



South Side Parks Link Up on New Cycle Route

Local amenities campaign group Cart Blanche is promoting the creation of a new cycle route between Pollok House and Holmwood House in Linn Park with an evening cycle ride during National Bike Week. Go Bike will be assisting with the ride on 19 June which will follow the White Cart cycle route which in turn follows the White Cart Water.

The cycle route has been created to connect Pollok Park and Linn Park through the suburban areas of Langside and Cathcart, with an added impetus being the creation of the mountain bike circuit in Pollok Park. At Pollok Park the route links with the National Cycle Network routes to Bell's Bridge and Paisley. Improvements to the initial route are planned, with designs for the Devlin Bridge junction being worked on at the moment.

Come along and support this ride – assemble outside Pollok House in Pollok Park at 6.30pm on Monday 19 June.

Campaign to Curb Red Light Jumpers

A campaign spearheaded by cycle dealer Andy Shrimpton of Cycle Heaven in York is urging cyclists to obey traffic lights for the good of cycling.

Over the past ten months, City of London police have fined 1,294 cyclists for running red lights. A survey at one junction showed that up to 60 per cent of cyclists jump red lights.

According to Andy Shrimpton: "You can detect a rising tide of hostility towards cyclists everywhere: on the streets, in the tabloids, on radio phone-in shows, from the mouths of politicians. Whilst much of this outcry is disproportionate when compared to the socially accepted carnage that motor vehicles cause to life and limb, there is still a case to answer."

Andy believes that running red lights and other law-breaking by cyclists is directly affecting the treatments all cyclists get on the streets and is harming the prospects of enhancing our protection and status under the law and the possibility of improved cycling facilities generally.

The 'Stop at Red' campaign has the endorsement of the Bicycle Association, the Association of Cycle Traders and Sustrans. Over 900 people - almost all cyclists - have signed the on-line petition at the campaign's website.

Urging everyone to support the campaign, Andy says: "We have to put our own house in order first, and we have to be seen to be doing it."

Get a Bike Buddy

A new cycle route matching website has been set up to encourage people to cycle to work. www.bikeBUDi.com aims to link existing cyclists with each other as well as encouraging novices to try commuting by pairing them with an experienced cyclist.

Cops on Bikes Patrol Riverside

Police officers on bikes are now patrolling the paths along the Clyde between Partick and High Street, in a move which represents good news for cyclists and walkers alike.

Other measures which have been put in place to reduce crime and encourage residents and workers to use the riverside paths, are the cutting back of shrubbery to make the footpaths more open, graffiti removal, the installation of extra CCTV cameras and lighting improvements.

Chief Superintendent David Christie said: "We want to make the River Clyde as safe and attractive as possible and there was a perception it wasn't safe. The bottom line is we felt something could be done and there is now a dedicated police response. It discourages and challenges crime."

In the first few months of operation, recorded crime in the area (mostly disorder, assault and drinking in public) fell by 75%.

News In Brief...

- The path between North British Road and Wilkie Road in Uddingston has been resurfaced, to cycle path standards. This is to be part of NCN Route 74. However, there are still other shorter sections of path awaiting resurfacing (one of which can only be described as a disgrace and a tripping hazard!) before the suburban section of the Uddingston to Strathclyde Park cycle route is finished.
- First ScotRail advises that the programme to install cycle parking at all stations in Scotland is complete. Attention will now shift to other bike/rail integration issues such as cycle carriage on trains, which will be influenced by the cycle forum that Go Bike is participating in with First ScotRail. Watch this space for more details...
- The second edition of the popular CycleCity Guides Glasgow Cycling Map is now out of print. If you still wish to buy a copy we would suggest trying some of the better cycle shops in Glasgow where a few copies remain.
- Go Bike has submitted an objection to the M8 Baillieston to Newhouse motorway building scheme. This scheme proposes the construction of a three-lane motorway parallel to the existing A8 dual carriageway, which would be retained, and represents a massive increase in road capacity. The cycle facilities proposed are fairly poor, not even covering the full length of the motorway's route, and do not tie in with North Lanarkshire Council's plans for cycle route development in areas such as Salsburgh and Bargeddie. At Shawhead a spectacular arrangement of foot/cycle bridges is proposed to get cyclists across the junction that requires cyclists heading for Strathclyde Business Park to make three whole revolutions to follow the cycle route parallel to the fairly straight A725!
- Pressure by Go Bike members has achieved a promise that the newly created A77 cycleway between Newton Mearns and Fenwick will be resurfaced. The route was originally built by re-kerbing part of the old A77 main carriageway, complete with cat's eyes and old road marking. The adjacent road was completely resurfaced.
- Go Bike members were saddened to hear that Mike Harrison, of CTC Scotland, was involved in a serious cycling accident whilst attending a meeting in Cardiff. Mike has now been transferred to the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Cycle Rides 2006

Rides start at 10am from Bell's Bridge, unless otherwise stated.

