

Bricycles

News

www.bricycles.org.uk

Summer 2017
No. 112

Brighton Bike Share's first bike!

Caroline Lucas MP tried out the first Bike Share bike in support of the BHT Around the World Cycle Challenge to raise funds for homelessness.

The event was on 25 June in Preston Park and was attended by several Brighton and Hove City councillors from both the Labour and Green parties. *See page 10.*



All new one way streets should have a cycling contraflow!

Lots of new one-way streets in Hanover, Elm Grove and Preston Park. *Page 2*

Unanimous Council support for a renewed Cycle Strategy and 'Brighton and Hove Cycle network'

A bold new proposal by Green Councillor Tom Druitt won unanimous cross party approval at the Council meeting on 20th July. *See page 5.*

Crash on seafront cycle path

Review the route and give cyclists clear priority over motor vehicles!

See Page 4.



Local Transport News



Beware One Way Streets

A major achievement in the Council's March transport meeting was agreement on the long overdue parking scheme for Hanover and Elm Grove.

However cyclists were shocked to see that when the Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) were advertised in May, there were arrangements for a very large number of one-way streets without cycling contraflows. The clearly stated reason for the one ways was to maximise parking.

We objected to the TROs and lobbied for contraflow cycling.

We are grateful to the Conservative group whose amendment at the June meeting included the wording "... to include contra flow cycle lanes in all appropriate one way streets as part of the implementation programme and include in the subsequent amendment TRO" This gained Green and Labour support and was approved. Not a cast iron guarantee but an improvement!

The amendment also covered Craven Vale parking scheme, but we were unsure if it also applied to the TRO in the Preston Park area which stated: "One Way in Middle Road, North and part of Home Road – Introduction of one way system to



Looking north towards Home Road. Middle Rd and North Rd are turnings on the right.

maximise the amount of residents parking on street."

We have now had it confirmed that "the three proposed one way roads within the Preston Village scheme will support contra flow cycling."

It is imperative that cyclists scrutinise traffic schemes for measures that de-prioritise cycling. One way streets must include contraflows at the design stage.

Council transport (ETS) meetings were on 14/3/17 & 25/6/17. Membership opposite.

Valley Gardens

A Bricycles representative attended yet another Valley Gardens workshop on 25/5/17 at Hove Town Hall. This was about the green space design rather

than traffic considerations.

On the eastern side of this central area there will be a 2-way cycle path with a surface of bound gravel and a width of 3.5 metres, narrowing to 3 metres at the northern end. The proposed green space design was approved at the Council's June transport meeting and officers can now initiate the planning application process and the procedure to take highway to turn into green space.

Work is expected to start in March 2018 with a finish date of Dec 2019.

Open Spaces strategy

The Committee approved the establishment of a Brighton & Hove Parks Foundation "to lead creative and innovative fundraising which would be invested in the council's parks and open spaces" and recommended the Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability as the Chair of Brighton & Hove Parks Foundation.

Brighton & Hove City Council's

Environment, Transport and Sustainability committee (ETS) members

Gill Mitchell (Labour, Chair)

Saoirse Horan (Labour, Deputy Chair)

Lee Wares (Conservative)

Leo Littman (Green spokesperson) 25/6/17

Peter Atkinson (Labour)

Vanessa Brown (Conservative) 25/6/17

Robert Nemeth (Conservative

Councillor Garry Peltzer Dunn 25/6/17

Alan Robins (Labour)

Pete West (Green) 25/6/17

Tony Janio (Cons. Spokesperson) 14/3/17

Louisa Greenbaum (Green Spokesperson) 14/3/17

Lizzie Deane (Green) 14/3/17

Joe Miller (Conservative) 14/3/17

Geoffrey Theobald (Conservative) 14/3/17

Some members (for totally appropriate reasons) only attended one meeting. If so, the date is given after the name in brackets.

Transport Planner leaves BHCC

At the June meeting, the Chair said goodbye and thanks to Abby Hone, Principal Transport Planner who worked on cycling projects. She is going to work for Richmond & Wandsworth Councils.

New Monthly market closes cycle track



Do we have so many cycle routes that it's OK to just give them away for other people's events? We have contacted council officials about this closure. We were told there was no need to consult with cycling groups, though they had consulted their own "highways department" [sic].

Not good enough! We will follow up.

NCN 2 at Hove



A cyclist was hit by a car crossing the NCN2 South Coast Cycle Route about 2-3

weeks ago where there's a side turning to the View restaurant (left). See: <http://bit.ly/2ue5mPB> Our information is that both cyclist and car were going westbound when the car turned left (southbound) across the path and hit the cyclist. The cyclist has several fractures.

Apparently the police are taking no action against the driver because of the give way lines for the cyclist marked on the cycle path. The cyclist is pursuing a legal case with support from CUK.

We have heard from a witness to a similar collision near the Bowls Club entrance in 2015. He contacted the Council with his concerns at the time.

We are double checking the status of the give way lines on the cycle path to establish whether the cyclist was actually at fault when the motor vehicle collided with him. Driver priority at these crossings brings enormous risks of injury to pedestrians and children on tricycles, skateboards etc. as well as cyclists.

There are very many crossing points along NCN2. We strongly believe that the whole route should be reviewed and re-designed in line with high quality TfL and Sustrans standards and urgently re-marked so that it is clearly **motor vehicles** which must give way to both

cyclists and pedestrians when crossing NCN2.

Both pedestrians and cyclists need more space and separate provision as far as possible, taking road space where necessary.

There are also anomalies where southbound turnings are "No cycling" but an increasing number of motor vehicles are going to the View, the Bowls Club or setting up for frequent seafront events. Which are the "authorised" vehicles? Is anyone checking?

