



2007 Summer

Go Bike News

New cycling map of Glasgow – *almost ready*

Good progress has been made on the new **Glasgow Cycle Map**, which Go Bike is producing in cooperation with Spokes Maps. We had hoped that this issue of *Go Bike News* would coincide with publication of the map but a few minor problems have led to delays. We now expect it to be published to mark European Mobility Week, September 16–22. Check the Go Bike site for updates or visit the map's own web site at www.glasgowcyclemap.co.uk.

Local news

'Bridge to Nowhere' to be completed? – This is one of 79 projects included in the Connect2 bid by Sustrans for the Big Lottery Fund's *Living Landmarks* programme. It aims to overcome long-standing barriers, such as rivers or busy roads, that currently stop people from walking and cycling within their local area.

The scheme would finish this bridge and join it to the existing bridge over the Clydeside Expressway, linking Kelvingrove Park via Elderslie Street and Argyle Street. A third aspect is to rearrange Waterloo Street to allow two-way cycling to Glasgow Central Station.

Go Bike are cooperating with Sustrans and GCC to produce a promotional TV programme in support of this bid. Go Bike has already been consulted by the Glasgow City Council Sustainable Transport Unit about the design of the northern part of this scheme.

See www.sustransconnect2.org.uk or a promotional leaflet for more details and to get involved.

Glasgow Core Path Plan meeting – A handful of interested people turned up and got a good look at the plan, which is now out for consultation. This will give paths status that could protect them from development, or at least ensure that adequate replacement is provided by developers. Please have a look at the website and respond to Glasgow City Council.

<http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/en/Residents/GettingAround/CorePathPlan/>

Glasgow City Council's road proposals – A summary has been uploaded to the Go Bike website since it seems so few members know about them. See www.gobike.org.

Minor works items – Peter Hayman and Andy Preece met with the Glasgow City Council Sustainable Transport Unit to discuss the the new cycling map and the list of minor works items compiled from Go Bike members' suggestions. The problem seems to be that there is not enough money for even the modest list that we submitted and we were asked to select an instant priority list from it.

Carte Blanche – Go Bike continues to work with Glasgow City Council on the Carte Blanche cycle group towards completion of the route. Go Bike acted as leaders and marshals for the second Bike Week ride along the route with refreshments at the end. The new Councillor for Langside, Paul Coleshill, was on the ride and has since been met in the City Chambers, where he agreed to champion cycling issues in Glasgow in general. In particular he was keen to take the proposals from Go Bike for cycle lanes and wider pathways along Pollokshaws Road in Shawlands, in place of some of the parking to the DRS.

Renfrewshire Council Core Path Plan – This has been received for consultation. Please send any comments in time for Go Bike's response, which has to be in for 30 September.

Bike Week – Go Bike helped to organise two rides, the Parks and Ride event on Sunday and the Carte Blanche ride on Monday. There was good weather for both.

Beith bypass A737/B777 Head Street junction – Transport Scotland advises that the proposed roundabout will now have segregated footways/cycleways around it.

Bridgeton Cross Bus Gate – Go Bike is pursuing the issue of cycling through this with Glasgow City Council. We hope that cycling will be allowed through the section of road linking London Road with Dalmarnock Road and James Street shortly, when the Dalmarnock Road Quality Bus Route traffic order is reviewed. This item was omitted from the original traffic order.

James Street – Go Bike has asked for a contraflow cycle lane on the one-way section, similar to those on West Nile Street and King Street, to allow more direct access for cyclists coming from Glasgow Green.

Cyclists' Touring Club (CTC) Scotland – Peter Hayman, Convenor of Go Bike, is now Vice-chair and CTC Councillor for Scotland. CTC Scotland have also produced a new flyer about themselves with contacts. It is available from Secretary@ctcscotland.org.uk.

Local routes

Pollok House – Work is complete on a new section of cycle path near Pollok House, linking the White Cart Cycle Route with the NCN 7 cycle route to Paisley. Previously half of this link was a dirt track through a patch of woodland. The other half already existed as a tarmac path.

White Cart Cycle Route – Work continues with upgrades for the junctions at Millbrae Road and Devlin Road. Work on the former is progressing on site, with the latter at design stage.

More on the South Side – A new path is now in place behind Pinmore Street in Nitshill, linking to Salterland Road on the edge of Glasgow. In Pollok, the Brock Burn path has been resurfaced, but building work on the Silverburn Centre has severed the former connecting path across the burn from the Barrhead Road direction. However, an old path has been restored, connecting Barrhead Road to Boydstone Road, under the M77. A further new path is being built in South Nitshill linking Parkhouse Road near Whittriggs Road and Corselet Road.

