

# NORWICH CYCLING

## CAMPAIGN

## Newsletter 44

**March - May 2002**

**50p where sold—free to members**

This newsletter is published by NORWICH CYCLING CAMPAIGN, which was formed in 1990 to promote cycling in Norwich and to lobby for better cycle facilities. It is affiliated to the National Cycle Campaign Network.



# CARMAGEDDON LOOMS!

Last year more new cars were sold than any other year in history. The E.U. are about to introduce legislation to liberalise the car retail business, taking away the monopoly of dealers. Petrol prices have reduced significantly in recent months. These factors combined will increase the number of cars on our already congested roads and make a nonsense of government plans to reduce CO2 emissions by the year 2010. So what can we cycling campaigners do about it? Well, the least we can do is encourage more people to join the campaign, come to our monthly meetings and suggest more courses of action. Come on, come on! Your voice will be heard!

*Notes from the AGM:* We would like to see a big increase in membership this year. With this in mind we are enclosing an application form with your newsletter. Please try to recruit a new member. We are very keen to involve more members in the campaign and new ideas are always welcome.



Rachel Wix stood down as coordinator but will still be playing an active part in the Campaign, concentrating on this year's Bike Week. Her hard work is much appreciated by the committee. Nicola Maunders steps into the coordinator's role. All other officers were re-elected unopposed.

**Deadline for the next Newsletter is  
Monday 20 May**

# **CYCLE RECYCLE**

## **Reconditioned Bike bits Warehouse**

**Possibly the largest collection  
in  
East Anglia!**

**MUD- and CHAINGUARDS  
BATTERY and DYNAMO LAMPS  
WHEELS and SADDLES  
LUGGAGE RACKS and BASKETS  
BRAKE and GEAR SPARES  
COMPLETE BIKES TOO**

**All parts are GUARANTEED and  
For sale at around 50% of new price!  
Phone Nigel on 01603 502188  
(answerphone)**

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## **Wheel warehouse**

**AT LEAST 50 RECONDITIONED  
WHEELS ALWAYS AVAILABLE**

**ALLOY OR STEEL RIMS IN ALL  
POPULAR SIZES, TO FIT ALL  
TYPES OF ADULT SIZE BIKE**

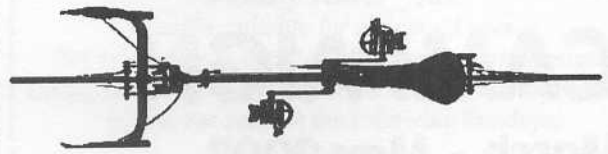
**All clean, fully GUARANTEED  
And for sale at less than half  
retail price, e.g. Mountain Bike  
rear alloy from £10**

**Phone Richard on 01603 403415  
Or Nigel on 01603 502188  
(answerphone)**

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**All profits to  
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*Proprietor: Steve Holland*

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CARNAC, POLARIS, AXA, ASENDER, VITTORIA, SQUIRE,  
NOKIAN, TOPEAK, SIDI, TIME, FREESTYLE, NIMROD, AL-  
TURA, MET, HAMAX, VREDESTEIN, HOPE, ZEFAL, SAN  
MARCO, SELLE ITALIA, DIA COMPE and many more lines

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**TEL/FAX: 01603 665668**  
**OPEN: 8.30am—6.00pm**  
**E-mail: [specycle@lineone.net](mailto:specycle@lineone.net)**  
**[www.specycle.co.uk](http://www.specycle.co.uk)**

## **CYCLE RECYCLE BIKE SALES**

**EVERY MONTH STARTING  
SATURDAY APRIL 6  
9am - 2pm**

**Corner of Waldeck Road and  
Leopold Road**

***Secondhand bikes with  
Guarantee from £20***

***New and used spares, accessories, etc.***

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**Phone: 01603 502188 for more details**

# Editor's info....

By Mike Savage

## NEW HOSPITAL CYCLE FACILITIES

If you are visiting the Hospital or attending as an outpatient and are well enough to cycle there, you may find the following information quite useful. The best routes from the city to the hospital are:

1. The Avenues, Cow Drive (now resurfaced), through U.E.A., cross playing fields to Colney Lane then take cycle path to hospital.