Obviously pedestrian movements need to be accommodated safely, but it is not practical for cyclists to be constantly stopping and/or looking behind for a motor vehicle. The poorer observation skills of children and some older people, and the physical constraints of people with disabilities also need to be taken into account and a better design for crossing points agreed.

This route is well overdue for a review.

Cycle Strategy and a Cycle Network for Brighton & Hove?



Cllr. Tom Druitt (above) presented the “Cycle Strategy” motion from the Green group of Councillors at the full Council meeting on 20 July and was seconded by Cllr. Pete West. Cllr. Druitt listed cycling’s many benefits and referred to the previous increase in cycling in the City, naming ex-Cllr. Ian Davey a “huge champion”. He referred to the publication of CWIS (see page 6) and several other points and said: “Despite these things, it looks like the City’s cycling ambitions have rather run out of steam - the wheels have come off the bike.”

The Green group’s motion requested that a report be brought to Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee outlining options for implementing a specific and ambitious cycling strategy for Brighton and Hove, with information included that would help to:

- a) Identify what progress has been made against the cycling goals of the Local Transport Plan, to encourage a healthy cycling culture whereby cycling is safe, easy and enjoyable
- b) Explore options for the continued development of better cycling infrastructure such as the creation of a

‘Brighton and Hove Cycle network’ (modelled on the successful London Cycle Network) of joined up and marked routes, connecting sections of ‘stranded’ routes and improving the cycling experience across road junctions

c) Explore the funding options available (such as grants, Section 106 agreements and the Community Infrastructure Levy) to support improved cycling infrastructure, more cycle parking and greater use of initiatives like personal travel planning, employee purchase schemes and rider and maintenance training;

d) Facilitate greater engagement with residents & cycling groups in the city to ensure maximum support for a cycling strategy & to encourage the creation of political ‘Cycling Champions’ across all parties.

Newly appointed cycling champion, conservative Cllr. Nick Lewry supported the motion, and also supported Chris Boardman’s campaign for safer junctions (#TurningTheCorner) and even the West Midlands Police “close pass” initiative!

Cllr. Gill Mitchell (Labour, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee) defended labour’s record and spoke of the Personalised Travel Planning work under the present labour administration and the forthcoming “Cycle September” initiative (see page 31). She referred to the “Damascene conversion” of the conservatives. She also supported the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved. We congratulate the Council.

The Council documents are at <http://bit.ly/2uSeZDd> Scroll down to Item 25d. There is a link to the webcast near the top.

Bricycles News

Bricycles is a community group. We do not receive any funding. We have no premises and no paid staff. Costs are




kept to a minimum but outgoings are exceeding income and have done for some

time. Although the cost of newsletter production has fallen, the subs aren't covering costs. This situation was discussed at the AGM in June. **Subs will need to be increased to £10.** We are also moving to a fixed membership year,

rather than the rolling year which has involved the poor treasurer in continual chasing!

The printed newsletter is a good campaigning tool, but the bottom line is that if we can't cover costs, Bricycles News will become electronic only. We still aim to produce 2 or 3 issues per year. Bricycles Facebook and Twitter pages are excellent news sources. Please check them. Your support is absolutely crucial. Your subs are our only income for running stalls, meetings, communication costs etc.

Please renew! Donations welcome!



Cycling & Walking Investment Strategy

The long awaited national Cycling & Walking Investment Strategy (**CWIS**) was published in April. It commits £1.2bn for cycle training, safety measures, road improvements and local walking and cycling schemes. It is less funding than the £10 per person per year recommended by the Transport Select Committee, but CUK described it as "a gamechanger" because of its commitment to long term funding. This is the first of a series of 5 year strategies "to make walking and cycling the natural choice for shorter journeys by 2040." In connection with this, Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIPs) will need to be developed. Bricycles' ward by ward list of improvements is a useful source of information for decision makers:

<https://bricycles.org.uk/brighton-and-hove-by-ward/>

We encouraged Brighton & Hove City Council to bid for funding for technical support for CWIS. More info:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-publishes-12-billion-plan-to-increase-cycling-and-walking>

Help create a tube style cycle map!



Cycle maps have been developed in the style of the London tube map by cycling groups in London, Bristol, Bath, Edinburgh, etc. Help create one for Brighton and Hove! It can highlight what's good and what's missing and is relevant for CWIS!

Improvements for cycling are listed on Bricycles website. Draft map at:

<http://bit.ly/2mexfUe>

In January a cyclist who was riding south on the Lewes Road into Brighton hit a low kerb while attempting to join the cycle lane at Coombe Terrace. He sustained serious injuries. Bricycles took up the kerb issue with Brighton and Hove City

Council. Some improvements have been made, though this kerb and other similar low visibility obstructions in the city are unlikely to be removed for various reasons.

The Council view here is that the problem was mainly caused by illegal and inconsiderate parking blocking access to the segregated cycle lane. Parking has certainly been an issue here for more than 20 years and has never been satisfactorily resolved! Is it going to be resolved now?

The Council reports that it has recently applied more parking enforcement and CCTV monitoring at the site. Other planned works included red surfacing, refreshing markings denoting parking restrictions, additional double yellow lines around the kerb and replacing a missing bollard. This immediate enforcement (in the early evening) resulted in 17 tickets or PCNs for



Coombe Terrace Update



Low kerb + obstructive parking at Coombe Terrace is a dangerous mixture

offenders. Attention also focused on the behaviour of takeaway delivery drivers. The Council said in March that they would “continue to monitor this location once the works are complete and a further review will take place if required.”

