

## New CDT Leaflet

Find it hard to explain the CDT quickly? The Campaign produced a small leaflet to explain the aims of the CDT and how people can get involved with suggested 10 steps. These steps include choosing to make one trip a week by bike currently made by car or enrolling a child on a Bikeability course. Hopefully these will help people see where they can study. Please circulate the leaflet far and wide. It is available on our website.

Monthly Meetings  
7:30pm on the first  
Wednesday of the  
month upstairs in  
the Custom's House  
Watergate Street

### Join the Chester Cycling Campaign!

Name	
Address	
Post Code	
Phone	
Email	

If you are happy to receive your Cyclomania Newsletter by e-mail and to be notified of Campaign activities by email, please tick here:

- |  |        |
|--|--------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership | £5.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Unwaged/Under 16/OAP  | £3.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership     | £10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Membership       | £50.00 |

Membership is valid until end of September during year of joining. Join after April 1<sup>st</sup> and your membership is valid until the end of September in the following year!

I enclose an additional donation of £ \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to this information being placed on an electronic database for Campaign purposes only.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please send completed form & cheque (payable to Chester Cycling Campaign) to:

**Chester Cycling Campaign Membership Secretary**  
10 Balmoral Park  
Chester  
CH1 4BQ

### Steering Committee

(enquiries@chestercycling.co.uk)

Secretary	Mary Gillie
Treasurer	Tom Walker
Website editor	Craig Steeland
Cyclomania Editor	Mary Gillie
Publicity	Simon Brown
Development Control	Peter Williams
Membership	Sue Steeland

# Cyclomania

A voice for Chester cyclists



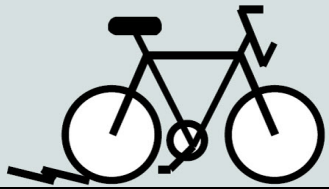
Issue 38

Sept 2009

## CDT 1st Year Report

See commentary overleaf

Subject	Comment	Grade /10
<b>Awareness</b>	Media cover over the summer. Most of the city is not engaged	5
<b>Engagement</b>	CWAC will launch a bike to Work scheme No network of community engagement. No engagement with train and bus companies Need to rejuvenate the steering group and work with cycle groups and communities.	5
<b>Training</b>	Bikeability up and running in schools Need to extend training to adults	8
<b>Infrastructure</b>	Greenway extension close to completion and plans for Curzon Park Bridge well advanced. No on road cycle counters Need to role out simple measures like signs and contraflows.	6
<b>Policy</b>	Cycling not mainstream in the Council Need to embed cycling in the new Council	4
Total Grade /40		28/50



## First Year Progress

We are now going into year 2 of the 3 years of the Cycle Demonstration Town status.

There have been good developments such as work starting on the extension of Route 5 to Mickle Trafford and rolling out Bikeability in schools. The Council now has a Bike to Work Scheme. There was good media coverage over the summer and this needs to continue.

Unfortunately overall the organisation and driving has been rather lacking. This is partly due to Council reorganisation and the loss of two project leaders. However the CDT has not engaged with local experts and grass routes organisations either through the steering group or informally. In the same way many people in Chester are unaware of the CDT and businesses are not really involved. Rail and bus operators have not been co-opted either.

To make CDT a success in the next 2 years all opportunities need to be taken. A few are described below. Grassroots organisations can help raise awareness and show what will get people on their bikes. The Campaign has a list of infrastructure improvements and where cycle parking is needed. Some of these are low cost such as 2 way cycling in one way streets (see next page) and better signage.

Links with community groups and businesses are needed to raise awareness. Blacon Community Trust has paved the way in getting the community involved, the Council should encourage such actions. Training is needed for adults as well as children. The Campaign now has a leaflet to introduce the CDT and give ideas of what individuals can do. The Campaign are also putting ideas together for a pack for businesses. Ironically, the Council is probably doing itself a disservice by underestimating the number of cyclists as they have only been counting the cyclists on cycleways and not on roads. Many different methods are needed including human and automatic counters on roads and cycleways and counting bikes parked. For the long term, cycling must be embedded in all new policies and strategies of the new authority - one opportunity and advantage of local government re-organisation.

## City Permeability Master Plan

Steer Davies Gleave have been employed to develop a Masterplan to improve cycle permeability into Chester as part of the CDT. This includes a range of measures from large infrastructure projects to the small effective measures such as better signage. They will make recommendations for cycling to be incorporated into Council policy and the next Long Term Transport Plan and Local Development framework.

The brief includes consultation with the CDT steering Group and Chester Cycle Campaign who have already met with the two consultants Kate Gifford and Simon Hollowood. The Campaign has a wealth of information on where improvements need to be made and where cycle parking is needed that will provide a lot of the data that Kate and Simon need. We hope to discuss ideas in more detail at the next Campaign meeting. More information on our website. Please email a member of the committee or post items you would like to be considered on the website. The final Masterplan will be delivered in mid November.

## Bike sales up

There is a shortage of bikes across Europe because the British are buying them all! BikeBiz reported that bike shops had reported sales up 300% in 12 months. Most popular are road bikes and hybrids.

## Bike Belles Petition

Bike Belles <http://www.bikebelles.org.uk/> provides information and advice to get cycling particularly aimed at women. Recently they found many women don't cycle because they don't feel safe. They have launched a petition to demand more cycle facilities. The petition can be signed on line and has the following text.

*We, the undersigned, want to be able to choose to cycle for many more of our daily journeys. To do this we need to feel safe when we cycle.*

*We demand that governments prioritise the creation of environments that encourage and support cycling, specifically this must include cycle paths separated from traffic, as a way of enabling many more women to travel by bike.*

## 2-way Cycling on 1-way streets

Cyclists will be permitted to ride the wrong way along one-way streets under a change intended to encourage more people to give up their cars.

The Government will announce today that cyclists will be permitted to ignore no-entry signs.

If a trial in the Kensington & Chelsea, London is successful, the Department of Transport intends to extend it to the rest of Britain.