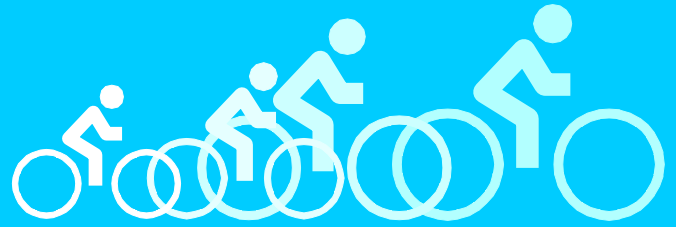


# CYCLING Wakefield

Promoting and campaigning for cyclists



Newsletter of the Wakefield District Cycle Forum Edition number 19 August 2013



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11 September

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Cycling fun on adapted bikes.

# Good News Edition

As a major purpose of the Wakefield District Cycle Forum is to campaign on behalf of cyclists it is inevitable that many of our newsletter will focus on criticism of bad practice, bad policy or simply inactivity in developing an environment in which cycling can flourish.

This edition of the newsletter was intended to be full of the positive, only good news. As you will see it did not quite work but let's work towards a future good news edition.

Get Cycling Keep Smiling

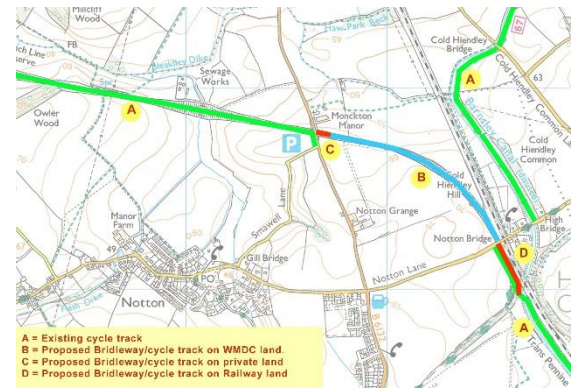
**Cycle Forum  
Meeting  
11<sup>th</sup> September  
7pm  
Wakefield Town  
Hall**



# New traffic-free route completed

At the beginning of 2013 Wakefield District Cycle Forum embarked on its most ambitious project so far. For some years now the Forum has identified a number of 'missing links' on the existing path network in the district which have the potential to vastly improve the usefulness of that network. One of these 'missing links' is near the village of Notton and has the potential to create a traffic-free link from the south-east of Wakefield City, at Wood Lane, to the Trans Pennine Trail and on to Barnsley and beyond in the south and Stanley Ferry and beyond in the north. Further traffic-free routes could also take cyclist to Anglers Country Park and Nostell Priory and Parkland. This 'missing link' would also add another traffic-free section to the Wakefield Wheel by avoiding the busy Chevet Lane and Notton Lane between the village of Notton and Old Royston.

Plans to open up this link have always been hampered by the lack of funds and recent cuts in funding to local authorities transport plans seemed to push the project even further into the distance. Last year, however, with central government and EU money, Natural England (NE) launched a programme entitled Paths for Communities (P4C) aimed at improving the footpath and bridleway network in rural areas of England. The grants being given from P4C were only available to community groups and so the Forum took up the challenge and submitted its first bid in January. Following much help from the officials at NE the bid was successful and led to the opening up of the new traffic-free section of path represented by the blue and red lines on the map.



The application process was by no means an easy one as the Forum had to gain support from other community groups and local businesses. Support was secured from walking, riding and environmental groups and, after a consultation with the local community, the Notton Parish Council. Crucial to the project was the agreement of landowners to designate the path as a bridleway. Although most of the land over which the path runs is owned by Wakefield Metropolitan District Council (WMDC) a small section is in private ownership and a further section is owned by Network Rail (NR). After some persuasion, involving a number of meetings between the landowners and Forum representatives, both these landowners agreed to support the project and were positive in their assistance as the project progressed.



Invaluable to the success of the project has been the partnership which the Forum has built with WMDC and its officers who have 'bankrolled' the scheme by paying the cost while we waited to receive the final grant. The Rights of Way officers have also been crucial in advising Forum representatives and in dealing with the dedication process which secures the route as a bridleway.

