



# CycleReading

WORKING FOR A CYCLE FRIENDLY READING

[www.readingcyclecampaign.org.uk](http://www.readingcyclecampaign.org.uk)

Spring 2009 No. 104

## Welcome to RCC's Online Forum

In Roman times the Forum was the public space in the middle of the city, an open area where business, judicial, civic and religious activities took place, a place where citizens could meet, discuss and debate. It was a place of considerable social significance.

Reading Cycle Campaign's recently-launched online Forum aims to be a modern version of the Forum in Roman cities, providing members with a place to meet for the exchange of news and views, to discuss and debate matters relating to the cycle campaign, to offer cycle equipment for exchange or sale, to report items stolen, and also simply as a place for conversation.

To enter the Forum, go to the RCC website ([www.readingcyclecampaign.org.uk](http://www.readingcyclecampaign.org.uk)) and click on the link on the left hand navigation area marked (not

Forum	Moderators	Topics	Posts	Last Post
<b>Action Stations!</b> Spotted something affecting cycling (particularly in the Reading area)? Report it here!	Moderator: <a href="#">Stephen Muir</a>	5	10	Monday, May 04, 2009 11:54 AM in <a href="#">RCC's New Cycle Map</a> by <a href="#">Gavin Peck</a>
<b>Campaign News and Views</b> Discussions about the Campaign, its aims, policy, direction, etc.	Moderator: <a href="#">Stephen Muir</a>	1	1	Monday, May 04, 2009 5:41 PM in <a href="#">Posting Replies under 'Campaign News and Views'</a> by <a href="#">Gavin Peck</a>
<b>Help and Advice</b> Need advice on routes in and around Reading? Want to know how to fix your bike, or where to get it fixed? Ask here!	Moderator: <a href="#">Stephen Muir</a>	2	6	Saturday, May 09, 2009 11:24 AM in <a href="#">Help: Cycle Map Reading required</a> by <a href="#">Stephen Muir</a>
<b>Cycling Events</b> Tours, Rides, Races, Exhibitions, Conferences, Meetings; anything that might be of interest.	Moderator: <a href="#">Stephen Muir</a>	1	3	Tuesday, May 05, 2009 11:08 PM in <a href="#">Ride News, 2009</a> by <a href="#">Stephen Muir</a>
<b>Swap and Shop</b> Cycling items you want, or items you wish to sell, exchange or give away.	Moderator: <a href="#">Stephen Muir</a>	0	0	No Posts
<b>Stolen!</b> Stolen cycles or equipment. Record when, where, what and, if possible, post a picture or link to a picture of the item; provide serial numbers and distinguishing features.	Moderator: <a href="#">Stephen Muir</a>	0	0	No Posts
<b>The Tea Room</b> Social events, General chat.	Moderator: <a href="#">Stephen Muir</a>	0	0	No Posts

surprisingly) 'Forum'. You will see the various subject areas listed on the page. (Somewhat confusingly, the software we use actually refers to each of these subject areas as a 'forum' in its own right, so from now on I'll do the same thing, reserving the term 'Forum' [with a capital F] for the complete set of forums.) Clicking on a forum name opens it to show the 'topics' (also called 'discussions' or 'threads') which are going on within that forum. Clicking on a topic heading will, in turn, open it up to reveal the 'messages' or 'posts' which people have left during the course of the discussion.

You can follow the progress of a discussion by reading through the posts from top to bottom. You may like to add a message of your own, maybe responding to what someone else has said, or perhaps adding some new aspect to the discussion. You could also start a completely new topic. To post messages, you need to log into

the Forum and to do this you need to have registered. You only need to register once (there's a link to do this on the right hand side under the 'Welcome to Reading Cycle Campaign' banner) and this involves choosing a 'user name' by which you wish to be known when you use the Forum (it doesn't have to be your real name, though most of the committee have chosen to use their real names when they registered). You will also be asked to choose a password (you'll need to provide both the user name and your password when you log on) and your e-mail address. Additionally, you're asked for a 'security question' and a 'security answer'. This is in case at some point in the future you forget your password, so choose something you will remember easily like 'What's the cat's name?' or 'Where did you get married?' The software will present you with your chosen 'security

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# Council News



## Reading Borough Council (RBC)

### RCC Members urged to road-test new cycle routes

Reading Borough Council (RBC) has now published the first edition of its new Cycling in Reading map. Hard copies can be found in libraries and at the civic centre. The map can also be downloaded from the RBC website (click on: transport and streets / cycling in reading / cycle lanes and routes).

