



CHESTER CYCLING CAMPAIGN

Working to Create a Cycle Friendly City.....

CYCLING MATTERS!

Free

Winter 2017

The quarterly newsletter of the Chester Cycling Campaign

Plenty of Cycle Parking at Chester Station

We are pleased that Arriva Trains Wales responded positively to our requests to improve cycle facilities at Chester station.

Now there are over 200 cycle parking spaces. They are free of charge, secure, under cover and conveniently located: go into the station and turn right for the racks near the ticket machines (these were the first racks installed and now get rather full) or turn left and go through the glass doors to the West Car Park (next to Costa Coffee and the ticket barriers) and the racks - see picture below- are immediately on the right hand side.

The West Car Park racks are not yet signed from inside the station, so we will be working on that.



Cycle racks in West car park. There is a third to the right, out of the picture.

Printed on 100% recycled paper



Chester Cycling Campaign is grateful for financial assistance to produce this newsletter from these businesses and organisations - please support them!

Are you a local business who wants to attract cyclists and help us minimise the cost of our message to encourage people to cycle more? If so, please contact: enquiries@chestercyclecity.org



TRANSITION CHESTER

Volunteers working for a sustainable future.

We are a community group, working with a common purpose: to make our city greener and cleaner, our members more self reliant and confident.

Monthly meetings on the first Tuesday in the month at the Old Custom House pub.

Email: info@transitionchester.org.uk

Website: www.transitionchester.org.uk



MEADOW LEA FARM
C O F F E E S H O P

**Open 7 days a week
10.00 am till 4.00 pm**

All Day Breakfast *Sandwiches/Paninis*
Refreshments *Homemade Cakes*

Just 150m from the Millennium Greenway (turn right at the end), it is a great place to relax & refuel.

Awarded Cafe of the Year 2015 by Chester and North Wales CTC

Meadow Lea Farm, Station Lane, Mickle Trafford, Chester, CH2 4EH
Tel: 01244 300335

www.meadowleacoffeeshop

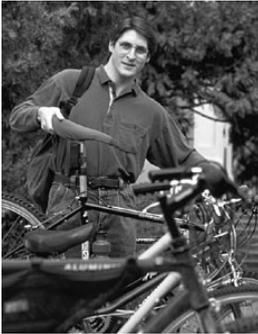
we are cycling
The cyclists' champion **UK**

Two Mills (Wirral) meets every Sunday, usually leaving at 10am from the famous Eureka Cyclists café on the A540...

Get in touch ...

<http://www.cyclinguk.org/local-groups/two-mills-wirral>

CHESTER CYCLING CAMPAIGN



Cycling is healthy, cheap, fast, and clean. It could be a key part of solving our transport problems and ensuring the prosperity of Chester. Chester Cycling Campaign is working towards a better, greener city by making cycling a safe and attractive transport option.



The Campaign supports the work of 20's Plenty, a national organisation formed to campaign for the implementation of 20 mph as the default speed limit on residential roads in the UK.

We are also campaigning for:

- 100 km of cycle routes around the city
- safe routes to schools
- better city centre access
- two-way cycle flows on one-way streets
- free carriage of bikes on trains
- better bike parking facilities

Chester Cycling Campaign Website: www.chestercyclecity.org

Chester Cycling Campaign Email: enquiries@chestercyclecity.org

How you can help:

- Join the Campaign using the form overleaf
- Take part in our campaign initiatives
- Send us ideas for improving cycling facilities
- Make a donation
- Spread the word!



Join the Chester Cycling Campaign!

Join online via our website or fill in the form below and send to us

Name:	
Address:	
Postcode:	
Phone:	
E-mail:	

If you are happy to receive our newsletters and be notified of Campaign activities by E-mail, thus conserving Campaign funds, please tick here:

Individual Membership	£5.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Under 16 / Student / Unwaged / Senior	£3.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family / Household Membership	£10.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Life Membership	£50.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

Annual membership is valid until the end of September during the year of joining - join after April 1st 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 electronic database for Campaign purposes only.

Signed: Date:

Please send completed form and cheque (Payable to Chester Cycling Campaign) to:

Chester Cycling Campaign Membership Secretary
1, Kings Crescent West, Chester CH3 5TQ



Improvements for cyclists on the A540 at Two Mills

For many years, the notoriously busy road junction at Ledsham where the A540 (Parkgate Road) crosses the A550 (Welsh Road) - known locally as Two Mills junction - has been an accident black spot and a very difficult junction for cyclists. The famous and very popular Eureka Cycling café, frequented by cyclists since 1929, is just metres from the junction. Sadly there have been 2 cyclists killed, 10 seriously injured and 11 slightly injured in the last 16 years on a 2 mile stretch of this road, of which several occurred at this junction.

And for many years, Peter Williams, a Chester Cycling Campaign member, has worked tirelessly for improvements to this junction. As a result, Highways England have now funded £1.1 million worth of junction improvements and cycle scheme works, to provide a safe cycle path through the junction and crossings at both ends of this path, so that cyclists travelling either way on the A540 can negotiate the junction in safety. The details of the works are:

- a 329 metre shared cycle/foot path through the junction (see picture right);
- new crossing point outside Eureka Cycling Café (see picture below) - this provides a safe crossing of the A540. The bus stop has been relocated to opposite the Tudor Rose Premier Inn;
- a pedestrian crossing from the Tudor Rose Premier Inn over the A 540 to the new bus stop;
- a Toucan crossing where the new shared foot/cycle path crosses the A550;
- widening existing right turn filter lanes and laying a new high-friction road surface to reduce the risk of collisions.