This first section of the project was completed in May and we have had very positive feedback from many cyclists and local residents who find the transformation of the path 'amazing'.  
(Continued overleaf)

Riding the new section of track



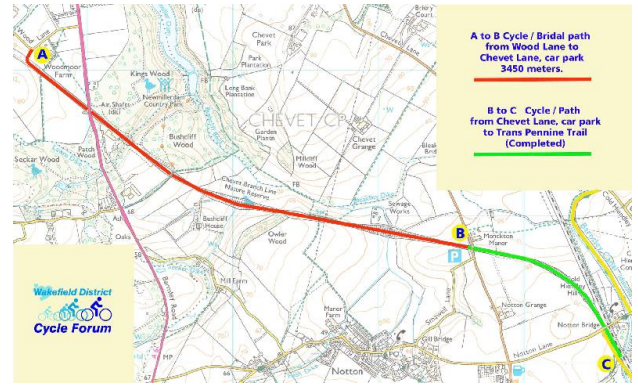


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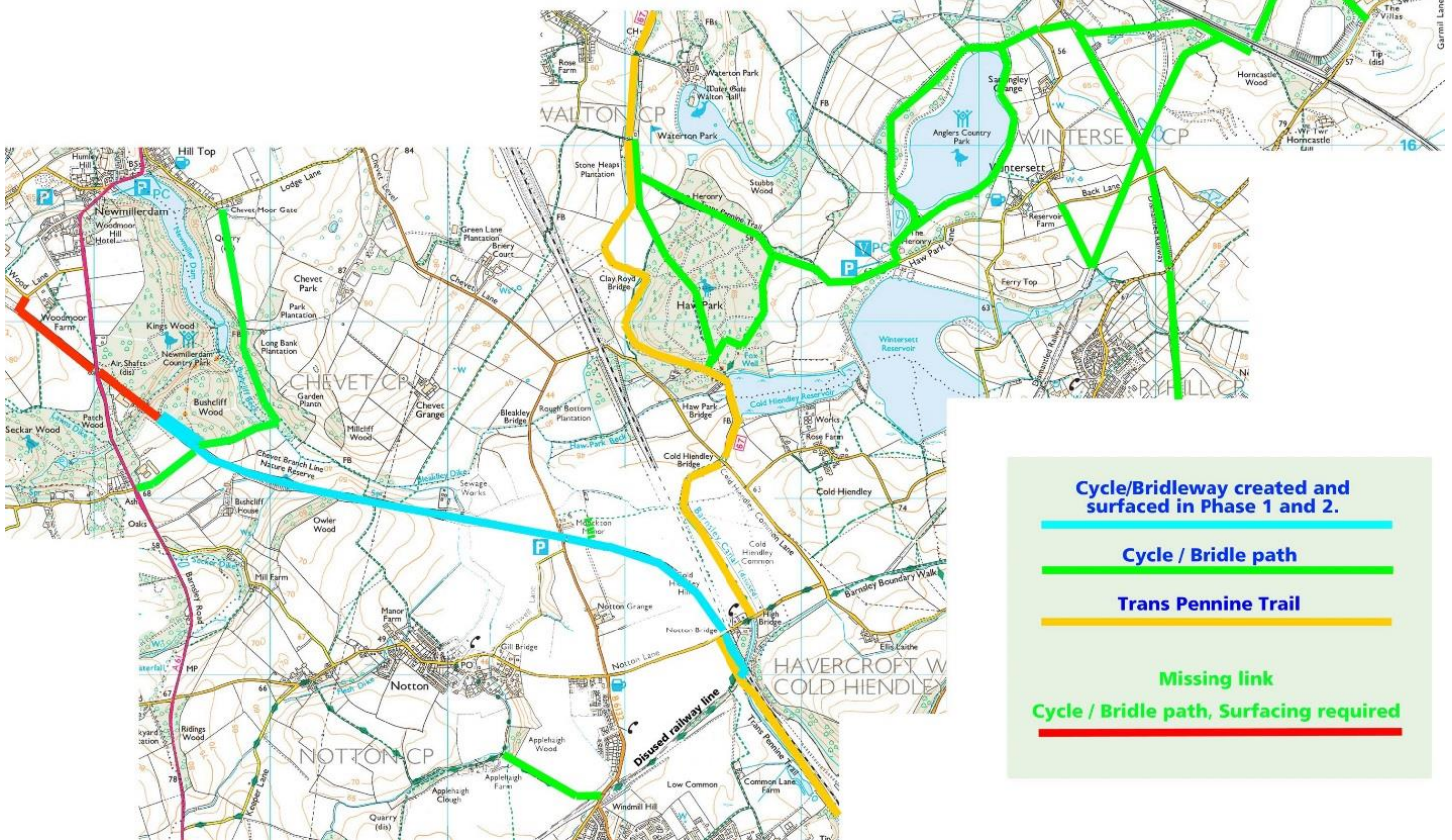
The Forum is not an organisation to rest on its laurels so we have pressed ahead with a further two applications which will see the rest of the path from Chevet Lane to Wood Lane, A to B on the map, dedicated as a bridleway with an 'all weather' surface which should make the mud baths experienced by cyclists in previous winters and thing of the past. Phase 2 of the project has already gained approval and the grant has been confirmed.

