

A brief news roundup from WHCF

November Guided Ride

Following hot on the heels of our publicity stall during UofH's Environment Week, November's ride is aimed at this year's influx of University students, hopefully encouraging them to cycle to their studies rather than drive. The ride will tour the cycle network in and around Hatfield taking in the old, new and some future routes in the town and surrounding area.

The ride will start outside The Forum on the University College Lane Campus at 11h00 on Saturday 10 November. Anyone (not just students) interested in exploring Hatfield's cycle network is welcome. Total distance 15 to 20 miles, mainly along off road cycle paths. Return by about 15h00, after lunch at a hostelry en route. Ride leader Roger Moulding 01707 324991.

Hatfield Station Improvements

John and Roger met representatives from Herts County Council (Highways) on site recently to discuss options for a cycle path link going north from Hatfield Station and other improvements to cycling facilities as part of the Hatfield Station improvements scheme.

Unfortunately, they were unable to convince HCC to adopt the obviously preferred West side option, even though four cyclists used this footway during the meeting. But the Council officers did gain a better understanding of the problems of crossing the Hertford Road leg of the Red Lion traffic light junction and will consider this when they draw up the scheme in more detail.

The new cycle route, as proposed, will follow the East side footway which will be widened using space created by reducing the roadway to two lanes throughout. It is hoped that providing this high quality cycle path will attract cyclists away from illegal use of the West side footway.

Improvements at the station itself will include secure bike lockers, increased open cycle storage and a new bridge with lifts to the northbound platform, able to accommodate bikes. This, if nothing else, should attract a lot more cycling commuters to Hatfield Station and is testimony to the commitment HCC have towards cycling.

http://www.whtimes.co.uk/news/9m_hatfield_rail_station_refurbishment_approved_1_1650963

Cycling maps, journey planner and other info on Hertsdirect

<http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/transtreets/hertscountravsurv/travelwise/webcycle/>

BBC Radio 5 Live has a new 60min sports cycling show on Fridays 9pm - BeSpoke (starts 5min in)

http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b01nkwy2/5_live_Sport_BeSpoke_02_11_2012/

Martyn Ashton showing us how *not* to ride a road bike

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ZmJtYaUTa0&feature=player_embedded#

and finally, two wooden wonders -

How Britain Worked, Episode 2. Guy Martin makes a replica of Macmillan's mechanically propelled bicycle of 1839 at a restored sawmill

<http://www.channel4.com/programmes/how-britain-worked/4od#3430073>

and a very recent one - www.splinterbike.co.uk

Monthly Meetings

Our meeting is usually held on the 2nd Weds at 7.15pm at Campus West, WGC. All welcome. Next meeting 14th Nov.

Regds John

<http://welhatcycling.org.uk/>