The map is based on the concept of establishing colour-coded routes for cyclists, with the town divided into six areas in a similar fashion to the bus network (see inset).

The cycle routes are a mixture of cycle paths, bus lanes and normal highway and will be the focus for infrastructure investment over the coming years to improve their cycle-friendliness. In 2009/10 RBC will concentrate on the green, pink and blue routes (south and west Reading) and has a list of minor works such as



dropped kerbs and advance stop lines. It was also suggested in the most

Green (Routes 1 and 10) - Whitley / Madjeski Stadium  
Brown (Routes 2 and 20) - University / Lower Earley  
Orange (Routes 3 and 30) - Newtown  
Magenta (Routes 4, 40 and 41) - Caversham / Emmer Green  
Blue (Routes 5, 50 and 51) - West Reading / Tilehurst  
Pink (Routes 6 and 60) - Coley / Southcote

recent Cycle Liaison Meeting that these cycle routes could be given priority for road maintenance and cleaning.

Recognising that it is us regular cyclists who know Reading's roads best, RBC has requested that we 'road test' the routes and make suggestions of what needs doing to improve them. The new 'premier' cycle network is in its infancy - at the moment it is just coloured lines on a map. If you have views on how to improve the routes in your area then let us know ([rbc@readingcyclecampaign.org.uk](mailto:rbc@readingcyclecampaign.org.uk)) We will collate your suggestions and present them to the Council.



working for cycling

Reading Cyclists' Touring Club presents

## Local bike rides for all

We organise rides to suit all tastes every Tuesday and Sunday and on summer Wednesday evenings. Just turn up!

For more details call  
**0118 986 2763**

or [www.readingctc.co.uk](http://www.readingctc.co.uk)



## Reading Cycle Campaign offer on breakdown cover

Call 0800 212 810  
Quoting ref: S576

Established 10 years ago as an alternative to the AA and RAC, the ETA offers a wide range of services to its members at extremely competitive prices, including a unique cycle rescue service. The ETA actively campaigns for a sustainable transport system for Britain.

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The ETA has moved to new offices:  
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Tel 01932 828 882 Fax 01932 829 015 Email [eta@eta.co.uk](mailto:eta@eta.co.uk)



# Council News

## Getting it right for Cyclists

Can RCC afford to get it right for cyclists? When it comes to new highway schemes the answer appears to be no!

RBC has ruled out undertaking Cycle Audits on new highway schemes due to 'limited resources'. Cycle Audit is a process whereby highway schemes are systematically checked at the design stage to ensure that they do not adversely affect cyclists and the Department of Transport recommends that councils undertake these as a matter of course.

We know how road 'improvements' often fail to deliver for cyclists and sometimes make things worse. It would seem a 'no-brainer' that the most cost effective time to get it right for cyclists is at the design stage. The Cycle Campaign will continue to press RBC to become a best practice council by following Department for Transport recommendations and incorporating Cycle Auditing into the design of all highway schemes.

For further information on cycle audits see:  
<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/roads/tpm/tal/cyclefacilities/cycleauditandreview>

## Bike Week - Freewheel to the Bike Festival

Bike Week 2009 runs from 13-22 June and for the second year running Bike



*A past highway 'improvement' on Oxford Road.*

Week Reading is being co-ordinated by Helen Biggerstaff, the local CTC-funded Cycling Development Officer.

This year will see a first for Reading: an all-day bike festival in Prospect Park on Saturday 13 June that will include an off-road fun race, weird and wonderful bikes to try out, information stands, bike repair demonstrations, football, face painting for the kids and more.

There will be a mass 'Freewheel' ride from Palmer Park to Prospect Park to kick off the festival (9am start at Palmer Park velodrome). This is your opportunity to make a statement for

cycling. There are 500 members of Reading Cycle Campaign, imagine what it would be like if we took over the streets of Reading just once in the year - so wear something green, join in the Freewheel and ring your bell!