Work will start in August which will see a surface constructed on the section of the path from Chevet Lane to an existing bridleway through Newmillerdam. An application has also been submitted for the final phase of the project and we hope to hear if we have been successful in that bid by the end of August.

When all three phases of this project are completed a new stretch of bridleway of approximately 5 kilometres will have been dedicated. While some of the path was already in use it was only permissive and at the discretion of the landowners. Dedication as a bridleway will mean it now has legal protection and is secured for the use of the whole community in future.



## Cycle route from Wood Lane, Newmillerdam to Trans Pennine Trail and Nostell Priory & Parklands



As the map above shows, walkers, cyclists and horse riders will then have an extensive traffic-free path network at the southern end of the district which we could only have dreamt of 5 years ago when the Wakefield District Cycle Forum was established.



# Community Cafes

If you are looking for a place to stop for refreshments why not try a local community café. Community cafes across the Wakefield District are varied, unique, individual and very friendly. What you can expect from a community café:

- **To have a friendly and welcoming atmosphere**
- **To promote healthier eating at reasonable prices**
- **To serve fair - trade and ethical choices**
- **To use local produce**
- **To serve wholesome food**



Here is a list of Community Cafes in the district

Manygates College Sandal Wakefield WF2 7DQ	01924 303302
The Springs Sandal, Wakefield, WF2 6EG	01924 242593
Sheila's Diner No 26, Portobello	
The Coffee Shop St Georges Community Centre Wakefield WF2 8AA	01924 369631
Monty's Café Agbrigg and Belle Vue Community Centre Wakefield WF1 5BB	01924 303302

Jubilee Hall Wakefield, WF2 8NS	01924 332554
The Place Airedale WF10 3JJ	07786658656
Friendship Café St Catherine's Church Centre Belle Vue WF1 5HL	01924 211130
Sunny Corner Café St Swithuns Community Centre Eastmoor Wakefield WF1 4RW	01924 361212
Oasis Café 10a Exchange Street South Elmsall WF9 2RD	01977 648394
Your Space Wakefield WF1 4DX	01924 380197
Bridge Arts Castleford WF10 1AF	01977 556741
Café Frobisher Normanton Library Normanton WF6 2AR	01924 302525
Kinsley & Fitzwilliam Learning & Community Centre Kinsley WF9 5BP	01977 610931
Havercroft and Ryhill Community Learning Centre Ryhill WF4 2BD	01226 727824
Destiny Christian Church Wakefield WF1 4AF	01924 382162
Chesney's The Chesney Centre Pontefract WF7 5EW	01977 723484
St Mary's Community Centre Pontefract Wakefield WF8 2AY	01977 705341
The Cedars Community Café Barnsley Road Hemsworth	01977 722215





# The ASDA Cycle Parking Saga

## Asdale Road Wakefield

When I wrote in the last bulletin about cycle parking at Asda, it was to point out that the sheltered stands for cycle parking were being used as an open air stall to sell products.

