



Cycleways Newsletter

Peace Festival Edition 2018



Chairman's Report



Welcome to our Peace Festival Newsletter

Cycleways is a local group promoting cycling in Leamington, Warwick and Kenilworth, our tag line is "Mobility, Safety, Sustainability". Cycling addresses some of today's key problems such as air pollution, traffic congestion and lack of exercise. If more journeys were made by bicycle, these issues would reduce.

We try to work with (and sometimes against) the County Council to make the roads safer for cyclists and to provide safe routes for cycling, on road or off. We often find the proposals do not come up to expectations with provision being discontinuous (often in the most dangerous and difficult places), inconvenient (having to give way to side roads or wait a long time for crossings) and sometimes it is not thought of at all.

Please join us. The more members we have, the bigger our voice.

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Thank you

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As a member of Cycleways, you get great support from:

John Atkins Cycles

Broadribb Cycles

Mike Vaughan Cycles

Giant Leamington

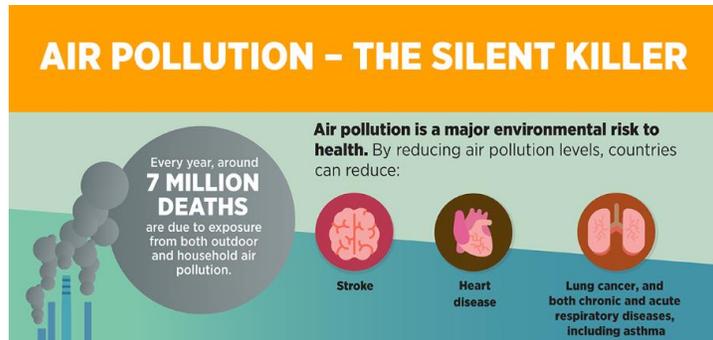
including a discount (usually 10% on non-sale items) for members showing a current membership card. Membership is just £7 (per household) annually.

Find out more visit the website:

www.cycleways.org.uk

We try give a little too and we produce quarterly newsletters to keep you informed and you get some discount at most of the independent bike shops in town.
Tony

Air Quality



World Health Organisation figures

Air pollution in the UK is a major cause of diseases such as asthma, lung disease, stroke, and heart disease, and is estimated to cause forty thousand premature deaths each year.

New figures released by the World Health Organisation (WHO) have shown that air pollution in Leamington breaches safe levels. The WHO report, published May 2, 2018 measures two kinds of pollution fine particle (PM 2.5) and coarse particles (PM10). It indicates Leamington has an average concentration of 12 micrograms of fine particles per cubic metre of air in 2015. This is above the WHO safe level of 10 micrograms per cubic metre. The measurement also placed Leamington among the 31 most polluted areas in the country.

It is possible to see the daily figures from the 2 fixed monitoring stations in Leamington (Bath Street and Rugby Road). The daily figures are measured on a scale as follows:

Air Pollution is on a scale of 1 to 10

Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)
Moderate (4)	Moderate (5)	Moderate (6)
High (7)	High (8)	High (9)
Very High (10)		

The figures are often Low but you can see that on January 24th last year PM 2.5 (particulates) were in the red range. To receive the report simply sign up to

<https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk>

Extract from the UK- air quality bulletin.

SITE	8 Hourly Mean Ozone ($\mu\text{g}\text{m}^{-3}$)	Hourly Mean Nitrogen dioxide ($\mu\text{g}\text{m}^{-3}$)	max 15min mean Sulphur dioxide ($\mu\text{g}\text{m}^{-3}$)	24Hour mean $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ Particles ($\mu\text{g}\text{m}^{-3}$)	24Hour mean PM_{10} Particles ($\mu\text{g}\text{m}^{-3}$)
Coventry Allesley	3 (Low 1)	62 (Low 1)	N/M	50 (Moderate 6)	N/M
Leamington Spa	7 (Low 1)	N/A	N/M	55 (High 7)	55 (Moderate 4)
Leamington Spa Rugby Road	N/M	N/A	N/M	53 (Moderate 6)	58 (Moderate 4)

Our County Council starts pedalling!



On 20th March, a group of us assembled outside Shire Hall to demonstrate our support for a motion tabled by Lib Dems and Greens asking the Council to develop a proper costed cycling plan for Warwickshire. A motion was duly passed, which had been amended by the ruling Conservative group to be more aspiration than commitment. Nonetheless, it is significant that the full Council has recognised that cycling is an important aspect of transport policy and debated the issues.

A “Task and Finish Group for Cycling” of Councillors is establishing priorities and funding options for cycle routes across the county. When the results are known, we will have a lever we can use to hold Councillors to account if, as has so often been the case, warm words do not translate into positive action.