For Bike Week Reading Cycle Campaign will also be at :

Arlington Business Park, Wednesday 17th June, 12noon to 2pm

Broad Street, Reading, Saturday 20th June, 10am to 4pm

**Keith Elliott**  
*RBC Campaigner*



## Wokingham Borough Council (WoBC)

The WoBC Cycling Strategy is coming in the near future according to their website.

In the meantime a few incidents concerned with cycling safety have been pointed out to them. Children

wearing Bulmershe School uniforms have been observed on several occasions cycling on the wrong side of the road, into oncoming traffic on the Wokingham Road and endangering other road users' safety. The police showed little interest.

Another RCC member found the new roundabout outside Bulmershe School on Woodlands Avenue an attractive way to join the cycle path there when leaving Woodley. Unfortunately, on two occasions he was almost taken out by a bus entering the roundabout from the opposite direction. Is it

necessary to wait for casualties before we can expect support from the authorities?

In Thames Valley Park, many accidents involving cyclists have happened on the roundabout on the approach to David Lloyd. Recently a cyclist was badly injured there and the cycling fraternity approached the campaign for advice. (One wonders at the need for dual carriageways and 2-lane roundabouts there, essentially a set of cul-de-sacs.)

**Dougal Munro**  
*WoBC Campaigner*

# Other Cycling News

## More Cyclists Means Safer Cyclists

A new Safety in Numbers campaign launched in Parliament by broadcaster and CTC President Jon Snow, as evidence shows that cycling safety increases with the more cyclists there are.

"My own experiences as a regular cyclist tell me that London's streets have started getting a lot safer," says CTC President Jon Snow, "thanks to the growth in cycling over the past decade. We all know that more cycling is good, not just for our own health but also for our communities and the environment. I hope decision-makers throughout the country will now heed CTC's message that more cycling will improve road safety too."

In a comparison of cycle use and cyclists' safety in English cities and counties, the CTC has found new

evidence that cycling gets safer the more cyclists there are. The data show that the places with the highest cycle use (York, Cambridgeshire and Hull) are also the safest places to cycle.

Meanwhile, in London there has been a 91% increase in cycle use since 2000, together with a 33% reduction in the actual number of cyclist casualties over roughly the same period. This adds weight to international evidence that the best way to improve cyclists' safety is to encourage more people to cycle.

CTC's campaign comes just a fortnight after the government began consulting on a new road safety strategy for the next decade. The draft strategy already includes a target to halve the risks of cycling within 10 years and CTC believes the best way to meet this target is to double cycle use over the same period; so it is urging MPs to sign a parliamentary motion backing

its call for the Road Safety Strategy to aim for more as well as safer cycling.

(<http://www.roadcyclinguk.com/news/article/mps/uan/4013>)

## Sonning Common Is On Its Bikes

"On Sunday 26 April, 448 riders took part in the annual Sonning Common 'OnYour Bike' event. There was a playground ride for the very young and two road routes of 5.5 and 12 miles for both novice and experienced cyclists. The event is in its third year and the numbers have increased by about 100 cyclists annually. The idea is not just to raise money for good causes but also to encourage children and adults to get riding. It works: families say that they have gone out on rides on their own after the event and youngsters who were daunted by the short ride last year wanted to



We have been helping accident victims for well over 30 years and have developed a national reputation for our work in this field.

Specialising in a wide range of injury work for both adults and children, the firm has membership of all the relevant specialist panels including those of the Law Society, Headway and the Spinal Injuries Association and is closely involved with Bicycle Helmet Initiative Trust (BHIT) based in Reading.

*Once again my sincere thanks for your kind assistance and courtesy in dealing with this claim and bringing it to a successful conclusion.*

John Green, Kent



We have our own brain injury support group, an in-house case manager and the experience and commitment to ensure that you and your loved ones get the result and support that you need.

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**Kim Smerdon or Julia Appleton**  
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**[www.boyesturnerclaima.com](http://www.boyesturnerclaima.com)**

## Other Cycling News

conquer the longer route this year. John Howell, our local MP came to send us off.