New pedestrian crossing near the Eureka Cafe



The work has been carried out by Balfour Beatty Mott MacDonald and they have been excellent throughout. Much of the work has already been done and completion is due in January 2018.

Peter said "We're really pleased to see this scheme taking place as the junction is used by lots of cyclists every week - either commuting to work or for leisure. You had to be really careful when you crossed the junction and a few people I know have had their bikes clipped by drivers who haven't seen them, so the new cycle path will definitely make it safer." Peter continues to campaign for the footpaths along the A 540 from Neston

New path towards Neston.. Bus stop moved to opposite the Tudor Rose. Works still in progress.



Your Views are Needed on the Council's Low Emission Strategy

Have your say on the Council's Low Emission Strategy. The consultation period has started & closes on Friday 12 January 2018.



Premature deaths in Cheshire West and Chester arising from poor air quality are estimated at 290 per year. Similarly for every premature death there will be an increase in the number of people requiring medical treatment and the health of everyone is put at risk.

The most significant local source of pollution in our Borough and indeed the country is vehicle emissions. It is noteworthy that in Boughton (one of the Borough's Air Quality Management Areas) the age standardised rate for emergency hospital admissions for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease are 33% higher than expected compared to the England average. The proposed Low Emission Strategy seeks to reduce road traffic emissions.

Chester Cycling Campaign's view is that, whilst much of what is in the Strategy is laudable, it goes nowhere near far enough. There is much that could be done at little cost: eg make every road 20mph, enforce speed limits, paint realistically wide cycle paths on every road, use cheap segregation barriers between cycles & cars like planters or "armadillos". Many of the planning & development recommendations in the Strategy are not new, they just need implementing!

Tell the Council what would improve your cycle journeys in Chester so that people who are currently afraid to cycle in Chester will be happy to get on their bikes.



Hövding - Head Protection Airbag for Cyclists



In October, Cycling Campaign members attended a live demonstration of Hövding, an airbag designed for urban cyclists, which is said by the manufacturer to be proven to deliver eight times better protection than traditional helmets.

Ben Mossman, who works for Hövding, put on the airbag tucked away in its collar, then rode his bike at full speed & deliberately fell off! As he fell earthwards, the airbag inflated in a split second & enveloped his head before he hit the ground. It was amazing to watch.

Hövding say that is a unique airbag designed specifically for urban cyclists, which is worn around the neck just like a scarf or a collar. It has hundreds of in-built sensors that enable it to read a cyclist's body movements at 200 times per second. In the event of an accident these sensors recognise the changes in a cyclist's body movement patterns thanks to a complex algorithm with 2,000 rules. Once triggered, the patented airbag technology inflates in a tenth of a second, providing full protection before impact.

In October 2016, Stanford University tested Hövding. The results showed the airbag to provide eight times better protection against the risk of concussion than traditional helmets, and was found to be 'near perfect' in terms of protecting both the head and neck in an event of an accident. To date, the company is aware of more than 1,100 cases where the Hövding has potentially saved a cyclist's life in an accident.

Hövding is available to purchase online or through a number of retailers all around the world. It is expensive, but could well be the future for head protection. Visit www.hovding.com for further information.

The demo was hosted by a local company, specialist cycle insurer Bikmo, which is run by cycling enthusiasts and provides cycle insurance tailored specifically for cyclists' needs. Visit them at bikmo.com



Keep in touch

We aim to encourage more people to travel around the local area using one of the most environmentally benign modes of transport it is possible to use.

WWW

The Campaign website is the "go to" place to find out about cycling matters in and around Chester: www.chestercycling.org



Our **Facebook** page "Chester Cycling Campaign" often shares great ideas and good news about cycling - follow us to get our updates and news.



Twitter - Follow our twitter feed and contribute to the discussions! [@Chester_Cycling](https://twitter.com/Chester_Cycling) is our twitter feed!

YAHOO!

We have a **cycling discussion group** - "Cyclomania" hosted by Yahoo which provides a lively discussion forum for things

cycling in the Chester/North Wales area - ask to be a "subscriber" at:



cyclomania-subscribe@yahoo.com

Rocky Lane now Re-open

Rock Lane, also known locally as Rocky Lane and Prince Rupert's Trench, has finally re-opened after almost 5 years of closure.



The lane, which is a very useful link for cyclists and pedestrians between Liverpool Road and Parkgate Road, had been closed since November 2012 when a retaining wall collapsed following heavy rain. There were legal battles over responsibility for ownership and eventually Cheshire West and Chester Council stepped in and funded the repairs.

A new sign shows that the lane's name is "Rock Lane also known as Prince Rupert's Trench", because it was used during the Civil War by Royalist forces to move artillery around the city's perimeter. It now also has an interpretation board explaining its history.

Chester cyclists, both residents and students, are pleased and relieved that this well used thoroughfare is available again.

