

Spokesworker is an occasional ("roughly monthly") news sheet, with stop-press news of forthcoming events, and of road, traffic and planning matters. It is not automatically sent to all members. A copy is enclosed if we are writing to you anyway, and copies are handed out at working group meetings. You can make sure to get a copy by sending us 10 or so stamped addressed envelopes. Spokesworker also appears on our Internet web site - to be notified of such updates by email, contact spokesATspokes.org.uk.

QUALITY CORRIDOR

Edinburgh Council will be consulting in Nov and early Dec on its first **Quality Bike Corridor** under the Active Travel Plan, ATAP [Spokes 108]. The QBC was first announced last year [Spokes 105].

Spokes has not yet seen the plans, but we understand the QBC will run from Kings Buildings area to the centre (not sure where).

Once the consultation is available online we'll announce this on our website and via twitter. **The consultation will include...**

- ◆ Online material at edinburgh.gov.uk/consultations
- ◆ Newington Library exhibition, Nov 15-29
- ◆ Drop-in sessions 5-8pm Dec 1&2, St Catherine Argyle Ch Hall
- ◆ A door-to-door leaflet/questionnaire to premises in the corridor
- ◆ *Addresses for comment:* qualitybikecorridor@edinburgh.gov.uk or by post to: Freepost, NAT 18051, Edinburgh, EH1 1BR.

It is certain there will be compromises, given roads which are narrow in parts, and with property fronting them. The council will be under severe pressure to maintain onstreet car parking levels. The report to councillors on the consultation will no doubt include the number of people requesting better cycle facilities and the number wanting maximum onstreet car parking.

Being the first of Edinburgh's QBCs it's important to set a good standard: so please do submit comments if you ever use this area. **Your comments to the consultation are important!** We'd also appreciate a copy, especially if you have a new angle.

MORE THINGS TO DO

KNOW ANY NON-CYCLISTS IN TENEMENTS??

Following our very useful survey of cyclists living in flats or tenements [see Spokes 108] we're running a short **non-cyclists** survey (including would-be cyclists). We want to know if they experience problems from other people's stored bikes, or if easier bike storage might encourage them to get a bike. The survey is at www.spokes.org.uk/wordpress - Oct 9 news item [the results of our earlier cyclist survey are in another Oct 9 item].

SEE SPOKES 108 p3 FOR CONSULTATIONS ON...

- ◆ **Edinburgh Canal Strategy** - ends 3 Dec. **STOP PRESS:** Consultation Workshops all 6pm, Nov 3 Ratho Comm Centre (to be confirmed); Nov 17 Wester Hailes Library; Nov 22 Polwarth parish chrch; Nov 24 Tollcross Comm Centre. **Drop-in** on canal boat Nov 20, 10-12 at Ed Quay, 12.30-2 at Harrison Pk. Details kate.hopper@edinburgh.gov.uk.
- ◆ **Householder Permitted Development** - ends 14 Jan. Could this ease some tenement bike parking restrictions?
- ◆ **Scotland's Land Use Strategy** - ends 17 Dec

WWW.EDINBURGHSGARDENDISTRICT.CO.UK

A truly massive proposal - 3500 houses, 25000-person sports stadium and 60-acre gardens development ... in **greenbelt** at Hermiston Gait (near RBS, A8, M8). Claims green credentials, cycle routes, good tram and bus connections, etc. However, the effectiveness of these measures will depend equally on the extent of provision for cars at the housing and public facilities - if it's mainly detached houses with lots of parking, the 'green' provision will be just developer-talk. We have not yet looked at the plans.

See www.edinburghsgardendistrict.co.uk for more details. There are public consultation meetings (with varying themes) between October 26 - Nov 3 - for details, click on 'Charrette.' *Questions and comments:* info@edinburghsgardendistrict.co.uk 247 7523.

RAIL UTILISATION STRATEGY FOR SCOTLAND

Priorities/opportunities for rail in Scotland - consultation ends 13 Jan. See networkrail.co.uk - RUS - Scotland RUS Gen. Two.

FOR YOUR DIARY

See page 2 of Spokes 108. Also...

Nov 2 Rail Utilisation Strategy for Scotland [rail opportunities and priorities in Scotland] talk by Network Rail, public meeting of CRAG [Capital Rail Action Group] 7.30pm (refreshments 7.15). Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Terrace. More details: Patrick Hutton 558 8042 patrickhAT6brc.freemove.co.uk capitalrail.org.uk.