The ride was organised by Sonning Common Primary School PTA and supported by local businesses including the local GP practice as part of its commitment to encouraging exercise as a way to improving health. The £3000 raised was split between the PTA and the Thames Valley Air Ambulance. One of the reasons for the event's success is the careful planning and attention to detail that goes into the preparation for the day.

Everything is taken care of, from marshals at road junctions to making sure that the bluebells were coming into flower at the right moment.

Penny Snowden from the Organising Committee said:

"It was the best of all the rides we have organised. The weather brought out 180 additional cyclists on the day so that we smashed through our target of 400 riding. Many local residents came out to support us and cheer the riders round the route. They felt it had brought real spirit and a sense of community to the village... The fierce

determination of even the youngest riders on tiny bikes to complete the route generated an enormous sense of achievement."

John Howell MP said:

"The success wasn't simply in the greater number of riders... It was also in the positive atmosphere and sense of fun which came from what was such a genuine community event."

Watch this newsletter or go to [www.onyourbikesonningcommon.com](http://www.onyourbikesonningcommon.com) for news of next year's ride. You'd all be welcome.

**Andrew Burnett**

### Helmet Laws More Harm Than Good?

Mandatory bicycle helmet laws could do more harm than good, a new study claims.

Helmet laws like those in effect in Australia levy a substantial cost on healthcare systems because savings from fewer head injuries pale in comparison to the costs incurred by decreases in cycling, a mathematical model concludes.

Piet de Jong, a mathematician at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia, estimates that bicycle helmet laws would cost the US \$4.8 billion per year, Netherlands \$1.9 billion, and the UK \$0.4 billion.

However, one critic contends that de Jong's methods overestimate the health benefits of cycling, as well as the drop in cyclists caused by helmet laws.

"There's a lot of uncertainty around it," de Jong admits. "I try to reconcile all these various numbers or proportions that impinge on the question of whether helmet laws are very useful."

He concludes that only under extreme, theoretical circumstances do mandatory helmet laws not end up costing the healthcare system. Head injuries must be a substantial proportion of bicycling injuries, few riders must abandon their bikes due to helmet laws, and the health benefits of cycling need to be low.

(<http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn17032-bicycle-helmet-laws-could-do-more-harm-than-good.html?DCMP=OTC-rss&nsref=online-news>)

## Forbury Fever



Forbury Fever is Reading's annual celebration of World Environment Day and Reading Cycle Campaign will be there!

Held on Saturday 6 June this year, in the Forbury Gardens in Reading Town Centre, the event has something for everyone. Between 11am and 2pm there will be fun, information and an opportunity to take action to tackle climate change!

There will be information about travel, renewable energy, composting and more, as well as face painting and circus skills for the young (and young at heart!)

# Chairman's Letter

Hello RCC members,

You might be surprised to learn that Reading has the 4th largest cycle campaign in England, with over 600 members. Which is quite astonishing really and it can lead the cynic to ask why that might be so. Could it be the newsletter? Or the free rucksack when you join? Or the website? Or is it that Reading badly needs a cycle campaign? You can decide why you have joined, I know why I did.

I was incredibly frustrated at how resistant the Council was to providing cycle facilities, and even now with lots of new positive noises emanating from the Civic Centre there still isn't any tangible progress. We have seen lots of maps and plans and good intentions, but no schemes or changes or money. We still meet and talk and plan, but we need some action.

So the campaign, not known for sitting back and idly watching the world go by, has been pondering its own future. We have been campaigning now for 25 years, and we keep growing; is this because we are needed? Are we needed because we have been failing? If we had

succeeded and turned Reading into a cyclist friendly town would you bother to join up?

So if we look to the future - "going forward" in today's parlance - do we continue doing what we have always done? Or do we change tack and campaign elsewhere?

We have a dedicated campaigning team. If you were to sit in my chair you would be amazed at the dedication to the cause of our committee. Meeting after meeting, making notes, writing this newsletter (you can't begin to imagine how many shenanigans go on behind the scenes to get this thing delivered by hand to your letterbox) and a myriad other things the committee members get up to, to make this campaign a success.

