

News from Welwyn Hatfield Cycling -

2nd
Saturday Social ride 13th April, 11am.
Ayot
Green Way and Nickey Line..

This month we are meeting at Kinetic Cycles, 2A Church Road, WGC, AL8 6NE before we set off to explore the Ayot Green Way to Wheathampstead and then pick up the Nickey Line. Our destination at Redbourn will be The Hub, a combined café/bike shop with bike workshop.

The section from Wheathampstead to Redbourn involves one or two steep hills (some people may want to push), some steps (help is available) and a short section of main road.

The route is mainly along minor roads and off road paths. Some parts may be a little muddy if there has been rain but most bikes should be able to cope.

Total distance is around 11 miles each way. The ride will be led in both directions and is suitable for teenagers and adults.

Bike Marking WGC

Officers from the Welwyn Garden City Safer Neighbourhood Team will be offering free security marking in the Howard Centre on Wednesday 10 April, between 11am and 1pm. The team will be joined by Kinetic Cycles who will be providing advice about bicycle safety and maintenance. PCSO Andrea Dutton from the Welwyn Garden City Safer Neighbourhood Team said: "We're holding the event during the Easter holidays so that families can bring their bikes down. We'd really recommend people take the time to come along. If your bike is stolen in the future, it's more likely to be returned to you if it is security marked as we will be able to identify who it belongs to."

Alban Way Litter Pick

On Sat 20 April, we are holding a community litter pick on the Alban Way. Gloves, litter pickers and black sacks will be supplied. All we need is your enthusiasm and keen eyesight !

There's a lot to do, so we plan to start at Wrestler's Bridge, Great North Rd, Hatfield at 10am and see how far we can get by about 1pm, when we will probably pack up and go for a bite to eat.

Please tell your friends, especially if they use the Alban Way. Everyone welcome. Many hands make light work !

Cycling Infrastructure.

A planning application has been submitted for building over 100 new houses on the site of

the former HCC Mount Pleasant Depot at Hatfield just south of the A414 bridge over the railway.

The application was rejected in 2010 because the proposals had inadequately addressed permanent access to the development. The current plans show the proposed layout of the site, which we are pleased to see includes cycle storage facilities. Unfortunately, there is nothing to say how the residents can use their bikes to access places such as Tesco's, Stanborough School and Hatfield Business Park on the west side of the railway, without taking very long detours, or risking their lives on the A414.

A number of us have sent in objections, including requesting the developers provide a cycle route alongside the A414 to link the development with the WGC - Hatfield cycle route via Tesco's.

The Public Consultation ends 3 April.

Details

of the application can be found on

[https://fastweb.welhat.gov.uk/detail.asp?](https://fastweb.welhat.gov.uk/detail.asp?AltRef=S6/2013/0323/DE&ApplicationNumber=&AddressPrefix=mount+pleasant&submit1=Go)

[AltRef=S6/2013/0323/DE&ApplicationNumber=&AddressPrefix=mount+pleasant&submit1=Go](https://fastweb.welhat.gov.uk/detail.asp?AltRef=S6/2013/0323/DE&ApplicationNumber=&AddressPrefix=mount+pleasant&submit1=Go)

[Go](#)

The

'view map' blue tab wasn't working at the time of writing, but the pdfs were.

Shared

Path Etiquette

Sustrans,

the charity responsible for facilitating the National Cycle Network have issued a Code of Conduct for using shared cycle paths, which has been endorsed by the Cyclists Touring Club (CTC) and other major cycling organisations. Most of it is common sense to responsible cyclists, but it is worth a read, even for regular cyclists. <http://www.sustrans.org.uk/resources/in-the-news/code-of-conduct>

Regards John

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