I met one of the Council officers at Lewes Road Gyratory to discuss kerbs and obstructions generally in the City.

In July I asked if any further action has been taken or is planned. We have been told that the taxi rank will be relocated in order to reduce parking demand, and the area will again be monitored.

We have not heard of any further incidents. If you know of any, please let us know.

***Becky Reynolds,
Bricycles Campaigns & News***



Cycle training by the Council

Free adult cycle training and bike maintenance courses are available for 14 years olds and older who live in Brighton & Hove. Takes place at Changing Gears on the Lewes Road or at The Level.

<https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/content/parking-and-travel/travel-transport-and-road-safety/city-cycling-skills-and-training>

Out and about



Route cleared finally at Providence Place.



Big new roundels "No Cycling", Hove.



Trevor Arms, Glynde, closed since January.



A23 Brighton resurfaced & remarked inc. ASLs.



A23 Wayfield Fm road marked after collision.



15mph limit, Lower Basin Road South.



More smashed panes at Adur Ferry bridge.



New access southern end of Adur Ferry Bridge.

Brighton Greenway update

This “pedestrian and cycle way leading from Brighton Station to New England Road” is impossible to cycle from one end to the other due to 2 flights of steps and inadequate ramps. We have corresponded with one of Brighton and Hove City Council’s Principal Planning Officers but have obtained no response on the specific points raised by our Cycling Infrastructure Adviser, Duncan Codd about the inadequacy of this route for cyclists, pedestrians with buggies, and wheelchair users. The path is not an adopted highway, it is privately owned land. The planning application was made on behalf of the Hyde Group.

Of course, we love wildlife and were interested to read that a gravel strip that looked like a path to nowhere, is in fact part of the design for “basking reptiles”.



Brighton and Hove Local Access Forum news



Work at the top of Upper Lodge Wood within the Stanmer Park estate. It’s part of an almost totally off road route to Ditchling Beacon and normally gets very boggy in the winter. A concrete section has been put in.

Andrew Colemanaj@ntlworld.com

New: Marine Gate toucan

There will be a new toucan crossing on the A259 by Marine Gate near Brighton Marina, and a redesigned stop for westbound buses. There have been collisions and injuries due to poor visibility.

Toads Hole Valley consultation - results delayed

The result of the consultation on Toads Hole Valley, the 37-hectare area bounded by the A27 and King George VI Avenue has been delayed
www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/toadsholevalley

Big plans for the old Westerman complex in School Road, Hove

100 new homes, 40% for affordable shared ownership or rent plus 600 sq. meters of office space are planned. Developer’s contributions include £210,000 for local education, £250,000 for open spaces and indoor recreation, £74,000 for sustainable transport and £45,000 towards improving public spaces. A residential travel plan includes two years free membership of the Car Club plus £250 to buy a bike or equipment. 93 parking spaces are proposed. Look out for more detailed plans and how they can be influenced towards improvements for cycling, walking and public transport.

Around the World Cycle Challenge

The aim was to ride 40,075 km “around the world” in 12 hours at Preston Park Velodrome on Sunday 25 June to raise money for the homelessness charity, Brighton Housing Trust www.bht.org.uk/ Former mayor Cllr. Pete West opened the event, and is pictured on the right holding the first Brighton Bike Share bike www.btnbikeshare.com/ which people took turns to ride to raise funds.



Caroline Lucas MP tried out the bike (see front page). Also present (left to right in photo left) were Cllr. Alan Robins (Labour), Cllr. Leo Littman (Green), Ian Davey and Cllr. Gill Mitchell (Labour, Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee) who is implementing the Bike Share scheme, holding the bike. The hire bikes carry the logo of the scheme’s sponsor, Life Natural Spring Water. It was a nice surprise to see former Councillor Ian Davey (right) who worked on the bike scheme while in office. Also there was Paul Bonett of Bonett’s Estate Agents www.bonetts.co.uk/ (left) who rode 100 miles!



Right: one of the young fundraisers about to set off. Chris Todd of CSS <http://css.bike/> holds the gate assisted by Councillor Leo Littman next to him.



Docking stations popping up all over!



Madeira Drive



London Road



George Street

Transport for the South East?

Transport for the South East (TfSE) is a new body including Brighton & Hove City Council, Berkshire Local Transport Body, the councils of East Sussex, West Sussex, Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Kent, Medway, Portsmouth, Southampton and Surrey, the South East's five Local Enterprise Partnerships: Coast to Capital, Enterprise M3, South East, Solent and Berkshire Thames Valley. The DfT, Highways England, Network Rail, borough and district councils, ports, airports, transport operators and users will also be represented, it is claimed.

Brighton and Hove City Council Leader, Cllr. Morgan said he wanted to see TfSE focusing on improving rail services. Cllr. Keith Glazier, Leader of East Sussex County Council is chair. He said of the South East region that "Its transport network is creaking so it's vital the Government does not take its foot off the pedal in targeting much-needed investment in this area."

Let's hope Cllr. Glazier means the bike pedal and not the gas pedal because we've had enough of car focused policies, particularly from ESCC!

Mayor's Charities Bike Ride



Mayor Pete completes the ride and gets his medal

140 riders joined Brighton & Hove Mayor Cllr. Pete West on a 50 mile cycle ride around the Biosphere boundary from Hove Lawns via the Undercliff to Lewes, Ditchling, Hurstpierpoint, Sussex Wildlife Trust's base at Woods Mill, Bramber and Shoreham on 23/4/17.