National and international news

Over 40 changes to the new Highway Code... – more than 40 rules in the proposed new edition of the Highway Code have been changed to the benefit of cyclists following vigorous campaigning. These should improve cyclists' safety and to encourage drivers to take more care around vulnerable road users. In total over 40 rules have been changed. (www.ctc.org.uk)

...but not all organisations are happy – Cycle Campaign Network has told the Department for Transport (DfT) that its proposed amendments to rules 61 and 63 do not address the main causes of complaint: that there is no evidence that cycle facilities and cycle lanes generally improve cycling safety and that there should not be a presumption that cyclists should use them. See www.cyclenetwork.org.uk for more details.

Nominations sought for national cycle-rail awards – The Association of Train Operating Companies has launched the 2007 National Cycle-Rail Awards and welcomes entries and nominations from organisations and individuals throughout Britain. Go to www.cyclerrail.co.uk for details and a nomination form; closing date 7 September 2007. (www.cyclenetwork.org.uk)

European mobility week: Streets for People – 2007 September 16–22 with with the Car Free Day *'In Town Without My Car!'* on September 22. The overall web site is www.mobilityweek.eu.

Transport for London's road safety unit highlights dangers to cyclists and pedestrians – a report completed last July sheds light on some of the dangers faced by cyclists and pedestrians

- Women cyclists are more likely to be killed by a lorry because, unlike men, they tend to obey red lights and wait at junctions in the driver's blind spot. Cyclists who break the law by jumping red lights may be safer and cycle feeder lanes may make the problem worse. (The Times)
- Pedestrians are twice as likely to be hit by a bendy bus than any other bus, the Liberal Democrats have claimed. Cyclists are almost three times as likely to be injured by a bendy bus. (BBC News)

Scottish executive to tell parents to let children cycle – Parents are to be asked to shake off their fears about letting their children cycle to school and actively encourage them to do so. A Scottish Executive initiative claims primary school pupils want to cycle to school on their own but parents' concerns are stopping them. A major national advertising campaign will try to encourage parents to stop driving their children to school. (The Herald)

20,000 Vélib bikes for Paris – As part of his policy to reduce motorised traffic in Paris by 40% before 2020, mayor Bertrand Delanoë is to make available more than 20,000 bikes on the city's streets by the end of 2007. The first 10,000 go into service on 15th July, based in more than 1,400 bike 'stations'. That's one every 300 yards! Available for use by residents and visitors alike, the bikes with baskets and mudguards will be nominally free to use for the first half hour, then from €1 to €8 for periods up to 3.5 hours. Registration fees to use the bikes will cost €29 per year, €5 per week or €1 per day. The scheme follows the success of similar projects in Lyon and Bordeaux. Cyclists have complained that the new bikes are too heavy at 20kg. (www.cyclenetwork.org.uk)

Cycle rides 2007

Regular, easy-paced rides are held on the first Sunday of each month, starting at 1000 from the north end of Bell's Bridge in Glasgow. Some extra rides have different arrangements.

Sunday 2 September 2007 – Torrance and Baldernock

Taking the Forth and Clyde Canal to Cadder, then paths to Torrance, before heading along minor roads and through a ford in the Baldernock area to Milngavie. Returning to Glasgow partly on road and on the Kelvin Cycleway.

Sunday 7 October 2007 – Auchinloch and Drumpellier Country Park

Leaving Glasgow through Robroyston Park to access the country roads around Auchinloch, then taking the Strathkelvin Railway Path southeastwards through to Heatherbell and across to Drumpellier. Return on road to Glasgow.

Sunday 4 November 2007 – Paisley and Renfrew Ferry

A shorter winter ride along the cycle route to Paisley, then via quiet suburban roads to Renfrew to catch ferry to Yoker. Return into Glasgow via Jordanhill and Ha'penny Bridge.

Sunday 2 December 2007 – Pedal the Parks

A tour of Glasgow parks including Glasgow Green, Queen's Park, Pollok Park, Bellahouston Park and Festival Park.

Where would you like to ride in 2008? Please send your suggestions.

Meetings

The next Go Bike meeting will be at 1930 on Wednesday 29 August in the Friends' Meeting House, Elmbank Street, Charing Cross, Glasgow. Directions can be found on the web site. Future meetings will be held on the last Wednesday of each month until the AGM on 28 November. Suggestions for topics to discuss or for speakers to invite would be welcome.

The committee of Go Bike is Peter Hayman (Convenor), Stephen Murray (Vice Convenor), Andy Preece (Treasurer) and Jennifer Young.

Could members please pay their annual subscriptions if they have not done so already? The renewal date is on your address label. Membership is by donation. Please use the form below or make a donation on a ride.

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 web site. Please send your donations to the above address.

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