



NEWS SHEET

Tring and Berkhamsted Cycling Campaign

ISSUE 77

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AGM

This will be in the Anglican Church Hall, (behind St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, High Street, Tring) at 8.00pm on March 12. After the usual formal stuff, including a review of the year, there will be a short talk by Danny Bonnett on "Transition Towns", and refreshments will be provided. The full agenda will be sent to members.

HELP POLICE GET STOLEN BIKES BACK

A bike is stolen every 71 seconds in the UK. So how do you get yours back if it is? Well, if you register it on www.immobilise.com then if the police find your bike, they are able to return it to you quickly. Immobilise is a database that enables you to record all your bike details, upload photographs and proof of purchase. The database is used by police to return items that have been recovered. You can also mark your bike with a special immobitag that thieves are not able to remove, and you can also record details of your mobile phone, TV and other items.

MAKING THE MOST OF A DAY OFF WORK

by Richard Selina

Like many of you I presume, I found myself stuck in the car trying to get up one of Berko's ungritted side streets on a snowy February morning. It was no use, struggling just 10 metres from the house and deciding the car was safer back on the drive, I contemplated how to use my bonus day off work: snowman, build a sledge, go back to bed? I chose the mountain bike.

I dug out my spikiest, narrowest, mud tyres, put on my warmest bike clothes and ventured onto the bridleways for some fun. What a stunning scene. No lazy day of slumber, it was tough riding out there. It took me back to my childhood, growing up in Yorkshire and conjured memories of much harsher winters and the dreaded winter Sunday morning paper-round!

The trails were a little boggy under the snow and the going was hard, the hub-deep snow also covered some little surprises but the snow thankfully provided a soft landing on a number of occasions. The smile went from ear to ear as I searched out virgin trails to ride. They were hard to find - I wasn't the only person to have the idea of a winter ride. Potten End Common finally gave me that perfect trail and I admired my freshly laid tracks. I returned home shattered and soaked but without a single care for work. *If you visit our website you will find that this article is accompanied by stunning colour photos.*

This year, Bike Week will take place from **13th - 21st June, 2009**. After the successes of the Treasure Hunt and the Summer Solstice Ride in 2008 we will be arranging similar events during this week in 2009.

NEW YEARS RIDE AND DINNER AT THE VALIANT TROOPER



RESULTS OF TBCC CYCLING SURVEY

60 people responded, awarding from 1 to 5 points for increasing priority, so the maximum score for an item would be 300. We will use these results to help in prioritising the issues on which we will campaign during the next year.

	Score	%	Note
Improvements to road quality	276	92.0	1
Lanes in the towns to schools	252	84.0	2
Extension of cycle parking at station	245	81.7	
Better cycle training for children	226	75.3	4
20mph speed limits on roads in towns	225	75.0	
Maps to be made available	218	72.9	3
Better maintenance of bridleways	218	72.9	
Steps to reduce bike thefts	217	72.3	
Lanes in towns to shops	216	72.0	2
Lanes between towns	211	70.3	2
Advanced stop lines	206	68.7	
Extension of parking at schools	203	67.7	
Widen canal towpath	203	67.7	5
Extension of parking in High Street	187	62.3	
Lanes to Ashridge/Boxmoor	184	61.3	2
Extension of parking at doctors	172	57.3	
Extension of parking at supermarkets	168	56.0	
Extension of parking at Sports Centres	160	53.3	
Extension of parking at libraries	154	51.3	

NOTES: 1. Many people commented that this was the most important requirement

2. Lanes should be wide enough. Both DfT + CTC recommend 2 metres.

3. Some responses requested maps for commuting routes as well as leisure routes.

4. Several people stated that training should be available for adults as well as for children.

5. While some said widen towpaths by clearing vegetation; others were against this if plants were to be removed.

Visit our website: www.tbcc.org.uk

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