The start



Becky of Bricycles talking to the media



Brighton Breeze Champion Alison in the centre

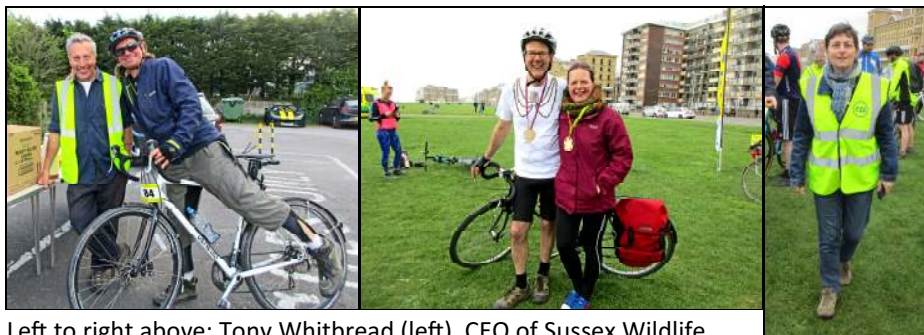


Darren of Brighton E-bikes



Bricycles members volunteered for marshalling: Peter in photo, left; Tom Jones (Bricycles Development & Outreach officer) right and Les, far right. Duncan Codd (Bricycles Infrastructure Adviser) also marshalled at New Way Lane, Clayton.





Left to right above: Tony Whitbread (left), CEO of Sussex Wildlife Trust with friendly cyclist at Woods Mill; Mayor Pete with Lady Mayoress Geraldine at the finish; Brenda Pollock of Cycling Support Services <http://css.bike/>

Cycling Mayor Pete's term in office

Whilst in the role of mayor, Cllr. Pete West helped to raise £94,000 to be shared between his 27 chosen charities including Brighton Housing Trust, the Resource Centre, Greencycle Sussex, Sustrans and Sussex Wildlife Trust. £34,000 was raised by the Paris2Brighton Cycle Ride alone. More than 200 people took part in his Mayor's Charities Walk. He was an extremely active Mayor, carrying out more than 915 engagements and was often to be seen around town on his mayoral tandem with stoker-chauffeur Robbie. Well done, Pete!

Worthing Donkey bikes

On 30 June, 20 "Donkey" hire bikes were made available at two seafront locations and at Steyne Gardens, making Worthing the first Sussex town to have a bike share scheme. Donkey bikes are used in Copenhagen and many other towns in Europe and Britain. It was good to meet



Judy Fox (in photo) who is the Visitor Experience and Marketing Officer for Adur and Worthing Council involved in the project. For more information see:

<http://discoverworthing.uk/bike-hire-worthing/> You need a smartphone to download an app. Prices from £6 for 2 hours, longer term hire also available. Seven routes are suggested, including trips to Bramber and Brighton.

Summer Fete at Brighton Bike Hub

There was plenty of cycling fun and games on 17th June at Field on the Lewes Road as Brighton Bike Hub held their summer fete to celebrate 200 years since Baron Karl von Drais invented the “Draisienne” or velocipede, the forerunner of the bicycle.

The event was part of **Bike Week** and the Great Get Together.

Duncan Blinkhorn (right) organised the day. There was a

bicycle obstacle course (left) and a big Bicycle Birthday cake (below).



Above: Good to see Cllr. Pete West, former Mayor.
Below : Becky of Bricycles, Duncan & Pete.



Below: Carbon negative cooking.
Facebook: “Brian La Carbonara”



www.facebook.com/BrightonBikeHub/



The **TAKEPART** Festival of Sport and Physical Activity was held on The Level, also on 17th June. British Cycling's women's Breeze Champions were there (left and below). Sustrans' Ben Sherratt (below left) provided all kinds of bikes for children to try.



Also at TAKEPART was Brighton and Hove City Council's Road Safety Team who were using Cycling UK's "Close pass mat" (photos below) to explain to drivers about giving cyclists enough room when overtaking. 0.75m indicates the distance the cyclist might be from the kerb and 1.5m considered the minimum overtaking clearance. These are marked on the mat. Bricycles is campaigning for plain clothes



police officers to be employed to apprehend close pass drivers as per the West Midlands model.



Vélo Vintage

The Anjou Vélo Vintage takes place towards the end of June each year, this year was the 7th edition and possibly the best attended with 6,800 riders and 30,000 visitors to the town of Saumur, where the festival is based.

Combining retro cycling with swing and jazz music, bicycles and dress from pre 1987, the festival has an air of the late forties and 1950's. With a cycling village set up on the riverbank complete with nearly 100 stands offering vintage cycle parts, clothes, hairstyles, food and drink, and a stage and dance floor for the festival. The village is also packed with the riders and their bikes



all lined up ready for the *départ* on the different levels of rides over the two days. There is something for everyone, the 120km "Authentic 1868" La Route de Gravelles heads north over the river and takes in the rolling countryside of the Loire. Over the weekend 5 further rides, ranging from 30km-60km offer something for everyone, all ages, different styles of bikes and dress. Passing through villages and the vineyards of the Loire stopping to taste local produce and sampling the wine of the region.

We chose the "Paul Anton" ride on the

Saturday, rolling gradually out of the town, heading south west 60kms through iconic French landscape of quiet hamlets, fields of ripening sunflowers and the ubiquitous vignobles of the region. On Sunday a different ride on the "Anatole Laguiboile": 40kms, setting off through the town, with a sharp climb up to the Chateau de Saumur for the first feed stop and breathtaking view





across the Pays de la Loire region.

The rides include feed stops at various landmarks. On the Sunday 40km ride this included the stunning settings of Fontevraud -l'Abbaye and the viewpoint from Parnay. Lunch was on the riverbank at Montsoreau, complete with a jazz band on a boat and over a thousand cyclists

sitting down for lunch and a local red wine.



