



## Our last newsletter in this format!

You may already know that this will be the last borough insert which LCC is sending out. However Cycle Islington will continue to produce a quarterly news update and you will receive this by email. Greener, cheaper but still keeping you up to date with what's happening in Islington. All contributions and ideas for the CI email news are most welcome!

## Highbury and Old Street roundabouts



*Nick (centre) testing temporary tracks at Old Street*

Both of these roundabouts have recently been in the news during their extensive redevelopments.

**Highbury Corner** was finally opened on 22 April; there are some issues with the timings of lights and we are liaising with the council and TfL on these; however overall we feel that the cycling infrastructure is much improved and feedback from cyclists and pedestrians has been on the whole positive.

Works at **Old Street** are well underway, and are due for completion at the end of 2020. TfL changed the road layout over the recent bank holiday weekend, introducing protected cycle tracks through the works for the busiest east-west movement. Cycle Islington got a chance to feedback on the design last year and again once it was installed. The routes through the works are direct and safe for cyclists of all abilities, but they are likely to be quite busy during peak times. TfL has signed alternative routes which avoid the works entirely. Give the diversions a try and see if they work for you. If you see any problems with the works or the diversions, let us know so we can raise them with the project manager

## Our AGM with Jeremy Vine

We had a packed room for our AGM on 8<sup>th</sup> May; perhaps because our guest speaker was the cycling broadcaster and journalist, Jeremy Vine! As a thank you £120 was donated to Jeremy's chosen charity Ride High, £50 from CI and £70 from donations on the night.



Prior to Jeremy's energetic, amusing and moving talk about the frustrations but mainly the fun of cycling, Chris presented a review of the year and asked that everyone attending got involved in their own local community groups so that we, as campaigners for safer cycling and walking, could contribute to the debate on such projects as Future Route 2, Quietway10, the redevelopment of the Holloway prison site and counter the negative comments from some on the new developments at Highbury and Old Street roundabouts.

Keith reported that our finances were healthy and in the black. Then LCC members voted on the committee as follows:

- LCC coordinator: Eilidh Murray
- Treasurer: Keith Macfarlane
- Secretary: Liz Reiner

Committee: Alison Dines, Talia Hussein, Chris Kenyon, Steve Knattress, Nick Kocharhook, Graham Parks and Tabitha Tanqueray.

Simon Izod has stepped down to focus on his forthcoming adventures on his 3-month cycle ride to the north of Norway. We'd like to thank all committee members for their work and

particularly thanks to Alison Dines who has been co-ordinator for at least the past 12 years and on whose extensive knowledge we will continue to rely!

## Other recent activities

**Make the Lane – 19 March:** people aged from 7 to 70 stepped into busy rush hour traffic in Old Street to join Active Travel Now's Make the Lane event.



This was to draw attention to Islington Council's delay in improving this road where cyclists outnumber motor traffic at peak times. Plans have been 'on the books' since 2014 but there is nothing 'shovel ready.'

Two young women, Victoria Lebec and Sarah Doone were there. Victoria and Sarah each lost the lower limb of one leg following collisions with motor traffic; Victoria at the junction of Clerkenwell Rd and St John Street and Sarah at the junction of Old Street and Central Street. It is exceedingly complex to redesign the route, sometimes called the London or Clerkenwell Boulevard, but this should not prevent imaginative solutions.

There was a statement of intent from Cllr Webbe the day before this event. Given the will and the political leadership, this busy road could become a really pleasant route from Hackney to Central London. High time we saw some progress; the Council are talking about completing a 'transformation in 2021.' We'll be watching the progress closely.

**Spring family bike ride on 6 April:** With thanks to Steve, our route maker and ride leader, about 40 assorted sizes and ages of cyclists had an excellent explore all over the borough; we were delighted that we were joined by some of our sister group from Camden. The coffee stop, a key element of any bike ride, was at Coal Drops Yard in Kings Cross. More details of the route and some photos are on our website and have a look at a video made by Steve here <https://bit.ly/312lr71>

## Coming up – calendar of events

- \*7-9 June **CI social ride from Islington to Amsterdam**
- \*12 June **monthly meeting in the Town Hall**
- \*16 June **Finsbury Park Saddle and Sole festival**
- \*10 July **monthly meeting in the Town Hall**
- \*3 August **CI-led ride to Freecycle**, starting at Highbury Fields
- \*14 August **monthly meeting in the Town Hall**

- \*7 September **funeral for the unknown cyclist** organised by Stop Killing Cyclists: 1200 Lincoln's Inn Fields
- \*11 September **monthly meeting in the Town Hall**
- \*22 September **Car Free Day** - more details to come
- \*9 October **monthly meeting in the Town Hall**
- \*13 November **monthly meeting in the Town Hall**
- \*11 December **monthly meeting in the Town Hall and Christmas social**

### CI monthly meeting

\* 2nd Wednesday of every month, Islington Town Hall, 7.30-9.30 pm followed by visit to local pub. Agenda items for meetings should reach [alison.dines@cycleislington.uk](mailto:alison.dines@cycleislington.uk) by the Saturday before the meeting

### Reporting potholes

\*Local: T 020 7527 2000 or [islington.gov.uk](http://islington.gov.uk) and click on report a street problem. Or try [fixmystreet.com](http://fixmystreet.com) \*London: T 0845 305 1234 or <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/cycling/>, then click report a street fault or [contact@islington.gov.uk](mailto:contact@islington.gov.uk)

\*You can report bike skeletons/abandoned bikes at [contact@islington.gov.uk](mailto:contact@islington.gov.uk)

### Forthcoming events

- \* Critical mass – last Friday of each month <http://www.urban75.org/photos/critical>
- \* Check out Skyrides - <http://www.goskyride.com>
- \* Islington cycle club – weekly rides to suit all levels of fitness - <http://islington.cc/>
- \* Dr Bike sessions - 4pm to 7pm on the first Wednesday of every month, outside Islington Town Hall on Upper Street, N1 2UD.

### Cycle Islington Dr Bike

\*First Sunday of the month, 1100 - 1300 at Sunnyside Community Centre, Sunnyside Road, N19 3LX - contact Adrian Williams 07810 211902

**Please send articles/images/suggestions for this newsletter to: [alison.dines@cycleislington.uk](mailto:alison.dines@cycleislington.uk) – many thanks!**

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