



That's more like it!

Since 2014, when £30 million in funding was awarded to Kingston Council to implement mini-Holland schemes to make the borough more cycle-friendly, the pace of delivery has felt very slow. However in the last six months a huge amount of construction work has been carried out and a network of routes is being revealed.

The Kingston Cycling Campaign (KCC) were frustrated at the new route between Kingston railway station and London Road being about 90% complete so we complained about the length of time it was taking to move a lamp column out of the cycle track and to build the access cross-overs at Pryzm and the Rotunda. Shortly after the work was carried out - success! We have also written about the inadequate signing and marking of the cycle track there. Pedestrians are understandably unaware of the cycle track because there is only one cycle symbol marked on the track and hardly any signs. The problem remains most acute at the entrance to Wilko where cyclists are expected to share with pedestrians. We will continue to raise this with officers until it's improved.

The two-way cycle track from College Roundabout to Surbiton Road, following



Penrhyn Road is currently under construction and is evidently going to take some months longer. We don't have a date for completion but hope that it will be ready for the start of the Autumn term. The crossings of side roads (see photo above) on this route give cyclists priority over traffic turning into and out of the side roads which is the sort of arrangement we have seen applied in another mini-Holland boroughs. Until this type of side road crossing is more commonplace and drivers become used to it, it would be wise to treat these with caution.



The **New Malden to Raynes Park** cycling and walking route (left) is looking well on the way to completion with lots of work having been done this spring to build a new access ramp from the bridge that links Alric Avenue and Duke Avenue which spans the railway and the newly created paths. The route will have separate paths for cyclists and pedestrians – something we and lots of others were clear about at the consultation stage. We hope it will be ready to open mid-July.

We are keen to showcase the work that has been done to campaigners from around London and further afield and will organise some bike tours this summer.

News round-up:

We understand that the much-trumpeted **Kingston Riverside** project is not being progressed any further. It was the artist's impression of this scheme that was pasted on the front of the [Evening Standard](#) when the three winning mini-Holland bids were announced. The zig-zag shaped floating 'boardway' was always going to be a tough scheme to deliver, not least because there was no obvious acceptable solution to passing under Kingston bridge. Many river user groups rejected the idea and we understand the Environment Agency had strong misgivings too. The money that would have been spent on this scheme will go into improving other mini-Holland (go Cycle) schemes

Our rides continue to be popular with around 20 riders taking part on recent rides. Rides Leader Roger Mace now has some mid-week day time rides schedule which you are welcome to join if you're free.

Keep up to date with news and rides

There's simply too much news to include in this short newsletter. To keep in touch with cycle route proposals and changes please follow us on Twitter and Facebook @KingstonCycling or check our website at www.kingstoncycling.org.uk where you can also find dates and times of upcoming rides.

Campaign Meetings: KCC campaign meetings usually happen on the second Tuesday each month at 8pm. In June this *may* change so if you are keen to attend please contact us to check. Our venue is the [Kingston Environment Centre](#) 1 Kingston Road, New Malden (by the Fountain roundabout).

Meetings are open to all members and supporters of KCC/LCC. Call Jon on 07984 757761, email kingston@lcc.org.uk or Tweet @KingstonCycling if you want to check arrangements.

Low Traffic Neighbourhoods gaining popularity

Residents of King's Road near Richmond Park's Kingston Gate have been very vocal this year in trying to get Kingston Council to address issues of congestion, road safety, pollution and 'rat-running'. In particular, lorries and cars are turning off Kingston Hill into Crescent Road into Liverpool Road and into King's Road – avoiding the Norbiton roundabout and Kingston Town Centre entirely.



A huge lorry cuts down King's Road.
Photo @FriendsofKings1

The council consulted earlier this year on making King's Road and roads parallel to it one-way. KCC objected to this on the grounds that we believed this would simply enable more drivers to 'rat-run' down residential streets. The proposal was roundly rejected by residents of nearby streets which would have received more traffic. Council officers then proposed getting residents to park on the footways to ease congestion! – at complete odds with the 'Healthy Streets' agenda to encourage and enable more people to walk and cycle. Recently residents of Manorgate Road near Norbiton station have petitioned to have their road closed to through traffic, following an application by Lidl to build a supermarket at the roundabout end. We hope that this is successful and that King's Road and neighbouring roads will also be made '**Low Traffic**'.