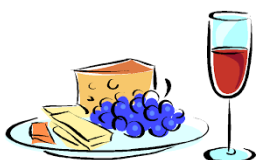
We did the two rides on a 1979 Peugeot "Grande Tourisme" tandem (left) recently found through the CTC forum and restored to its original condition. Booking for the rides is done through the website:

www.anjou-Velo-vintage.com The rides have become very popular and were sold out by the beginning of May this year. The atmosphere in Saumur was warm and friendly, with everyone enjoying the event, the whole town was celebrating with the streets, shops and restaurants themed for retro cycling, villages *en route* too with bikes, decorations and families on the side of the road



encouraging everyone on. It's a great festival which promotes cycling, cycle

tourism and the food and drink of the region. Plenty of good restaurants and accommodation in and around the town.



Chris Myatt

Southdowns Randonnée

This enjoyable annual event run by East Sussex CTC on 7 May took a very attractive route through the verdant countryside, stopping at Heaven Farm for refreshments (below). Rides of 50, 80 & 100km were available.

Cakes and sandwiches were abundantly available at the Ringmer Scout Hut from where the ride started and finished.



Electric bikes at Bike Hub

Electric bikes were demonstrated at the Brighton Bike Hub on the Lewes Road on 17 May. I had a go for the first time! It's an unusual and not unpleasant sensation when a little pedalling is augmented by the motor so that you can whizz around very easily. Electric bikes are already becoming very popular and will increase the total



number of people cycling and the demand for better and longer routes. New cyclists, drivers and pedestrians need to be aware of how these bikes move. **Becky**
Shown here: Eazi-rider





Eastbourne Cycling Festival

There was a balance bike race for the under 5's, family rides, races for men and women, a hill climb, cyclocross, critical mass, a sportive, folding bike

championship (right) a triathlon, cycle skills demo, a time trial, a penny farthing race and vintage bike displays!

Bespoke, the local cycling campaign group had a busy time (bottom left), as did Alison, Brighton Breeze Champion (below) with the immaculately

branded British Cycling Breeze stall. The friendly Eastbourne Cycle Centre was also there (right). Held on 2-4 June 2017.



Jan Goody has a quick chat with Bruce Jonas of

GET-A-FIX

**Mobile
Cycle
Repairs**

Why is it important for you to arrive at a job on a bike and are you unique in that respect?

When I started Getafix Mobile Cycle Repairs off in 2006 only South Coast Bikes were offering a similar service. I wanted to keep things 'green' as a committed environmentalist so decided to journey to all our customers' homes or work places by bicycle and do the repairs on the spot.

We're still the only company who does this! The obvious problem initially was whether it was possible to carry all the required tools and parts on a bike? The answer was to ask our customers the right questions when they book to ascertain which things to bring along in two big Altura panniers mounted on a rack. A trip to a local bicycle shop may occasionally be necessary but is rare. I've never needed to get a trailer which would be extra weight to cycle round our hilly town!

Who are your youngest and oldest customers?

Most of our customers appreciate the green credentials of Getafix and range in age from 18 year old students to pensioners who all qualify for our 10% discount.

Why is it vital to have your bike checked over - what are the dangers of not doing so?

Safety is the main issue here, although a bike will also run a lot better if maintained regularly. We launched a budget £25 Getafix 'Light' Service to encourage people to attend to their maintenance more



regularly. You put your feet up or continue with your work while we do the job!

What weekly tasks can you do to keep your bike in shape?

Every cyclist should at least own a track pump and a proper chain oil (not WD40!) to be used regularly even if they don't service their own bikes. A track pump should include a pressure gauge so you can maintain the recommended pressure which is written on the side of your tyre. Chains should always have a slightly 'wet' look if you oil them enough.

What's your favourite cycle ride in Sussex?

I go out for weekly mountain bike and road rides so I use many routes. I think some of the quiet roads from Chichester or Ford stations north towards Midhurst and back using the quiet lanes through Singleton and Harting are beautiful as is the South Downs way from Brighton to Eastbourne.

How many bikes do you own and what are they?

Four to date. An inexpensive Marin mountain bike with Avid hydraulic brakes fitted, my round town work horse. A Spanish made 1999 Zeus twenty gear racer with a Columbus steel frame and Shimano 105 group sets, a lovely runner out on the

road. A recent twenty gear Genesis Latitude mountain bike with a nice Reynolds 'mjolnir' steel frame which is just great for off roading. A real retro blue 1979 BSA 3 gear roadster I inherited from my dad who bought it in 1991 from an old lady who had hardly used it from new; it's in beautiful original condition with big lumpy battery lights and is perfect for sedate rides around town.

Bruce Jonas of Getafix Cycles was answering questions by Jan Goody, an environmental journalist for The Ecologist.

www.getafixcycles.org.uk



Racing at Hove Park Brighton Mitre's annual race series, the "Hove Park



Crits" were held on three Friday evenings in May. Photos show one of the women's races (left) which took place on 26th May on the 1km circuit at the northern end of Hove Park. There was a prize giving (below left.) for the women's race. Results were

- 1) Sarah Phelps, Crawley Wheelers
- 2) Catherine Matthews, RedhillCC
- 3) Gema Hobson, Sussex Nomads
- 4) Bobby Searle, Brighton Mitre
- 5) Laura Winkley, Crawley Wheelers
- 6) Jo Matthews, Redhill Raiders

There was also more men's racing (left).



A trip to Amsterdam

by Peter Silburn

What's it like to ride in the "cycling capital of the world"?

