



COGSnews

The Newsletter of the
Cycling Opportunities Group for Salisbury

Include
cycling!

September 2009

SALISBURY CYCLING

☺ THE GOOD NEWS ...

In **Laverstock**, where Wiltshire Council have put in an experimental cycling scheme to send the message that cyclists have priority on this important link for school and commuter journeys. The middle white line on Laverstock Road has been removed and advisory cycle lanes, each 5ft wide, have been put down both sides of the road.

Motorists may find this perplexing at first, but the idea is that the cycleways serve as a continual reminder that the possibility of meeting cyclists is high. The visual narrowing of the carriageway is intended to act as a traffic calming measure to slow vehicles down while encouraging more people to cycle.

This new route has been developed by Wiltshire Council in partnership with Sustrans and is part funded by Cycling England through the links to schools programme. This route sends an important message to motorists that they need to take account of cyclists and change their driving style accordingly. It is on trial for a year initially and COGS very much hope it will prove to be a success.

☹ ...AND THE BAD NEWS

The **junction of Estcourt Road and Churchill Way** continues to give problems. Cyclists are consistently being involved in accidents or near-misses at this junction as motorists leave Churchill way to travel along Estcourt road – often taking a short cut to get to St Paul's roundabout.

Since April 2008, four cyclists have been involved in accidents that have been reported to the police and we have reports of others where the police have not been called. On the 26th June a young mum was knocked off her bike and unfortunately broke her wrist and collar bone and on the 7th July another lady was run into but fortunately did not require hospital treatment. The latest incident occurred on the 17th August when a vehicle pulled out in front of yet another cyclist, who narrowly avoided hitting the vehicle concerned.

The response by Wiltshire Council so far has been to cut the vegetation back and realign the road markings. Neither of these steps appears to have solved the problem at this particular "Collision Cluster" site. COGS have been told that Wiltshire County Highways Dept will be investigating further in late August early September – as we go to press there has been no further feedback.

If you are involved in an accident or near miss here please inform the police if appropriate and please continue to let COGS know so that we can continue to

Tuesday 27th October, 7:00 p.m.
Room 1, Salisbury Methodist Church
St Edmunds Church St, Salisbury

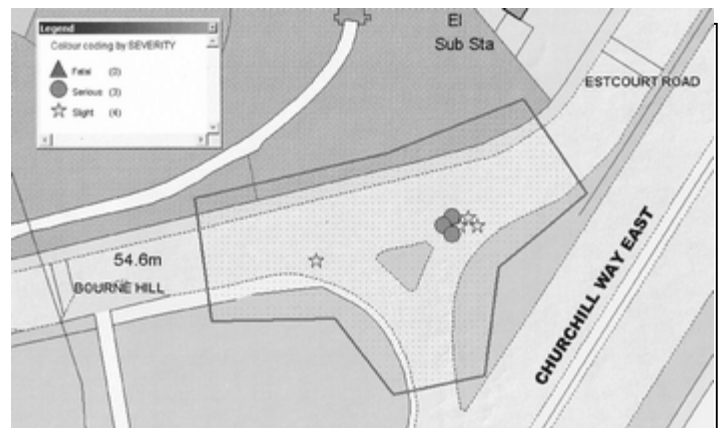
Connect2 & the National Cycle Network

Alistair Millington
Sustrans Area Manager for Wiltshire

Illustrated talk, followed by COGS AGM.

An opportunity to find out what Sustrans are doing in Salisbury, Wiltshire & beyond.

Admission free – all welcome.



The accident cluster site at Estcourt Rd/Churchill Way East - Cyclists be warned and take special care here!

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CONSIDERATE CYCLING

Salisbury police have received complaints from members of the public about cyclists riding on pavements and disobeying the Highway Code in other ways such as jumping red lights. Please remember that pavements are for pedestrians. While there probably isn't a cyclist who hasn't resorted to cycling on the pavement at some time to try and avoid traffic dangers on certain roads remember that some pedestrians, and especially the elderly or infirm, feel very threatened by cyclists invading their space. Be a considerate cyclist—read the Highway Code and follow it!

RIDES PROGRAMME

Summer rides are over for another year. Thanks to Rob for co-ordinating the programme this year, thanks to all those who led the rides and acted as back markers, and thanks to all of you who came along and helped to make the rides such a success - yet again!

Rides programme for the autumn/winter

Sunday 18th October Sixpenny Handley

Leave the Three Rivers Leisure centre at **11:00** for a ride to Sixpenny Handley with a pub lunch before returning to Salisbury. We will visit the fine memorial seat placed outside the 6^D Handley Post Office in memory of a Koos, a COGS member known to many who sadly died in October 2008.

Sunday 20th December COGS Christmas Ride

Leaving the Three Rivers Leisure centre at 11:00 for the renowned COGS Christmas ride! Pub lunch (which will be in Salisbury) still to be firmed up. Booking essential contact Rob Jacobs (email jacobs@uwclub.net, ☎01722 320351).

FUNDRAISING FOR QUAKER MEETING HOUSE

On 20th September 2009 Catherine Thomas and Mandy Goddard will set off to cycle 455km along the Camino de Santiago, the ancient pilgrim route in northern Spain, to raise money for renovation of what will become the new Quaker Meeting House on Wilton Road in Salisbury. They would welcome your support for this really worthwhile project – money can be given online at www.justgiving.com/CatherineThomassponsoredbikeride2009

COGS Meetings

A reminder that all COGS members, or any prospective members who want to see what COGS is all about, are very welcome to attend the regular monthly meetings. These are normally held on the last Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm in Salisbury Youth Hostel, Milford Hill. If you are interested in attending please contact Margaret Willmot (see details under 'Ride & Stride' in right hand column) for an agenda and previous minutes. **Please note: There is no meeting in September (due to holidays) and in October we will be meeting at the Methodist Church for our AGM - see the front page.**



Connect2 goes west COGS members pictured beside the A36 at Petersfinger on their way to Wilton Carnival on July 4th. 15 cyclists joined us on the ride from Alderbury to Wilton, and enjoyed perfect weather for a popular and fun event.

SPONSORED RIDE AND STRIDE



WILTSHIRE
HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Ride and Stride – raising funds for Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust

Saturday 12 September from 10 'til 6 p.m.

Anyone may take part in this sponsored fund-raising event, whether a church member or not.

Participants should look for supporters who will sponsor them for each church visited. Half the money raised will be given to any church selected by the participant and the other half will go to the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust. And if **Gift Aid declarations** are completed there is even more money to go to the Trust. Just a tick in the box along with a legible name and address will make each £1 given worth £1.28.

If you prefer not to find sponsors, you can still take part and visit the churches – and enjoy the refreshments which you will find in some of them. However a donation to the Trust would be welcome.

Lists of the churches participating and sponsor forms are available from Margaret Willmot (margaret@willmot.eclipse.co.uk, ☎01722 321683). Any money should be sent by cheque to The Ride and Stride administrator, Richard Clarke – full details are on the sponsor form.

And a further sponsored ride opportunity

Christian Aid are looking for cyclists to join a London to Copenhagen Bike Ride from 9 – 16 December. This will be in support of the crucial UN summit to be held in Copenhagen - details on www.christianaid.org.uk/events