

SOUTHWARK CYCLISTS



We live in Southwark and we love to ride bikes. We do everything from serious campaigning to fun social rides.

MAY 2019

REFLECTIONS ON MORE BRILLIANT FUNDING NEWS FOR SOUTHWARK CYCLISTS

Seven out of eleven bids Southwark Cyclists made in October have been funded, with the Council consulting on a scheme for one of the other four (just after the bid was put in) – i.e. Meymott Street contraflow. So effectively seven out of ten. I work this out as totalling £61,500, but we won't know exactly how many extra cycle parking spaces etc this will mean as it'll depend on detailed design and installation issues. Yes it's small fry compared to things like Cycle Superhighway 4, but small scale interventions can complement big ones.

What lessons can be learned? The bigger schemes had less chance of getting funding (the routes, even though they were more like local links). I suspect as they would take up more of the budget, preventing a wider range of other schemes going forward and the councillors prefer to spread the funding across a range of different issues. One solution could be to focus on a junction at a time; we also need to work out how to get ideas implemented that sit in-between small quick wins and the major schemes that take years of preparation. We also should avoid proposing more than one scheme per ward (or two for larger wards) each year and also finding out what is already likely to be proposed by council officers in different departments.

All the funding came from Cleaner, Greener, Safer (CGS), as officers used up the newly introduced 'Devolved Highways Budget' with their own resurfacing schemes. But as the form is the same for both, it didn't make a huge difference. Anyway the funding streams are supposed to be radically simplified in future, hopefully in time for this year's round of applications. Two of the criteria for CGS is to bring different sections of the community together and securing funding from other bodies. It's certainly worth thinking how we could work with unusual suspects to access funding from other bodies for bigger projects.

Anyway the next deadline is expected to be October, just eight months away. Time to come up with more ideas and work out together which of them will be best for getting Southwark cycling!

Ralph Smyth

JOSEPH BAZALGETTE RIDES A HUGE SUCCESS

Mini-Report

Joseph Bazalgette's legacy in London is huge and so naturally, it didn't fit into one Healthy Ride session (Saturday 20/4/19 report [here](#), (scroll down)) [<https://tinyurl.com/y55uk77v>] so we had to add a second volume (and even that was not enough as there is far more, e.g. Abbey Mills, the Crossness pumping stations and the Woolwich Ferry).

Still, 17 riders couldn't resist the glorious London sunshine and set off from Burgess Park. Millions others could resist and London was unusually empty, it felt as if the only vehicles we saw before Blackfriars Road were two dust carts. That changed when we got Waterloo Bridge, downgraded again after its brief impersonation of a Garden Bridge (Extinction Rebellion activists had been occupying the bridge when the group crossed on Saturday). Lots of police on bridge, probably to prevent new outbreaks and they didn't help us by parking their vans in the bike lane.

A180 down to CS3 followed by a stop at the Bazalgette memorial to explain why it is the perfect location for it, he built the Embankment and put the sewer (and the tube) under it. Hat-tip to Steve who led us to Villiers Gate in Victoria Embankment Gardens which marks the pre-Bazalgette boundary of the Thames. Thanks also to WH Smith who, as Westminster MP, saved the garden as a public space and stopped the Crown building office blocks on them. (...)*. After 4h 30' and 38km we got back to Burgess Park having shown that we can handle longer distances than we had covered previously. Thanks to Jane for back-marking and keeping the field together. It is noteworthy also that this was by far the longest ride ever undertaken by Healthy Rides (4h 30m). *By Werner Wiethage*

*As Werner, the ride-leader said, the legacy is so huge not only did it not fit into one ride or even two, but there's also too much to report for the confined space of this newsletter, so read **ALL** about it [here](#) [<https://tinyurl.com/y2tfk6p8>]

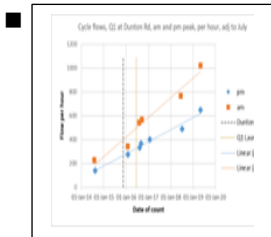


Bazalgette Memorial next to Hungerford Bridge

NEWS IN BRIEF

■ **BIKE MAINTENANCE** This two-hour session is a drop-in, not a course. It runs from 6.30-8.30pm is at the Lettsom Tenants Hall at 114 Vestry Road SE5 8PQ. What gets taught depends on what problems you bring through the door. The sessions are sponsored by Southwark Cyclists and the Lettsom Tenants' and Residents' Association. The volunteers come through Southwark Cyclists plus a professional mechanic to help with the more esoteric problems. You don't need to join anything or live on the Lettsom to take part - it's all free and open to all. Details [here](https://tinyurl.com/y4zeoh6m) [https://tinyurl.com/y4zeoh6m]

■ **FAMILY CYCLING SESSIONS** There have been a series of Sunday family cycling sessions running since May as well as cycle training sessions for older children during half-term. Cycle training covering Level 1 and Level 2 are provided by Cycle Confident and paid for by Southwark Council. Going on now!! Check it out [here](https://tinyurl.com/y5lqn78f) [https://tinyurl.com/y5lqn78f]



LINEAR INCREASE IN CYCLISTS ON Q1 CONTINUES

Bruce Lynn, Healthy Rides Leader, reports on a linear increase in use of Q1. Peak flows at the Dunton Rd crossing have increased steadily since 2014 with peak morning flows up by an average of 165 riders per year. This means we are now over the 1000 per hour mark in the am peak, a 350% increase in 5 years. More about this phenomenon [here](https://tinyurl.com/y2kqbp6f) [https://tinyurl.com/y2kqbp6f]

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THIS WILL BE THE LAST ISSUE OF NEWSLETTER IN THIS FORMAT AS THE LCC ARE DISCONTINUING BOROUGH INSERTS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO COMMUNICATE WITH YOU VIA CIVI.



* **Dr Bike** - Our guys are back, keen and raring to fix your bike. They will be under or around Peckham Arch, fixing bikes for all-comers. This service is free and enthusiastic. The bigger your problem the happier they are. They carry small parts like cables but not big ones like wheels. For bike reconstruction they will do their best but after that you will be referred onto our bike maintenance and tuition service which runs indoors all year round. Ask for details if you are interested by contacting us southwark@lcc.org.uk

* **Community Speed Watch** - contact Sally at southwark@lcc.org.uk Roadwatch needs volunteers to take place. New record: 66 MPH clocked by volunteers! Want to contribute to improving road safety? Please do get involved if you can spare the time.

* **Healthy Rides**, Every Saturday, 10-12 or 9.30 to 1 pm (plus ride). Explore London using quiet routes on these leisurely-paced rides. **FREE!!** Contact Bruce Lynn on b.lynn@ucl.ac.uk

Vauxhall Bridge looking for the Effra River

* **2nd/3rd Wednesday of the month**: Southwark Cyclists meetings 6.30-8:30 pm; TRA House, 41 Grosvenor Park, SE5 0NH. Next date: Wednesday June 19th (Refreshments provided)

Anyone who **lives or works** in Southwark and loves to cycle is a Southwark Cyclist – you don't have to be a member of the LCC. Tell your friends, join us on a ride or come along to a meeting! Join the Google group for discussion about planning consultations, events and rides: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/southwarkcyclists> all our activities are free because they are funded by Southwark Cyclists; not the Council (no money) or Sustrans (ditto). We are the borough branch of the London Cycling Campaign which campaigns for safer, more enjoyable cycling in London, pretty much as the name says. Our website is here: [southwarkcyclists.org.uk]

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