People on bikes can go almost everywhere and it's not a problem. You'd be hard pressed to spot a single "No Cycling" sign. It was striking how many spritely men and women in the 70s (and older) we saw cycling through the city. Good infrastructure means age is not a barrier to them.



Walking the dog through the Rijksmuseum "tunnel"

Cargo bikes are very much in evidence. You will soon lose your sense of amazement at seeing everything (including the kitchen sink) being transported by pedal power, but most commonly it seems either dogs or small children!

Motor traffic is severely restricted of course, but not by taking measures which impede people on bikes. Speed bumps are clearly designed with cycling in mind. They are so smooth to ride over you don't

even notice them on a bike. Why can't we have these in the UK?

Near the Rijksmuseum with its wonderful bicycle tunnel is the Vondelpark, the largest park in the city. It's a bit like Hyde Park except you can cycle everywhere and there are no cars at all. Needless to say it's hugely popular, especially with families. I counted hundreds of bikes outside the lakeside cafe.



Family cycling in the Vondelpark

No sweat

After a couple of days pootling about I noticed how – despite riding such a heavy, over-gearred bike – I wasn't getting all hot and sweaty. Perhaps because it's such an effort to ride fast, you don't. So you end up riding sedately instead and not constantly exerting energy to keep going.



Approaching Central Station – the cycle path goes right through it

There's therefore no need to wear special clothing or have a shower when you reach your destination. It's just like walking.



Babies on a bike

Away from the picture-postcard canals there are cyclepaths on every road, just as elsewhere in the Netherlands. Having largely segregated cyclepaths everywhere and slower traffic speeds, particularly at junctions, is a winning combination. No one feels the need to wear safety gear yet it's the safest place in the world to ride a bike.

You can read about it and watch the videos but

until you experience it for yourself you can't really understand what it feels like to be somewhere that truly has prioritised walking and cycling.

This is the final part from Peter about cycling in Amsterdam. It is also online at:

<http://www.hdcf.org.uk/a-trip-to-amsterdam-whats-it-like-to-ride-in-the-cycling-capital-of-the-world/>

Burning up on bikes in Burma

Although I wasn't on a cycle trip, I finally managed to visit Burma last winter after many



Tricycle shop and sidecar

years of visiting South East Asia; the recent regime change and the election of Aung San Suu Kyi clinched my decision to go as I didn't want to support the previous military government!

Unlike Thailand, the years of relative isolation have had some advantages.

Despite the poverty and huge

wealth gap, it's left the country looking untouched and 'authentic', a joy to witness. Non leisure cycling is consequently still common and many still go to work or school by bike, or even run small businesses from their trusty steeds.



Typical Indian machine in Yangon

Starting my three weeks trip in Yangon at the end of February the weather, at 38° C, wasn't exactly ideal for cycling. I spotted the ubiquitous 'sidecar' bicycle rickshaws still doing a brisk business around town and keeping pollution levels down. The rat catcher cycle was another favourite in Yangon; just wave him down as he cycles past and rid your house of those pesky rodents!

The famous Bagan temples are an ideal place to cycle around being by the flat Irrawaddy flood plain. Increasing levels of

motorised transport will only spoil the peaceful, temple strewn plain, but I did my bit by hiring a mid range Specialized mountain bike to cover the many dusty roads between the temples. Later on a puncture led me to visit the local bike repair man who uses an

old moped to occasionally dash off on mechanical missions at various remote locations! The high temperatures were manageable by giving up late morning, retreating to an AC room and coming out about 4:30pm for a couple of hours more pedalling at sunset.

I also rented a local old roadster in Nyaungshwe to cycle around the sublime Inle Lake, including a small boat to ferry me across the waters with very fine views. The cooler temperatures here at 900 metres in the east of the country meant midday riding was possible, smothered in 50+ sunscreen of course!

Mandalay in the north of the country offered more bike hire possibilities for me to visit the sites, and a rattly single speed specimen did the job over the shortish distances. Traffic here hardly stops or gives way, but the slow relentless pace is predictable and surprisingly safe once you expect it and go with the flow!

Bicycle tours are available from various tour companies but it wouldn't

be my cuppa tea in that heat. I would definitely consider another visit to Burma, the people are very friendly and it's easy to travel around albeit slow.

Bruce Jonas

www.getafixcycles.org.uk



Ratcatcher business by bike



Bike repair man at Bagan

New bus service in East Sussex!



It's not often that there's a new bus service in rural Sussex. This one has been brought about largely by the efforts of Derrick Coffee, East Sussex County Officer for the Campaign for Better Transport (on the left in photo below).

The No. 349 runs from Hastings – Sedlescombe – Staplecross – Bodiam – Sandhurst – Hawkhurst – Cranbrook 7 days a week. If we're serious about sustainable transport, we need to support rural bus services so that people in villages have an option other than car driving (or cycling!)

Do spread the word about service 349, run by Stagecoach!