But we question ourselves too, if we are a big popular organisation are we a failure? If we haven't done in 25 years what we have been trying so hard to do could we use our skills, such as they are, to better effect elsewhere?

We and a few of you met up in the Global Café in late April, dodging the showers, for an evening of cycling chat, otherwise known as

the Annual General Meeting. We had routine business to attend to, but we disposed of that as quickly as we could; we had a more important agenda for this meeting. We wanted to find out from the members what they thought we ought to do "going forward".

So we contrived to have a platter of Ethiopian food, fitting, since I had not long come back from cycling around a tiny but seemingly vast part of this incredible country. I had on my travels taken a huge number of photos and was keen to bore anyone who I could capture into tales of high mountains, higher temperatures and higher feats of cycling prowess. The real reason though was to get to know a few members, get them in a talkative mood and then get them to sit down and tell us what they thought we really ought to be doing with our time.

The results were informative, enlightening even. It was a vibrant evening, the results of which are both in this newsletter and on our website. On our website too we now have a forum, so have a look and get chatting with other Reading cyclists, but more importantly use



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# Chairman's Letter



My experience has changed the way I drive my car, ride my bike, or ride my motorbike. I just let people pull out, pull in, overtake, whatever they want to do. I don't get stressed at seemingly stupid people, I say thank you to cooperative people. Already the roads have changed. Only a little bit, and not so much as you would notice, but they have, and if we all ease back a little bit, let other people get on a bit more easily perhaps things will change a bit more. Perhaps that is where the campaign could be most effective, in getting 600 people to be nice on the roads and get them to get all their friends to be nice on the roads. And Reading could become as advanced as Ethiopia in the behaviour of road users.

**Adrian Lawson**  
*Chairman*

this as a means of sharing cycling stuff around locally. I can think of so many ways we can use this forum. Think about it - you could report a dangerous driver, share news about a great new cycle route, get your stolen bike back, find out how to win the Tour de France, the potential is endless.

In Ethiopia I made good friends with some amazing people. I learnt a lot from them. We might think that Ethiopia is a developing country, but there is one area they are far ahead of us. It is loosely "How to get along". I learnt it first from our bus driver, and his driving. I learnt it later from other Ethiopians, in the way they get along. They help each other if they can. If they see you parched by the side of the road they get you water, or offer you a lift. If they see you want to turn left they slow down so you can. If they find you with a broken bike they will take you to get it fixed. They cooperate.

If the campaign could do one thing it would be to get all road users to cooperate.

## Updating our Records

If any of your details have changed, please let us know.

For example, people sometimes forget to inform relevant organisations when they change or get a new e-mail address.

Our newsletters are delivered to the street address we were last told about. Use this form to advise us of any changed details:

Old Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Revised Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Old Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

New Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Old E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

New E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Send this completed form to:

**Membership Secretary, 26 Barrington Way, Reading RG1 6EG**

**Data Protection Act:** RCC keeps membership records on computer. This information is not disclosed to third parties.

## YES, I WANT TO JOIN RCC!

Name: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms (please delete) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I would like details of how I can help with Campaign activities

☐ I am a member of the Cyclists' Touring Club

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about the Campaign? \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Individual membership (annual) £3

☐ Joint membership (annual) £5  
(Two or more living at the same address)  
No. of people under joint membership.....

☐ Unwaged/unior membership (annual) £1

☐ Life membership £35

☐ I would like to make future payments by standing order. Please send me details.

I enclose a cheque for £.....  
covering my membership and a donation\* of £.....  
\*An additional donation to help fund our activities would be very much appreciated

Please make cheques payable to  
**Reading Cycle Campaign** and send together with the completed form to:  
**Membership Secretary, Reading Cycle Campaign, 26 Barrington Way, Reading RG1 6EG**

Data Protection Act: Reading Cycle Campaign keeps membership records on computer. This information is not disclosed to third parties.

