



"Working for a cycle-friendly Reading"

www.readingcyclecampaign.org.uk

AGM report from RCC events coordinator April 08 – March 09

Reading Cycle Campaign (RCC) attends local events to raise awareness of the existence of the Campaign, to promote its aims, to engage with public opinion and to recruit new members. We use a cycle trailer to take leaflets to and from venues, and attend as many events as possible.

As in previous years, RCC has attended Farmers' Markets held in the old Cattle Market, Great Knollys Street, on the first Saturday of each month. The market is an excellent venue for meeting with cyclists and members of the public, and it also provides a regular rendezvous for campaign members who want to meet up informally.

On Saturday 31 May, RCC attended Reading Borough Council's World Environment Day celebration "Forbury Fever". Our volunteers were kept busy all day answering a wide variety of queries by the public and as ever the family friendly event had a fun "buzz" to it.

Bike Week took place between 14 and 22 June, and RCC began the week with a stand in Broad Street which attracted a great deal of interest and brought in many new members. During the week RCC led commuter rides from Reading station to the Holiday Inn, Arlington, Green and Thames Valley business parks, where free breakfasts were laid on. The Thames Valley ride was joined by Evening Post transport reporter, Fiona Gray, who hired an OYBike at Reading station and rediscovered the joys of cycling for the first time in her adult life.

RCC also organised a very successful (and sunny) family ride on the last Sunday of Bike Week, which started and finished in Palmer Park, and followed a circular route around the Kennet and Thames. Over 40 participants took part, the youngest being only 6 years old.

September was another busy month as RCC was active at both the Caversham Festival and "In Town without my Car" day. Good weather encouraged an excellent turnout at the Caversham Festival on 13 September where families coming to the RCC stand often voiced their concerns about the perceived lack of safe areas where children can learn to cycle. Broad Street was once again the place to find our stand on "In Town without my Car" day on 16 September, together with other groups such as "OYBike" (street based bike rental) and "Dr Bike" (free bike checks).

We look forward to another busy events programme during 2009, which is only made possible by the hard work of our volunteers and committee members who turn out in all weathers to support cycling in Reading.

Anne White
April 2009