The Egrets Way

Progress has been made on the Newhaven end of the Ouse cycleway. A new path has been built which emerges at the southern end of the C7, Lewes Rd/Elphick Rd. junction on the outskirts of the town (left)

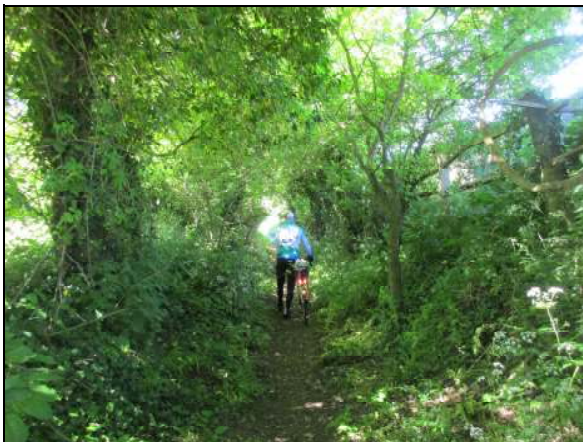
East Sussex Cycling and Walking Strategy

A strategy is being developed following East Sussex County Council's award from the Department for Transport's (DfT) Access Fund. The aim is to provide cycling and walking initiatives to encourage active and sustainable modes of travel across Newhaven, Eastbourne/South Wealden and Bexhill/Hastings. An "ESCC Cycling & Walking Forum" was held on 11 July 2017 at Eastbourne Town Hall led by ESCC and Sustrans who have won the contract. There was input from several East Sussex cycling groups. The final strategy will align with the national Cycling & Walking Investment Strategy, and other major ESCC documents.

West Sussex ways

New bridleway?

A Definitive Map Modification Order concerning the addition of Smugglers Lane, Upper Beeding as a bridleway is under discussion. This lane cuts off the corner of the A2037 Henfield Road where it leaves Upper Beeding. It is passable at the moment but a bit rough for road bikes. OK with a cyclocross bike.



Wiston opening up?

If you ride through Steyning, you will be interested to hear of Wiston Estate's Whole Estate Plan which has a vision of "An enhanced network of permissive and public paths" and suggests an off-road

cycle route from Washington to North Farm and linking to the South Downs Way. We lost a useful cycle route through the estate several years ago.

Many thanks to Mike Croker for West Sussex updates and tips!

A27 UPDATE



Chichester: Though previously shelved, a road scheme is still possible. Residents have been told to come to an agreement by September, or lose the £250 million in central funding.

Worthing: Adur and Worthing councillors are disappointed that underpasses or flyovers aren't on offer! They need to get to grips with traffic reduction! Chris Todd of the Campaign for Better Transport spoke on BBC Radio Sussex on 20 July putting the sustainable transport case.

Arundel: "A27 Corridor Feasibility Study" public consultation by Highways England running from 22 August to 16 October 2017.

A27 East of Lewes: £75M scheme tbc by Highways England in Summer 2017.

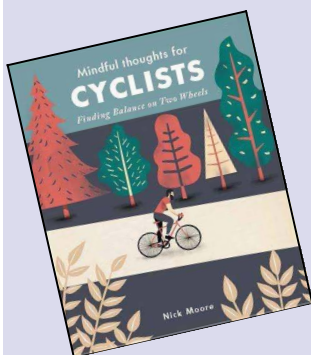
DEFRA Air Quality consultation

Bricycles gave a full response to the consultation on "Improving air quality: national plan for tackling nitrogen dioxide in our towns and cities" We said "Cycling is zero emissions transport, so we believe cycling should be at the centre of any air pollution strategy."



MINDFUL CYCLING BOOK LAUNCH

'Magazine Brighton' is one of the 400 independent shops in the North Laine area of the city. Located in Trafalgar Street it opened in December 2014 and probably sells the largest range of independent magazines in the country- over 400 separate titles in all including some cycling magazines that I never knew existed. It is well worth a visit per se but also hosts a new book launch every month with themes as varied and



'Mindful Thoughts for Cyclists' which was published on 2nd March by Leaping Hare Press at £5-99p and which is in the same philosophical vein as other books in the mindfulness series such as the one for walkers. Such books promote thinking about the combination of internal and external experiences and achieving a state of harmony that can lead to stress reduction in an age where increasingly stress is seen as a major factor, nay perhaps THE major factor in a range of diseases including many heart problems, stroke and cancer.

The author explained how he was a

unusual as the magazines in the shop. I recently was invited to one such event where Nick Moore was talking about his new book,

'MAMIL' (Middle-aged man in lycra) obsessed with riding 20 miles a day and timing his journeys, recording all on spreadsheets, until only at the age of 40 he was diagnosed with osteoarthritis and had a pain in his leg that nothing could take away. After initially resolving to give up cycling completely as all a waste of time if he could not do it to competitive satisfaction he decided to adopt a more relaxed and casual approach and that's when the joy of everyday cycling began...

The book is all about appreciating the 'now' of cycling and enjoying the moment; a lesson for life in general. Every cycling trip becomes a metaphor for life's journey and the apparent struggle many have of living in the moment. If we focus on the destination, we are at risk of missing our immediate surrounds; fresh air, countryside views and seascapes are incidental as head down we focus on pedal power. Similarly, if we become agitated by minor annoyances we extend our needed concentration



to cycle safely into a millstone of stress. For those looking for help to change attitude, this book, with a view of the '*upside of a puncture*' and comfort for those that find cycling uphill a challenge, may well provide some answers.

**Tom Jones, Bricycles Development
and Outreach**

What Did I Miss?



Keith Baldock, Brighton and Hove City Council's Road Safety Officer (left) is launching a campaign in August reminding cyclists to keep the speed down when pedestrians are around, and asking pedestrians to look out for cyclists and not wander into cycle lanes.



Dooring is the subject of the next important campaign, which for funding reasons will be based in Portland Rd/Blatchington Rd. in September.

Below right are the public advice posters from the Department for Transport's **"Think!"** campaign.

