



June 2017

**BROMLEY
CYCLISTS**

**The borough group of the
LONDON
CYCLING
CAMPAIGN**



Changes at the group

Coordinator steps down

After six years at the helm, Spencer Harradine has decided to retire as our borough coordinator. In that time, Spencer has led the team with considerable skill, building membership numbers in the borough to around 220. He has forged working relationships with council officers and councillors. In particular, Spencer has organised some wonderful cycling events in the borough, such as last year's Ride to Rio to tie in with the Olympics, Cycle Mania in Orpington for the past two years and the annual Biking Buzz event in Norman Park. The group is deeply grateful for his fantastic efforts over the years. We have presented him with a fountain pen in recognition of all he has done for both the group and for cycling across the borough.

Our new coordinator

John Wood has taken over from Spencer as coordinator. John, who was group secretary in 2016, said it was a privilege to be elected to the role, although he recognised he had a huge act to follow. "Spencer has been our inspirational coordinator since 2009 and has served the group tirelessly with drive, skill and distinction," John said. "I shall do my best to continue Spencer's great work in the borough. I greatly look forward to serving you all."

Planning update

Several issues have come to our notice since our last contact with you. The most important of these is a project to build a school near Bromley South station, the SHaW Futures Academy (see over).

Meanwhile, group transport officer Richard Gibbons is leading on the planning application for 105 homes in Homefield Rise in Orpington, where much is made of the scheme's sustainability and support for and promotion of active travel on which it appears to fall a long way short.

Summer rides

The winter months are not the best for cycling, so we are delighted that many of you have been out there in all weathers turning over the cranks. But hey, summer is just around the corner and the rides calendar is filling up, so those of you who prefer more clement riding conditions should keep your eyes peeled on our [website](#) and [Facebook page](#) for an outing that suits you. There are a few more suggestions overleaf.

Cycle training revamp

Students go from adult cycle training to group rides

The first outing of our revised cycling course was a great success. The five-week course, brilliantly put together and executed by membership officer Eve Evans, featured a mixture of training and led rides during March and April. In the first week, participants were taught basic bike-handling skills in a traffic-free environment (Bikeability Level 1) by Lindsey Bryan, a cycling instructor from Bromley Council. Over the following weeks, trainees were taken on planned rides on quiet roads (Bikeability Level 2). The course culminated in a 24-mile ride to Greenwich and back along the Waterlink Way. Five of the six students passed both levels of the course and were provided with a clear, simple pathway to Bikeability Level 3, which provides the skills for more challenging roads and traffic situations. Some of the students have since joined our various weekly outings (see over). Our next adult cycle training course starts on Saturday 3 June. Visit our [website](#) for more details.



Bromley Cyclists is the local London Cycling Campaign group for members living in the borough

 www.bromleycyclists.org

 info@bromleycyclists.org

 [Bromley Cyclists](https://www.facebook.com/BromleyCyclists)

 [#BromleyCyclists](https://twitter.com/BromleyCyclists)

Why not join one of our rides?

Wednesday Weekly Wanders

Every Wednesday at 7.30 pm, we meet outside Bromley South station to go for a relaxed, sociable ride to a different pub, where we enjoy a drink and a chat. Our wanders always finish within four miles of the start point to avoid some of the long rides home along dark, country lanes that we felt were discouraging some riders,

particularly women, from joining us. Our wanders are highly social occasions, with women outnumbering men on many evenings. Why not come and join us? To learn more, check out our website or Facebook page. You can [register for one of these rides](#) on our website, although it's fine to just turn up and ride.

Other upcoming rides

This year's **Tour de Penge** is on Sunday 11 June. This free community bike ride goes from Penge to Greenwich and back, a round trip of 16 flat miles. Up to 300 cyclists of all ages and abilities will be taken on a safe, guided route to the iconic Cutty Sark in Greenwich. A short drinks break is planned there, with a BBQ back in Penge. Although the ride is run by Penge Cycle Club, you don't need to belong to the club to take part. For more details and to register, visit goo.gl/2OocQL

And on Saturday 29 July, cyclists will once again take over the centre of London for the family friendly **Prudential RideLondon FreeCycle**. The eight-mile circuit on traffic-free roads passes iconic London landmarks including Buckingham Palace, Trafalgar Square, St Paul's Cathedral and the Bank of England before heading south of the river with a loop over Waterloo Bridge, offering stunning views of the capital. There will be music and entertainment all along the route as well as at seven official Festival Zones. A feeder ride led by Bromley Cyclists will take riders to the main ride. For more information on the FreeCycle ride, go to goo.gl/eauRRu



Finally, look out for the new **Tuesday rides** rolled out by our rides coordinator Tracey Parker. These daytime rides have proved popular and there will be more of them as the weather improves. For further information on all of our [rides](#), visit our website, [Facebook page](#) or email rides@bromleycyclists.org

Other news

SCHOOL TRAVEL FEARS The Science Health and Wellbeing (SHaW) Futures Academy, a ten-storey academy school for up to 1,260 pupils aged between 11 and 19, is planned for the site of the old DSS building on Westmoreland Road near Bromley South station. We harbour considerable concerns about the travel plans for this already congested area of town. It is quite clear that the transport analysis as submitted by the developers ignores some important relevant factors. The academy will clearly attract additional traffic for which little provision has been made and there is no proposal to improve cycling infrastructure at this awful junction. Jonathan Coulter has been brilliantly leading for us on the consultation on the plans, for which the group has made a submission. To see the full planning application, visit goo.gl/GrvH3b

DUTCH DITCHED? The previous mayor's Mini Holland programme to create cycling friendly Dutch-style town centres seems to be on the way out. Instead there is the new mayor's Liveable Neighbourhoods scheme that aims to create "more attractive, accessible and people-friendly streets, where everybody can enjoy spending time and being physically active". As requested by the London Cycling Campaign head office, Bromley Cyclists has submitted an assessment of our borough to help the office evaluate whether our group could be supported to put together a bid for a Liveable Neighbourhood project.

ELECTION DELAYS FORUM Plans for the next meeting between Bromley Council and cycling groups in the borough have been hit by government "purdah" rules designed to prevent public resources from being used for party political purposes or staff from doing anything that could call into question their political impartiality in the pre-election period. Bromley Cyclists is asking the council for convenient June dates for this Bromley Cycle Forum, so it can take place as soon as possible after the general election.

CAN YOU HELP? We are always looking for any assistance members can provide with the wide range of things we do, from rides to campaigning. We are especially interested in any experienced cyclists who can help to lead occasional rides as well as anyone who is knowledgeable about planning policy. For an absolutely no-commitment discussion, please email info@bromleycyclists.org

Our public meetings

Bromley Cyclists holds public group [meetings](#) four times a year, in February, May, August and November. We'd love to see you at the next one. Please see our website for further details. Come along and make some new cycling friends.

Bromley Cyclists' management committee (Core officers in bold):

Borough coordinator	John Wood	Rides coordinator	Tracey Parker
Treasurer	Linda Rampling	Communications & transport	Richard Gibbons
Secretary & media officer	Tom Campbell	Membership & goals	Eve Evans
Chair	Derek Mark		

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