



# NEWS SHEET

Tring Cycling Campaign

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## CHANGE OF CHAIR

Due to family reasons, and to the commitments of her work with Sustrans, Sue Rowe tendered her resignation before the AGM, so at very short notice Brian Bostock reluctantly agreed to be Acting Chairman for the next year. Sue was responsible for the large increase in family rides that we had last year, and also for setting up our web site. Brian lives in Halton and feels strongly that it would be better if a Tring resident, with more knowledge of Tring, were Chairman.

## DEFECT REPORTING

The survey we carried out last year showed that a major concern for members was road surface condition. Several said that they would welcome a system that would help in reporting obvious problems and hazards, which need not necessarily be potholes or poor surfacing. We have therefore drawn up a DEFECT REPORT FORM that should help those who want to register problems.

All our local highway authorities (Herts/Beds/Bucks) have schemes for reporting potholes etc. directly to their maintenance departments. Details of how to contact them are detailed on our form so you can report problems as soon as possible. Alternatively, if you do not wish to take this route, or are not certain who is actually responsible for carrying out the work, then the form can be completed and returned to TCC who will act on your behalf.

The form will shortly be on our web site as a pdf so it can be down loaded for a hard copy for completion or easy reference. Otherwise contact Brian Bostock (01296 624694) and he will send you a copy.

We hope this scheme will help whilst out on the road. Unfortunately we cannot do much to overcome the other major concern expressed: speeding traffic. We do however take up this issue with the authorities whenever an opportunity arises.

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## AYLESBURY AS CYCLING DEMONSTRATION TOWN

If you wish to know what is going on with this project then you should visit  
[http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/getting\\_around\\_bucks/travelchoice/cycling/](http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/getting_around_bucks/travelchoice/cycling/)

You will also be able to download cycle maps of Aylesbury and Wycombe, and learn about the Bucks plans for ALL cycle training in schools to be done by professionals rather than by volunteers.

## HELMETS

During a discussion it was apparent that we do not know your views about wearing cycle helmets, and so we are forced to "sit on the fence" when the subject is raised. It would be helpful if you could either write, or ring or email me with your opinions. My address and phone number are at the foot of the next page.

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### Early Day Motion 1468

#### BIKE AND RAIL INTEGRATION

The text of this EDM states:

"That this House notes that individual railway companies have different policies towards cycling and that provision for cyclists at railway stations and on trains is patchy at best but generally remains completely inadequate; further notes that the winding up of the Strategic Rail Authority and the transfer of authority to the Department for Transport provides an excellent opportunity for ministers to issue minimum standards to railway franchises and Network Rail to improve provision for bicycles on trains and at railway stations; and believes that bicycle and rail transport should be integrated and promoted to provide a seamless and environmentally sound 'doorstep to destination' alternative to car travel."

120 MPs signed this motion, but David Gauke, our local MP did not.

It is possible that because he is a new MP and lives in Chorleywood he is not aware of the serious situation at Tring Station where on most days, even at this time of year, the bike racks are full, and bicycles (unless foldable) cannot be carried on trains during rush-hours. Those who cycle to the station may like to advise him of the urgent need of his constituents for improved provision for bicycles at Tring Station and also on Silverlink trains by writing to:

David Gauke MP,  
House of Commons, London,  
SW1A 0AA.

He will also be holding a "surgery" in Victoria Hall, Tring, on May 12 from 4pm to 6pm. If you want to book an appointment then ring 01923 771787.

## FUTURE RIDES

Members of Tring Cycling Campaign and Berkhamsted Cycle Group will be leading bike rides on Sundays this summer! Usually these will be fairly leisurely rides, on level, quiet routes designed with families in mind.

Sunday 26th March (Mothering Sunday) - Leisurely family cycle ride round Aylesbury. It will be led by Aylesbury Cycling Campaign and is to promote awareness of Aylesbury's Cycle Demonstration Town status. Please join the ride if you can. Depart Aquavale 10.00am. More details from Peter Robinson on 01296 425015.

Sunday April 16th - Family Bike ride along the canal and quiet country lanes.  
Meet Canal Fields, Berkhamsted 11am. Further details, contact Sue Rowe on 01442 826576

Sunday 14th May - approx 10 miles, starting at the White Horse pub, Bourne End, 10.30am. Contact Danny Bonnett to register interest on 01442 873244.

Sunday 18th June – This is our traditional TCC Fathers Day ride, and will start outside St Peter's Church in Tring at 11am to travel through the Tring Rural villages to Startopend Reservoir, where there is a choice of a café and two pubs (all with cycle parking) for lunchtime refreshment.

Autumn cream tea ride. This is another popular annual ride and will take place at the beginning of September

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### A REMINDER

Don't forget that Malcolm Nobbs wrote in the November news sheet:  
"In April I will be riding from the Tower of London to the Eiffel Tower in Paris in aid of the National Autistic Society. If you would like to support me in this endeavour you can do so by sponsoring me on-line [www.justgiving.com/malcolmnobbs](http://www.justgiving.com/malcolmnobbs) or ringing me on 01442 823971. "

**Visit our website: [www.tringcyclingcampaign.org.uk](http://www.tringcyclingcampaign.org.uk)**

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