

Right-To-Ride (R-t-R) Round-Up April 2015

Meon Valley Trail.

Work to rejuvenate the Meon Valley Trail, which runs from Wickham to West Meon is in full swing, with work on tree clearance, drainage and surface replacement due to be completed in July. However adverse reporting in the media and subsequent on-line heated forum discussions with a further consultation meeting, may delay completion until late summer.

Campaign to stop mini cabs using bus lanes in Portsmouth

A petition to allow private hire vehicles (aka minicabs) to use bus lanes, as a congestion reduction measure, was presented to Portsmouth City Council(PCC), however this was opposed by the Portsmouth Cycle Forum (PCF), among others. PCC then decided to postpone any decision, however at a later meeting a decision was made to marginally shorten the Mile End Road bus lane in an adverse move on cycle safety.

Buster Cutting Cycle Route - latest

Commencement of work has been delayed until May whilst several issues are resolved. Some preparatory work has been noted on the causeway section (B2070), south of Petersfield.

Good News on Cycling from Central Government

A cycling clause in the new Infrastructure Act has now become law and will oblige the government to create a long-term strategy for boosting cycling and will ensure a dedicated budget for the first time. It only remains to be seen as to what the new government will commit too after the May election.

Fareham Train Station Cycle Hub 2015/16

It has been announced that DfT funds have been allocated to build a new cycle hub at Fareham station to cater for an additional 125 cycle spaces. This covered cycle facility includes basic cycle maintenance facilities such as pump and cycle maintenance stand as well as information on bus and rail departures.

10th Brompton World Championship

10th Brompton World Championship, which will take place as part of the Prudential Ride London Grand Prix races in St James's Park on Saturday 1 August.

Club Promotion and Publicity

2 schemes are now up and running to advertise our club and hopefully attract new members. Firstly there was the poster competition followed by the invitation to members to print off posters and place on notice boards of their choice. The latest scheme is to put old unwanted copies of the CTC magazine *Cycle* in waiting rooms (with the Contacts page removed and a Portsmouth CTC flyer added), so that those waiting for an appointment can browse through to 'discover' CTC and perhaps also follow up and try our club from the flyer. Full details of both schemes are on our website, including a suggested magazine flyer and all the posters for downloading and printing off. Flyers and posters can be supplied in hard copy.

The Great Tour

CTC is the leading charity in a round Britain's coast cycle ride with 64 stages. Local stages are Brighton-Ryde on the 12 Aug, Ryde-Southampton on 13 Aug and Southampton-Poole on 14 Aug. If you visit the website at:

<http://www.ctc.org.uk/news/20150326-great-tour> you can volunteer to take part as a leader, rider or marshal.

DfT's THINK! Cycle Safety Campaign reaches Portsmouth & Southampton

The DfT is extending their THINK! cycle safety campaign to a further seven cities. The campaign, which is based on posters, is intended to “remind drivers to take care around cyclists and remind cyclists of the actions they can take to stay safe on the road.” It will run for a third time in Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Leeds and Manchester, and now for the first time in Bradford, Brighton and Hove, Kingston upon Hull, Newcastle, **Portsmouth, Southampton** and Liverpool.

Analysis of last year’s campaign showed that more than three quarters of drivers agreed the adverts reminded them about the importance of looking out for cyclists.

For more information go to: <http://think.direct.gov.uk/cycling.html>

Petition to Re-open the Cycling track at the Mountbatten Centre

The Mountbatten Centre Velodrome was closed last March after an accident and so far remains shut. An on-line petition to persuade PCC to reopen this important cycling facility has been launched at: <https://www.change.org/p/councillor-robert-new-re-open-the-cycling-track-at-the-mountbatten-centre>

Comments, expressions of interest or further information on any of these R-t-R or any other related matters should be e-mailed to: Robert@PortsmouthCTC.org.uk