2. Newmarket Road cycle path to Eaton, Cringleford, then Colney Lane to hospital. This section of Colney Lane is open to buses, ambulances, and cycles. It is only about 5m wide and there is no verge or footpath along some of its length. A path alongside the road on the university side would be quite feasible - so there's something to campaign about!



Cycle storage at the hospital already seems overloaded. There are some racks at the main in-patient entrances on the south side, but none that I could find at either of the out-patient entrances. Staff are well provided for with covered, lockable facilities, but these are not for public use.

Unfortunately the map of the complex, provided by the N.H.S. Trust, shows car parks, bus stops, taxi ranks etc., but not cycle racks!

See also the article on page 5

## COVERED STORAGE NEAR THORPE STATION

On the ground floor of the new Riverside multistorey car park there are about 50 Sheffield racks which at present are hardly used. Could that be because there is a notice at the entrance saying "NO CYCLES"? or could it be a problem of security? Although the car park boasts security cameras, there do not appear to be any trained on the cycle racks. We will be approaching the management of the car park with a view to providing lockers.



The Riverside Path is now open along its whole length from Carrow Bridge to Thorpe Station.

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# Chairman's Chat

By Phyll Hardie

An article in the CTC magazine, entitled 'Transport or Toy', gives an idea why the bicycle is such a maligned object in the eyes of the public - it is considered to be a recreational plaything not to be taken seriously, certainly not a valid mode of transport. Our cycling paramedic, Iain Colquhoun, has shown by his speedy responses to emergencies, particularly in areas of the city inaccessible to motorised transport, that a bike is not only a serious transport mode but the best in certain situations.

Now imagine seeing the district nurse, midwife, and speech- and physiotherapists similarly cycle-mounted. Yes - it really is happening! Pilot schemes are currently being started in Thorpe Hamlet and Wymondham, in which each practice is being supplied with a Brompton folding bike and accessories. If these pilots are seen as successful, other practices could be supplied likewise. As with our cycling paramedic, this could be seen as a pioneering scheme. The fact that, when my babies were born 35 or so years ago, it was commonplace for the health visitor to arrive by bike, just shows how far round a full circle we've come. Let's hope their example brings home to the public the versatility and usefulness of this serious transport mode.

In a previous 'Chat' I mentioned the pharmaceutical company Pfizer who, in an effort to encourage employees to use 'greener' methods to commute to work, had introduced car parking charges while paying out a similar amount to its commuting cyclists. 'A to B', a journal for folding bike enthusiasts, gives more suggestions:

- free parking for car commuters is a benefit worth several thousand pounds - up to £3000 per annum per space. It is unsightly, requires maintenance and could be developed, not necessarily by being built on. It could be turned into a garden for all to enjoy, not only employees who would have somewhere peaceful and restorative to spend

their lunch-breaks, but it would impress visitors and customers too. (So how about it, County Hall?)

- A company in Poole offered its employees heavily subsidised motor scooters. 10% took up the offer immediately, others have done so since. Fifteen of its car parking spaces have been converted into a scooter / motorcycle park and covered cycle shed. The remaining car spaces are charged for by direct credit from employees' salaries.
- Give staff and visitors superbly designed access leaflets with details for every transport mode.
- Get someone in the know to solve every barrier to the various 'green' modes. Planning safe cycle routes to work and having an initial 'bike buddy' scheme may be all it needs for employees to make the switch.
- Encourage car sharing: display maps and ask potential car-sharers to pinpoint their homes and usual routes to work. Match them up or do it by postcode analysis. Offer a guaranteed taxi home, paid for by the firm, in case of emergency.
- Employers that pay corporation tax can claim capital allowances for expenditure on pool bicycles, bike parking and provision of showers (advice from the DTLR).
- Company reps (providing the company doesn't produce fridge-freezers!) could be offered folding bikes and rail travel instead of cars, with a car pool facility for other journeys.

There are of course many more ideas, but some of our local employers could consider these. Perhaps we need to suggest them.



## Useful Websites

[www.uea.ac.uk/~r070](http://www.uea.ac.uk/~r070) (UEA BUG)

[www.bikeweek.org.uk](http://www.bikeweek.org.uk)  
[www.cyclenetwork.org.uk](http://www.cyclenetwork.org.uk)  
[www.cycleweb.co.uk](http://www.cycleweb.co.uk)

Don't forget our own discussion group on [norwichcycling@yahoo.com](mailto:norwichcycling@yahoo.com)  
(see page 11 for details)