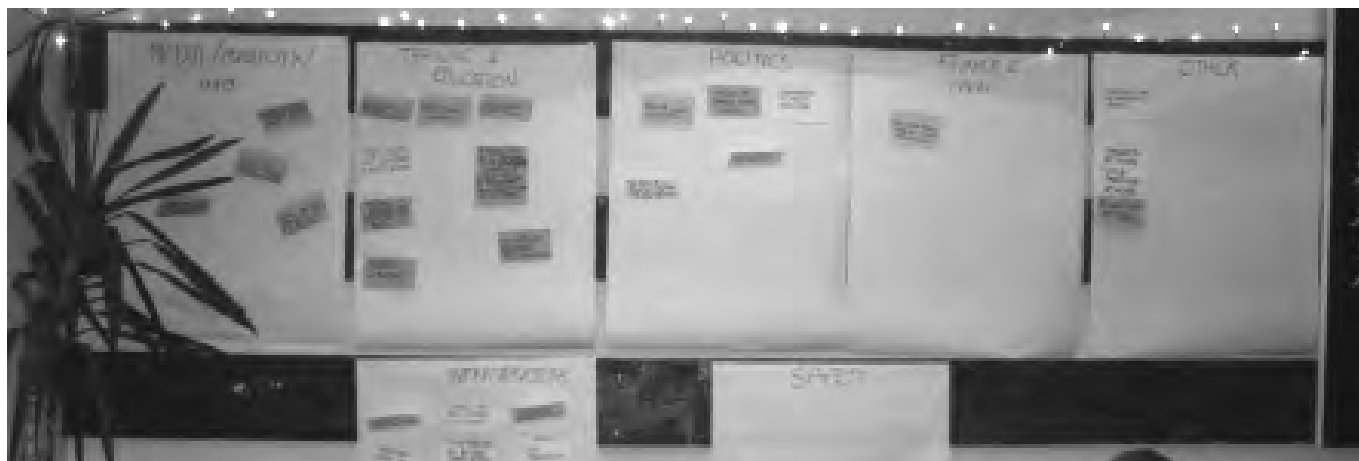
## Our Mission



- To campaign for better facilities for cyclists in Reading, in particular a network of safe cycleways linking residential, industrial and commercial areas, and giving access to the town centre.
- To work with Sustrans, the Cyclists' Touring Club (both locally and nationally) and others interested in promoting cycling and the well-being of cyclists.
- To identify the needs of cyclists in Reading, for example the location of safe and secure parking, and to campaign for their provision.
- To work with and advise local authorities and, where necessary, criticise and highlight their shortcomings.



# Annual General Meeting Report



I'm pleased to report that the AGM was a great success. Although the turnout was not as big as we'd catered for we still finished all the food with plenty of members coming back for seconds. Adrian's slide show of his recent Ethiopian trip was a real eye opener, sparking much interesting conversation (once the barmaid had fixed the computer!)

The business meeting was uneventful except for welcoming Jeanette Jeans to work with Ros and Keith in campaigning for the Reading Borough area. The atmosphere of the Global Café bar at RISC was really conducive

to the event and this made the AGM as much a relaxed social event as it was a business meeting.

The AGM included a workshop designed to give the committee a real handle on what the membership wants. As you can see from the picture we had plenty of ideas and a lot of lively debate. There were some very ambitious ideas for Reading and the campaign; and while one or two were simply more than we could manage the vast majority of the ideas raised are being integrated into our future strategies. The workshop produced a number of large sheets of paper with different

ideas attached on sticky notes. These have been photographed for future reference and also typed up into a clearer copy which is reproduced below with some of the committees' initial thoughts. These documents and the original photos will be on the website soon so everyone will be able to refer to them.

If you have any thoughts or ideas on the ideas that came out of the workshop, why not post them on the new Forum? The committee really want to hear your thoughts and the forum is a great way to keep us all in touch.

