



Autumn 2006

Go Bike News

Annual General Meeting

This year's AGM will take place on Wednesday 29 November 2006 at 7.30pm in the Friends Meeting House, Elmbank Crescent, Charing Cross, Glasgow.

Committee members will be elected for the coming year and membership rates will be decided. All Go Bike members are urged to attend and demonstrate support for our campaigns to improve cycling in Glasgow.

Please note that all annual subscriptions are now due for renewal. You can pay at the AGM, use the form on the back page or make a donation on one of the rides.

New cycling map of Glasgow

Due to popular demand, Go Bike is looking into publishing a new cycling map of Glasgow to replace the old CycleCity map, which is now out of print. Its popularity indicated that there is a real need for a map of Glasgow that highlights recommended routes through the city as well as established cycle routes (not necessarily the same thing!). As CycleCity had no plans to produce a third edition of the map, we are investigating options for the production of a new map and are currently in discussions with an interested party, with the aim of publishing in the spring. We shall need plenty of local input to bring the map up to date and make it even more useful so watch this space!

News

Kelvin Way – the scheme to turn Kelvin Way into a one-way street has been dropped. Many thanks to the members of Go Bike who wrote to the Council to protest against this.

Hyndland crossing – an opening for cyclists has been created between Prince Albert Road and Hyndland Road at the traffic lights for Clarence Drive. Unfortunately it is of limited value at present because it is usually blocked by parked cars but we hope that restrictions will soon be applied (and enforced).

Link between the Kelvin Cycleway and the Forth and Clyde Canal – this new, heavily engineered path was opened by Glasgow City Council on 21 September 2006. It replaces the old dirt track.

Risk not a deterrent to commuting – Research at the University of Bolton has concluded that whatever puts commuters off cycling to work, it is not their perception of danger on the road. And the study, conducted by John Parkin, has discovered that cyclists-only road markings, such as cycle lanes, do not make any difference to people's view of any potential hazards. He concludes that more road markings are not going to convince the public to get on their bike. Other solutions must be found to attract people out of their cars. (From www.cyclenetwork.org.uk)

Cyclist who refused to stay in the gutter loses court case – A cyclist who was prosecuted for obstructing the highway, whilst cycling in accordance with the National Standard for cycle training, was found guilty by a District Judge in Telford Magistrates Court on 7 August and fined £100 with £200 costs. The defence was supported by the CTC's Cyclists Defence Fund.

A few days before, the driver who earlier this year collided with and killed four cyclists near Abergele was charged with having defective tyres and fined £180. (From www.ctc.org.uk)

Core Path Plan for the East End of Glasgow – Go Bike has been involved in discussions with the consultants. The plan seeks to list and categorise existing paths, giving them status and some protection from unsympathetic developments. It also seeks to identify gaps in the path network. Also in the East End, Go Bike has been in discussion with Glasgow City Council to legalise cycling through the Bridgeton Cross Bus Gate.

Clyde tunnel cycle lane – there was a lively discussion on the news group. Have you any experiences to report? Some Go Bike members suggest improved CCTV coverage of the stairwells. Would this be useful?

Yoker Relief Road (North Clydeside Development Route) – there are plans to build a four-lane road from the old ScottishPower site at Yoker along a disused railway line parallel with Dumbarton Road to Scotstoun. What do you think about this?

Sustrans – are interested in suggestions for new routes. Any bright ideas?

A77 cycleway – Transport Scotland say that trials to overcome the drainage problems have been successful. The delayed resurfacing should now go ahead but no date has been announced.

White Cart cycleway – the second stage is under design with Go Bike involvement with GCC Cycle Unit at Cart Blanche meetings. The next is on 29 November at 1630 at Pollok Burgh Hall.

Cycle rides 2006–2007

Rides start at 1000 from Bell's Bridge unless otherwise stated.

3 December – Kelvin Cycleway and Garscube Estate

A shorter winter ride taking in the Kelvin Cycleway as far as Dawsholm Bridge, then the three northern parks of Dawsholm Park, Garscube Estate and Maryhill Park, before returning to Glasgow along the Kelvin Cycleway.

7 January 2007 – Auchinloch and Kirkintilloch

Heading along the riverside, through the city centre and out to Robroyston Park before emerging into the Auchinloch countryside. Continue into Kirkintilloch before returning to Glasgow along the Forth and Clyde Canal. Mainly on minor roads and paths. Lunch stop at The Stables pub.

4 February 2007 – Mugdock Country Park

Using paths and minor roads out to Westerton and Bearsden then the cycle lanes into Milngavie and road to Mugdock Country Park. Lunch stop at Mugdock Country Park. Return via Balmore to the canal at Cadder.

4 March 2007 – Chatelherault Country Park

Heading along the riverside, past the city centre and through Glasgow Green, using NCN Route 75 cycle route to Uddingston. Then along paths and minor roads to the lunch stop at Strathclyde Country Park, before taking the Avon Walkway to Chatelherault Country Park. Option of returning by train from Hamilton.

Where do you want to cycle in 2007? Let us know of your suggestions for future rides.

Ride Report — Minnigaff, 2–3 September 2006

Five Go Bikers enjoyed a soggy weekend riding from Ayr to Newton Stewart and back. We set off along Sustrans route 7 in a steady downpour and our spirits were dampened further when we were unable to find a pleasant stop for lunch – a pile of logs by the road was the best available. Things looked up after that: the excellent tearoom at Glentroll was open and the sun shone for the delightful ride by the river into Minnigaff. The hostel stamp said “Come to sunny Minnigaff ... and watch it rain”, which was accurate because the showers came down again on Sunday morning. This time we found a hospitable pub for coffee, the sun was shining when we reached Girvan for lunch, and we had a scenic ride along the coast back to Ayr.

Thanks to Douglas Bingham for organising the ride.

Meetings

Future meetings will be arranged at the AGM. Suggestions for topics to discuss or speakers to invite would be welcome.

Cycling leaflets

Go Bike has supplies of various free leaflets from Glasgow City Council and others. If you would like a selection please send a C5 stamped, addressed envelope to the address below. Leaflets include the Loch Lomond cycle route, Clyde Coast routes, Paisley and Cumbernauld cycle routes, and the Critical Mass ride.

Yahoo group

To keep in touch with cycling news and views and to find out about events, sign up to the Go Bike News email group. You won't be deluged with messages, we promise! For more information see www.gobike.org

Contact us

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Join Go Bike

Membership of *Go Bike* is by donation, which covers the cost of campaigning, newsletters, meetings and the website. Please send your donations to the above address.

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