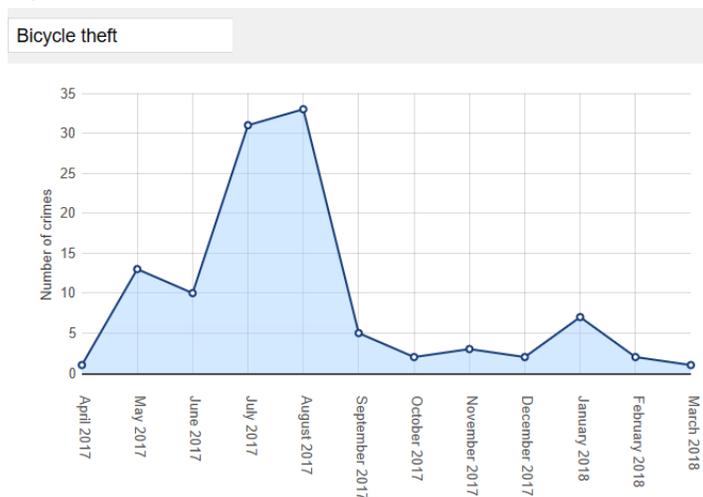
Write to your County Councillor

Warwickshire County Council spends only 88 pence per head on cycling per year, the government recommends each local authority spends at least £10 per head. We are keen to hear about any suggestions or thoughts about possible cycle improvements you may have please either contact us at Cycleways or contact your local county councillor. Please find below a link to a map of Councillor divisions.

<https://democratic.warwickshire.gov.uk/Cmis5/Portals/0/Wshire%20Cllr%20Wall%20Map%2005%20May%202017%20v4.pdf> ”

You can find some great ideas and information on greener and more active ways to travel by visiting <http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/activetravel> .”

Cycle Thefts



July and August were the peak months for bicycle thefts from Central Leamington. 110 bicycle thefts were recorded between April 2017 and March 2018, a total of 31 in July and 33 in August. You can look up the statistics for your own neighbourhood by going to

<https://www.police.uk/warwickshire>.

In the year ending December 2017 the bicycle theft rate in South Warwickshire was higher than the average theft rate across similar areas. Please ensure you lock your bicycle, our local independent cycle shops listed on the front of this newsletter will be able to advise you further.

Eco Fun Day:



The Mayor of Warwick starts our Eco Fun Day family ride, traffic-free from Warwick to Leamington. The event on Sunday April 29th was sparsely attended due to some fairly miserable weather, but thanks to excellent support from Cycleways all went well. As in the picture we were led partly by an incredibly active 5 ½ year old. Apparently, our ride was nothing like long enough for him, he had previously cycled from Leamington to get to the start in Warwick! *Chris Begg*

This is the second year the event has been held, Cycleways looks forward to supporting next year's event. *Tony*

Air Pollution - Did you know?

You may be driving a cleaner vehicle but you are still sitting in a box collecting toxic gases from all around you. impact. The worst air intake is right near the exhaust of the vehicle in front of you. Check out the [*Air Quality Action Plan*](#).

If you would like to get more involved with the Cycleways Committee please let us know by sending an email to Tony Lewenz at [*Cycleways.editor@googlemail.com*](mailto:Cycleways.editor@googlemail.com).

Up and coming rides:

Charity Ride:

Myton' s (Hospice) Cycle Challenge - Sunday, 5th August. 100km and 50km routes appealing to leisure cyclists and the more serious wanting to get some miles in for a good cause. Costs £40 or £30 (50Km). Read more at [*https://tinyurl.com/yb9ujpen*](https://tinyurl.com/yb9ujpen)

Wiggle Tempest Sportive- Saturday 21st July Starts at Warwick Racecourse. This is a very challenging ride around Warwickshire with a choice of 96 miles,67 miles or 33 miles. Costs £40 to sign up in advance (£31 for short). See

[*https://www.ukcyclingevents.co.uk/events/wiggle-tempest-sportive/*](https://www.ukcyclingevents.co.uk/events/wiggle-tempest-sportive/)

Coombe Abbey & Countryside Ride- steady guided 20 mile cycle with a cake stop. Meet in the Coombe Abbey car park. Sunday 19th August 10am. Free of charge.

Breeze (for women) have a series of rides in June and July this year called Warwickshire Lanes, these are steady rides of around 20miles- 25 miles. These rides are free of charge.

6.30 pm Tuesday 19th June,

6.30 pm Tuesday 26th June,

6.30 pm Tuesday 3rd July

The rides start from the cycle paths in Warwick either at the Budbrooke Industrial Estate or Coventry Road. For more information and to register see [*Let's Ride - Homepage*](#)

Or plan your own route Sustrans have online route mapping here:

[*http://www.sustrans.org.uk/*](http://www.sustrans.org.uk/)

Links to the local Cycling Guide showing Route 41:

[*http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cycleroutes*](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/cycleroutes)

Thank you, Marcus



Cycleways would like to thank Marcus Wagner for his contribution to Cycleways. We will miss his incisive mind when tackling transport proposals, particularly the A46 Stoneleigh roundabout proposals. Marcus is off to work in Australia. So, don't forget your cycle helmet Marcus!

Have your say

Hope you enjoyed reading this newsletter. We are keen to get your feedback or your thoughts on current issues please use the following email address to submit any comments or ideas for articles to:

[*editor@cycleways.org.uk*](mailto:editor@cycleways.org.uk).

Mark your email FAO Sandra Stokes.

Committee Members

Below is a list of our current Committee Members:

Tony Lewenz - Chairman

Rodney King - Secretary

Peter Clear- Treasurer

David Heathfield - Membership Secretary

Our website is at [*www.cycleways.org.uk*](http://www.cycleways.org.uk)