at 7.45pm.**

Our venue is: Croydon Unison Social Club, Chatsworth Hall, Chatsworth Road, Croydon CR0 1HE. There's a bar so it's not all work, and it's always nice to see new and old faces.

### **Croydon Green Drinks**

**3rd Tuesday of the month, from 6pm.** Not a CCC event but some of us quite often make it along. Venue is The Ship, 47 High Street, Central Croydon. Look for the table with the houseplant or call Richard on his mobile (07989 358842) if you can't spot the right group!

*This newsletter is also available as a bookmarked, colour PDF from:*

<http://www.croydon-lcc.org.uk/news/newsletters.htm>

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