I sent a copy of the article to Asda Head office in Leeds so that they would be aware that their attempts to provide cycle parking for their customers, was being undermined by their local management. Items for sale at Asda had been placed in the cycle parking facility which meant that there was no space left for bikes to be parked.

When the matter of cycle parking was taken up with Asda by someone from Wakefield Council, I was pleased to see that cycle parking was made available again. However visiting the Wakefield store at the end of this July, I took a photo of the stands below



Cycle parking stands were once again being used to display clothes. I stood there and wondered, if I parked my bike with an oily chain up against their clothes would they think that I was being unreasonable. After all I would only be parking my bike in the stand they provide for cyclists. Leaving them with the sort of damage to their items they want to sell might make them think however.

No wonder that where there is no provision for them, cyclist will find alternative places to park (see photo below).

I'm not sure of the way forward on this matter with Asda, perhaps we should take our bikes inside the store with us, or use a car parking space for our bikes. Maybe the best course is simply to shop elsewhere, in supermarkets that do make provision for cyclists.

John Matthews  
(Forum member)



## Glasshoughton, Castleford

Earlier this year the Cycle Forum was contacted by a Castleford resident, Valerie Ely, who was upset because the ASDA store at Glasshoughton had removed its cycle parking. Valerie told us:

‘Over the last year I have become a keen cyclist. I now cycle in Castleford where I live instead of using my car which includes shopping at my local supermarket ASDA. However before Christmas 2012 ASDA Glasshoughton removed all their cycle stands for no reason. I have made enquiries in the store as well as contacting their Head Office. I have been provided with various reasons why these stands were removed and various statements whether they are to be replaced. However 6 months on still no cycle facilities are available at ASDA. Cycling has been a huge success for me. In six months last year I lost 4 stone in weight as a result. Cycling also reduces traffic volume. Neither of these points seem to be priorities for our local ASDA. I have told ASDA though that I am contacting yourselves.’



The Cycle Forum then contacted the Wakefield Council officer who deals with planning issues related to transport and cycling in particular. She contacted the ASDA representative and gained an assurance that the cycle parking would be reinstated.

At the beginning of August Valerie checked to see what had been installed only to find the previous Sheffield stands had been replaced by totally inadequate ‘cycle parking’ (see photo)

ASDA have now been sent a copy of the Council’s Cycle Strategy which lays down the minimum standards for cycle parking in new developments and we hope that this will persuade ASDA to reinstate the original parking.

As they say, watch this space.

## BUT THE GOOD NEWS

### Junction 32 welcomes cyclists!

Junction 32 Outlet Shopping Village’s brand new cycle parking for staff and visitors is now open!

Staff and shoppers from the surrounding area can now cycle to the Shopping Village and park their bikes safely under the shelter of covered cycle parking stands. Visitor cycle parking stands are located by the main entrance (near to Next) and staff cycle parking outside the Management suite.

The new cycle parking is the finale of a project run by Sustrans and the management of Junction 32 to encourage staff at the complex to become more active. Volunteers from the cycle forum were involved with the project and were consulted about the location and design of the cycle parking.

It is good to see one set of retailers getting it right.



## DIY Bike Maintenance Sessions

If you want to have a go at servicing or repairing your bike under the supervision of the forum’s bike doctor come along to these free sessions. Just turn up between **2pm and 2.30pm** at **Nostell Priory Old Tennis Pavilion**. Sessions will take place on **Sunday October 27<sup>th</sup>** and **Sunday November 24<sup>th</sup>**.