**Tony Gibbons**





# AGM Members' Workshop

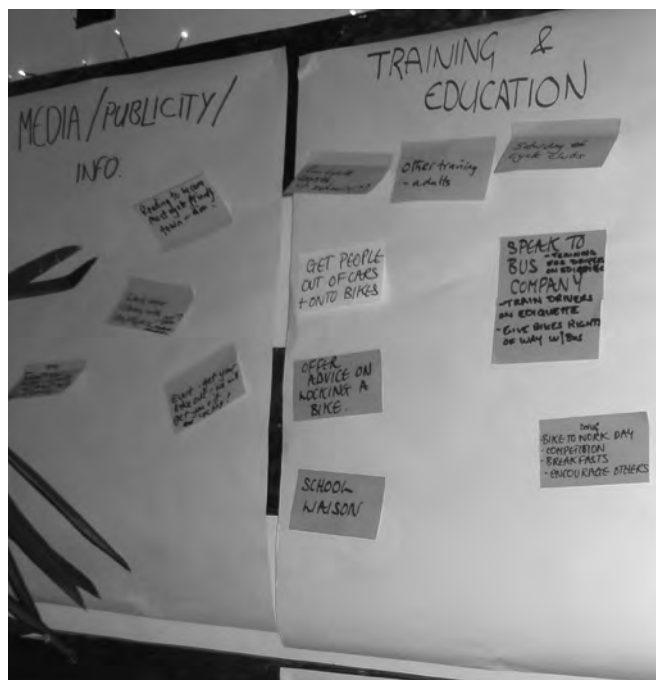
**Part of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 27 April 2009  
at 7 pm at Global Café, RISC, London Road, Reading**

**Present:** Adrian Lawson, Anne White, Charlie Roosen, Chris Cook, Ciaran McHale, Dougal Munro, Crega Payne, Jeanette Jeans, Keith Elliott, Leon Spence, Linda Edwards, Martin Cook, Paul Fincher, Tomiko Morley, Richard Pearson, Rob White, Ron Knowles, Ros Furley, Stacey van Norman, Stephen Hill

Members' Ideas	Committee Strategy	Members' Ideas	Committee Strategy
<b>Media/Publicity/Info</b>		<b>Infrastructure continued</b>	
Target new people - events in different part of Reading	Work out where our current members are from the newsletter distribution lists. Hold events in Woodley and Whitley	Cycle racks on buses	Contact Reading Buses and suggest running a pilot on buses that go to either Newbury, Wokingham or Slough
Work more closely with employers - buying bikes and employee education	Produce a leaflet on bike schemes Work in corporate membership scheme Check out other campaign websites to see what they do Have a company liaison committee member like we have campaigning officers Help with things like bike security and choosing a bike	Paying for safe storage of bikes in car parks	Suggest they do this at the new station development, so discuss with Network Rail
<b>Infrastructure</b>		<b>Finance</b>	
Facilities at station	Meet with Network Rail	Setting up a cycle swap shop	Would want someone to set this up as an enterprise possibly a social enterprise for unemployed Use the new forum to swap bits and pieces for free The campaign has money it could loan to set this up
Parking bikes in primary schools	Work with Local Authority to promote Bike Ability which is aimed at Year 5 children Target the LEA governors on schools' governing bodies Work with CTC trainers	<b>Politics</b>	
Close roads near schools	Aspirational	Align with the 'Greens'	We don't want to align to any political party
Cycle parking	Get more copies of the Danish study so that this can be used to advise planners	Tip the balance in Reading - weighting to bikes not cars	We do this already
Help cyclists feel safe	CTC are doing this	Reduce bike crime	Expand on what Thames Valley Police have done in other regions
		Work with Thames Valley Police	Get the police to agree a way of getting stolen bikes back to their rightful owners
		Bike to work	Covered this in employers' bit
		<i>continued on page 10...</i>	

# AGM Members' Workshop

Members' Ideas	Committee Strategy
<b>Training and Education</b>	
Run cycle courses in schools	BikeAbility
Training for adults	Get Helen Biggerstaff to do more Order the book 'Cycle Craft' by John Franklin to sell on the stall. Stephen to do a book review of it for the newsletter. Order online through Amazon
Saturday cycle clubs	Lots of other clubs in Reading they could join
Locking bikes	Link to the Sheldon Brown website <a href="http://www.sheldonbrown.com/lock-strategy.html">http://www.sheldonbrown.com/lock-strategy.html</a>
School liaison	Through LEA governors
Bike to work	See Bike Week activities (page 3)
Speak to bus drivers	Have a section on the website - How to drive your bus!