For more information on BHCC's Road Safety campaigns:

keith.baldock@brighton-hove.gov.uk

01273 292258

www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/roadsafety

Facebook:

[Share the Roads, Brighton & Hove](#)

Twitter: @WDIMBAndH

www.whatdidimiss.co.uk



Campaign points

- Bricycles Campaigns Officer Becky is in CUK's 100 women in cycling. (No. 27) <http://www.cyclinguk.org/guide/100-women-cycling-20-40>
- Bricycles is campaigning for a West Midlands style "close pass" initiative to be adopted by Sussex Police and there are promising signs! Becky spoke to the Argus about this and also to Neil Pringle on BBC Radio Sussex's Breakfast show on July 20.

Be a Bricycles Ranger!



Join our cycle rangers and 'keep an eye' on areas in Brighton and Hove (& further afield). Report to Tom Jones, Development & Outreach. Contact details back page.

LETTERS

Car ad contradiction

Isn't it a bit rich that Sir Bradley Wiggins, the winner of the 2012 Tour de France, should be seen on television in a commercial promoting, of all things, a motor car? I find it ironic, as many a professional cyclist has been seriously injured , or even killed, while out on the road practising.

Chris Froome (winner of Le Tour de France in 2013, 2015 and 2016) was recently forced off his bicycle by a van which didn't stop while out on a training run. His bike was a write-off but fortunately Chris was not hurt.

Anthony

Free bike tools



I received a free tool and a puncture repair kit through the post after I took one of the Council's free cycle maintenance courses.

Maxine

Tandem offer



(See Chris's article about using the tandem in Anjou, pages 16-17.)

The Peugeot tandem is available if you know of anyone who would like to ride with me or use it themselves.

Chris

cpmyatt@gmail.com

Secret life of the bicycle

I shall be running two rides on **Saturday 9th September** as part of the British Science Festival, which is being held in Brighton this year. I am running them with Dr Derek Covill of Brighton University, who is a key member of the International Bicycle Engineering group, researchers dedicated to quantifying the structures and behaviours of bicycles. The rides will be called "The Secret Life of the Bicycle". More details and tickets will be available soon through the website of the British Science Festival at <http://bit.ly/2tZ4c66>

Max Glaskin

Award-winning science, engineering & technology journalist
Public speaker, Moderator

NOTICE BOARD

**we are
cycling**
The cyclists' champion **UK**

Brighton and Hove Cycling UK



See the Sunday rides list at:

www.brightonandhovectc.co.uk/

Breeze Network

British Cycling's Breeze network run rides for women

www.goskyride.com/Breeze/Index/

Facebook: "Breeze Network Sussex & South Downs"

Twitter: [@breezeAlison](https://twitter.com/breezeAlison)

Email: alisonbreezeseara@gmail.com

Bike For Life South

Dr Bike, Bikeability, mechanics courses and social group rides:

www.bikeforlifesouth.org.uk

01273 676278 Mo: 07792 211839

bikeforlife@gmx.com

Pedal in Preston Park

<http://www.pedalinprestonpark.co.uk/>

Saturday 15 October, 12 - 4.30 for the Martlets and Motor Neurone Disease

Cycle September! Cycle September is "a fun, free competition to see which workplace can get the most staff riding."

See <http://www.lovetoride.net/uk>

Cllr Gill Mitchell (Chair of the Transport committee) says Brighton will participate! Also, Wed 13 Sep is Cycle to Work Day, 16-22 Sep is European Mobility Week and Fri 22 Sep is World Car Free Day!

The Labour party conference is at the Brighton Centre from 24 - 27 September. We are going to invite delegates, MPs, and Councillors from every party to join us for a Space for Cycling ride on the seafront, likely to be Monday 25 September at 6 pm

Act now!

(tbc) Would you like to help organise? Contact Becky becky.reynolds2@btinternet.com



The sunny "Space for Cycling" ride in Sep 2015 during the labour conference. Lilian Greenwood MP is riding front right.

Bricycles contacts

Follow Bricycles on Facebook & Twitter



Cycling Infrastructure Adviser
Duncan Codd
duncancodd@gmail.com



Treasurer/Membership
Tony Green
01273 552662
greytonne@gmail.com
 2 Glovers Yard, 121-123
 Havelock Road, BN1 6GN



Secretary
Adam Pride
01273 570039
AP@imra-ukrc.com
 76 Foredown Drive,
 Portslade, Brighton
 BN41 2BE



Campaigns / Editor
 Cycling UK campaigner
Becky Reynolds
01273 552662
becky.reynolds2@btinternet.com



Development and Outreach
Tom Jones
whatevers@brighton.gb.net
 Mobile: **07775 736126**

Web Manager post is vacant! Please apply

Welcome to the new Labour
Kemptown MP,
Lloyd Russell-Moyle.



Like the other Brighton & Hove MPs, he
 will receive Bricycles News!

Contents

Local Transport News	2-3
NCN2 at Hove	4
Cycle Strategy & Network?	5
Bricycles News / CWIS	6
Coombe Terrace update	7
Out and about	8
Planning points	9
Around the world cycle challenge	10
Docking Stations / Transport for SE	11
Mayor's charities bike ride	12-13
Worthing Donkey bikes	13
Summer Fete at the Bike Hub	14
TakePart festival	15
Velo Vintage	16-17
South Downs Randonnée	18
Eastbourne Cycle Festival	19
Bruce Jonas by Jan Goody	20-21
Racing at Hove Park	21
Amsterdam	22-23
Burma	24 - 25
East & West Sussex	26 - 27
Mindful cycling book	28
Road Safety / What did I miss?	29
Letters / Noticeboard	30-31

**Send your views, articles, news,
 and photos to the Editor for the
 next Bricycles News!**

**ALSO CHECK OUT FACEBOOK, TWITTER
 AND BRICYCLES WEBSITE**

GENERAL ENQUIRIES:

bricyclesbrighton@gmail.com