## Riding the Wakefield Wheel

One of the first projects that Wakefield District Cycle Forum embarked on was the development of the 'Wakefield Wheel'. Devised by our Vice-Chair, David Keighley, the Wheel is a circular route round Wakefield of approximately 40 miles. With a grant from the National Lottery the forum produced a map of the route and last year, with a grant from the NHS, volunteers from the forum completed the signing of the route. The popularity of the Wheel has continued to grow and this year the forum organised a guided ride to show of the glories that it offered cyclists. One of our volunteers, David Leigh, who rode the Wheel for the first time writes this report.

'I'm not sure where the official starting point is but we met at Squire's Tea Room, at Anglers Country Park. This is a good place to start with plenty of car parking space and a café.

30 cyclists turned up on a very warm morning, setting off at 10.45 after the obligatory cups of tea and breakfast sandwiches. We chose the anti-clockwise route cycling cross-country past Nostell Priory and Sharlston before travelling alongside the Normanton by-pass and then through the new housing estate (needed to keep your wits about you there as some of the signage was missing) towards Altofts and ultimately the Aire and Calder Navigation. First stop there after 10 miles.



*Resting by the canal*

The group then split into two as the better / fitter cyclists, led by Mr Graham West, went ahead. The remainder (including myself) followed at a more sedate pace, unofficially led by John 'Where's the nearest Carvery' Harvey. Next stop, unsurprisingly, was three miles later at Stanley Ferry where a breakaway lunch party (led by Capt Harvey and friend) decided to ignore Mr Keighley's plans for lunch and turned a two minute water stop into a 45 minute 3-course lunch. The majority of the group pressed on to the official lunch stop on the Lofthouse Colliery site after a fruitless raid on the local Co-op which had run out of sandwiches. 15 miles gone.

Once the group had reassembled, we set off from the old colliery site towards the M62 / M1 junction before following minor roads through Carr Gate and Kirkhamgate. The drag from Kirkhamgate up to Ossett is probably the hardest part of the route but was managed by all at a sensible pace in the heat of a very warm day. Drink stop at the top.

The section from this point (High Street) to Horbury is all on road and is the longest such stretch on the Wheel, approx five miles. Well signed though. Under the M1 near Durkar and on to the next refreshment stop at Pugneys. Had a good break here and managed to fill Angie with enough energy drink to get her back to the start-point. Only about eight miles to go from here.

From Pugneys, we cycled to Kettlethorpe (past Asda), skirting Newmillerdam as we headed towards Old Royston. Back onto the Trans Pennine Trail for a short while (Route 67) to Cold Hiendley, then through Haw Park Wood and back to Angler's.

### Basic Cycle Maintenance Course

**Sunday 22 September**

**Pugneys Water Park, Wakefield**

**10 am till 1pm**

**To book contact**

**[info@cycling-wakefield.org.uk](mailto:info@cycling-wakefield.org.uk)**

### WAKEFIELD BIKEATHON 2013

**Sunday, 06 October 2013**

**Time: Starts at 10:00 am**

**Location: Kettlethorpe High School,**

**More information visit :-**

**<http://leukaemialymphomaresearch.org.uk/>**



# WHEELS FOR ALL



## CYCLING FUN FOR EVERYONE ON OUR FLEET OF ADAPTED BIKES!

The bikes are especially good for people with disabilities and differing needs

**Come and join our fantastic cycle sessions!**

(Trained Leaders present/ Helmets provided/Children to be accompanied)

HAVERCROFT & RYHILL SPORTS & YOUTH CENTRE (WF4 2BD)

OPEN SESSION HELD ON THE 2<sup>ND</sup> SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH  
10.00 am - 12.00 noon.

£2.60 per person.

Come and stay as long as you wish!

**SESSIONS COMING UP ARE:**

SATURDAYS: 10<sup>th</sup> August, 14<sup>th</sup> September, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2013

**Sessions are held outside if it's fine, inside if it's wet and cold!**

(Please ring Sports Centre on 01226 723659 to check if session is taking place if wet)

Website: [www.wheelsforallhavercroft.org](http://www.wheelsforallhavercroft.org)

For more information call: [Gail Tombs 07762018136](tel:07762018136)