## Bikes 'n' Bits

**Wanted:** Cheap/free pair of 650x20 (571) racing tyres. New or good condition. Not easy to find or afford these days. Email: [dry@tesco.net](mailto:dry@tesco.net)

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# RCC's Online Forum continued...

*continued from page 1...*

question', to which you will need to respond with the correct 'security answer'. Should you fail to give the same 'security answer' as you supplied at registration, the software will assume you're an interloper trying to gain access, and will not divulge the password. Finally, you need to enter a set of characters displayed on screen in graphical form; this is a security device to prevent automated computer systems from being able to register and post advertising and other inappropriate material.

When your registration as a user of the Forum is complete, you're automatically logged in to the Forum, and you may post messages, either in existing discussions, or new topics you start yourself. Next time you visit the Forum simply click the 'Log In' link and enter the username and password you supplied at registration. Don't forget to 'Log Out' when you leave too.

The 'Campaign News and Views' forum is different from the others. If you wish to post messages in discussions within this forum, you

must be a RCC member: for all other topics any person can register as a Forum user and will then be able to post, but for the 'Campaign News and Views' forum, in addition to registering as a user of the Forum, you need to be placed in a special group of users called 'Campaign Members'. Instructions on how to request this membership are provided in a topic within the 'Campaign News and Views' forum itself.

RCC boasts some 500 paid-up members; the committee numbers just fourteen or fifteen of these. It follows that the general membership contributes 97% of the Campaign's capabilities: its finances, its eyes and ears monitoring what's going on around Reading, its capacity for generating ideas, and so forth. The Forum provides a facility for us to harness our combined membership power, and gives the committee a much clearer idea of how the membership want us to take the campaign forward.

If you have Internet access please look at the Forum, register, and engage as an active campaign member. Reading cycling needs you!

## CTC Affiliated Membership

As a member of RCC, did you know you can apply for CTC affiliated membership? Listed below are the benefits:

- 3rd party insurance cover of £5,000,000 anywhere in the world except USA and Canada
- a CTC membership card and the CTC Member benefits giving access to a wide range of discounts and benefits, details available from the website.
- the weekly CTC email newsletter 'Newsnet'

*Please note that these benefits apply only as long as you remain a fully paid-up member of RCC.*

The cost of the CTC affiliated membership is £13 for a full year.

**For more details contact the Membership Secretary on 0118 939 4044**

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**Contact Us**

13A Brunswick Hill, Reading RG1 7YT

[www.readingcyclecampaign.org.uk](http://www.readingcyclecampaign.org.uk)

0845 330 2543

[www.myspace.com/readingcyclecampaign](http://www.myspace.com/readingcyclecampaign)

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**Campaign Diary****Help Out at the Farmers' Market**

Our monthly stall at the Farmers' Market is a valuable chance to discuss cycling issues with members and non-members. If you'd like to volunteer to man the stall please contact our Events Coordinator Anne White (see above).

RCC hosts a stand at the Farmers' Market at Great Knollys Street on the first Saturday of each month from 8.45-11.30am; dates are listed below:

**Saturday 4 July • Saturday 1 August**  
**Saturday 5 September • Saturday 3 October**

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**Council Contacts**

*Please let the relevant campaign officer know of anything you've reported.*

**Reading Borough Council**

General cycling queries: 0118 939 0900 x 4881; parking: [parkingservices@reading.gov.uk](mailto:parkingservices@reading.gov.uk); traffic lights: 0118 939 0611; potholes 0800 626540

**Wokingham Borough Council**

0118 974 6302

**West Berkshire Council**

01635 519080 or [www.westberks.org.uk](http://www.westberks.org.uk)

**Windsor and Maidenhead**

[www.rbwm.gov.uk](http://www.rbwm.gov.uk)

**South Oxfordshire**

01235 531331 or [southernarea@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:southernarea@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

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**Extra Campaign  
Diary Dates**

Forbury Fever, Forbury Gardens,  
 Reading, Saturday 6 June 11am to 3pm

Reading Cycle Festival, Prospect Park,  
 Saturday 13 June 10am to 4pm

Arlington Business Park,  
 Thursday 18 June 12pm to 2pm

Broad Street, Reading,  
 Saturday 20 June 10am to 4pm