19 June - Cart Blanche ride: Pollok House to Holmwood House

Meet outside Pollok House **6.30pm** in Pollok Park for a short evening cycle ride along the new White Cart Cycle Route to Holmwood House in Linn Park.

Meet 6.30pm Pollok House. Details from Andrew 07845 626897.

1 & 2 July - Loch Awe weekend

Joint weekend with the Gay Outdoor Club, exploring the area around Loch Awe and further West towards the coast. Starting Saturday morning at Taynuilt, returning Sunday afternoon to Dalmally. Accommodation at Lunga on the Saturday night. Limited spaces available both for rail transport to/from the area and at the B&B.

Details from Jonathan 0141 334 0812, Mob: 07968 754423 or E-Mail: jonathan@gocscotland.org.uk

16 July (Glasgow Fair Weekend) - Drumgelloch to Falkirk Wheel

Meet at Glasgow Queen Street 10am to catch 1017 Low Level train to Drumgelloch. Cycling along the popular Airdrie to Bathgate cycle path as far as Blackridge, before taking minor roads near Avonbridge to the Falkirk Wheel. Returning along the canal to Glasgow or by train.

Meet 10am Glasgow Queen Street station, or 10.50am sharp Drumgelloch station.

6 August - Hamilton to Strathaven, Darvel and Stewarton

Meet at Glasgow Central 10am to catch 1024 Low Level Motherwell train to Hamilton. Cycling from Hamilton out via Strathaven and Darvel, to end up at Stewarton. Returning either by train or cycling to Glasgow.

Meet 10am Glasgow Central station, or 10.50am sharp Hamilton Central station.

2 & 3 September - Minnigaff Weekend

Joint weekend with the Gay Outdoor Club, taking in the Galloway Forest Park and Ayrshire Coast. Starting Saturday morning at Ayr station at 10.30 (trains from Glasgow Central at 09.00, 09.03 or 09.30). Accommodation Saturday night at Minnigaff Youth Hostel (or at B&B accommodation in nearby Newton Stewart).

Details from Douglas 0141 632 8707, Mob: 07717 576248 or E-Mail: drb@gocscotland.org.uk

17 September - Drumgelloch to Edinburgh

Meet at Glasgow Queen Street 10am to catch 1017 Low Level train to Drumgelloch. Cycling along the popular Airdrie to Bathgate cycle path, then continuing along NCN 75 all the way to Edinburgh. Returning by train to Glasgow.

Meet 10am Glasgow Queen Street station, or 10.50am sharp Drumgelloch station.

2 October - Glasgow to the Campsies

Meet at Bell's Bridge to cycle via Forth & Clyde Canal to Kirkintilloch and Strathkelvin Railway path to Lennoxton. After that taking steep hilly roads to Fintry, followed by the breath-taking Tak Ma Doon Road to Kilsyth. Returning along the canal to Glasgow.

Meet 10am Bell's Bridge, Glasgow.

5 November - Glasgow to Erskine Bridge

From Bell's Bridge via cycle path to Kilmacolm, returning via minor roads to Erskine Bridge, then along the canal back into Glasgow.

Meet 10am Bell's Bridge, Glasgow.

3 December - TBA

A shorter winter ride.

Meet 10am Bell's Bridge, Glasgow.

Meetings

The next Go Bike meeting will be Wednesday 28 June at 7.30pm in the Friends Meeting House, Elmbank St, Charing Cross, Glasgow, where we will be discussing the extension of the existing cycle network with guest speaker John Lauder of Sustrans Scotland.

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 cycle routes, Paisley and Cumbernauld cycle routes, the Critical Mass cycle ride and the Fit for Life city map.

Yahoo Group

To keep in touch with cycling news and views and 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

Go Bike Strathclyde Cycle Campaign
PO Box 15175
Glasgow
G4 9LP

General enquiries: 07854 317450
info@gobike.org

Campaigns: 07932 460093
campaigns@gobike.org

On the web: www.gobike.org

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