Nov 9 Paths for All Ian Findlay of *Paths for All*. Public meeting of CILT [Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport], City Chambers, High St, 6pm (5.30 refreshments). www.ciltscotland.com.

Nov 11 The 2011 Scottish Parliament elections: campaigning for environment FOE Edinburgh, Quaker Mtg House, 7 Victoria Ter, 7.30. Details: Colin Howden at www.foe-edinburgh.org.uk.

Nov 25 SPOKES PUBLIC MEETING - see Spokes 108.

Nov 26 Edinburgh and other Public Tramways public meeting of LRTA [Light Rail Transit Assn] Quaker Meeting House, 7 Victoria Ter, 7.30. George Murray 538 2375. lraa.org/meets.html.

Dec 9 Mark Beaumont charity lecture www.rcpe.ac.uk 225 7324.

2011 - Feb 1st Haymarket and Gogar stations by Transport Scotland (TS). CRAG mtg: details as Nov 2. Note the problems we've had over the new Gogar station cyclist do-minimum approach by Transport Scotland [Spokes 108, p7].

Mar 1st Airdrie-Bathgate Project talk by Network Rail Director, Ron MacAulay. CRAG mtg: as Nov 2. [See again Spokes 108 p7].

Apr 5 Election Transport Hustings CRAG mtg: as Nov 2.

NEW REPORTS

Our Cities Ourselves: 10 Principles for Transport in Urban Life Visionary urbanist Jan Gehl and Walter Hook, www.itdp.org Director, describe 10 principles by which cities worldwide can meet the challenges of rapid population growth and climate change. Principle 2: Create a great environment for bicycles. [see also Spokes 108, page 4, *Princes St Future* article]

Civilising the Streets Comparative study of 13 European towns by Jolin Warren of Transform Scotland, identifying how they achieved big cycle use - and lessons for Scotland.

Infrastructure, programs, and policies to increase bicycling: An international review John Pucher, Jennifer Dill & Susan Handy. Following Pucher's excellent paper based on 3 European countries [*Making Cycling Irresistible*] this is a worldwide review, referencing 139 studies, with basically the same lessons and conclusions, and now with far more evidence.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Interesting article in *'Local Transport Today* 3.9.10 ...

"The highway authority is investing millions to increase cycling trips, taking away road space from vehicles on busy A roads

The Gilbert Road scheme involves removing parking from the road, introducing double yellow lines to prevent parking in existing cycle lanes, which would also be widened from 1.3m to 1.7m. Officers said that with 4 schools on the route, and a 1500-home new development, there was potential to markedly increase cycling trips, if safe facilities were provided. Commuters parking cars in the cycle lanes were increasing the risk of accidents.

Phil Crack, head of major transport infrastructure delivery, said 'Cabinet members here often make brave decisions.' He also pointed to their go-ahead for a scheme 'to take out a lane from vehicles on one of the busiest roads into Cambridge' - the £0.5m Hills Road Bridge scheme, with physically segregated 2m wide cycle lanes on both sides of the road."

SPOKES PATH ART COMPETITION 2010 – REPORT

Spokes, the Lothian Cycle Campaign www.spokes.org.uk/wordpress 0131 313 2114 [twitter-SpokesLothian](https://twitter.com/SpokesLothian)

Our competition this year asked for bright ideas for new art-works for off-road paths in Edinburgh or the Lothians.

THANK-YOU'S

Thanks to **everyone who entered** what turned out to be a very interesting competition - new territory for Spokes but an enjoyable process with some useful ideas to make cycle paths even better places to visit! The list of winners is below - congratulations to all.

Thanks also to Edinburgh architect and Spokes member **Benjamin Tindall** [www.benjaminhindallarchitects.co.uk] for being our expert on the judging panel. As always, entries were judged anonymously, and with anyone connected to an entry or entrant not participating in that item.

Finally, thanks to our **prize donors** – also listed below.

OVERVIEW OF ENTRY THEMES

There was a great range of suggestions, reflecting the diversity of perspectives on local cycle paths as environments for people.

The top 2 entries appealed very strongly to the judges because to experience them fully you have to be actually cycling on or through them – they are not just things to cycle to, or to stop and look at beside the path. Rather, they provide dynamic, mobile experiences with sound and sensation from actually cycling along the path, as well as embodying a great sense of fun.

Several themes emerged from the entries ...

- **Fun!** acoustic effects, things to discover (a treasure hunt, fruit, semi-hidden sculptures), joy of motion.
- **Raising awareness** of paths and destinations, and so stimulating greater usage.
- **Encouraging children and family cycling**
- **Attractive functional additions:** interesting signs and entry points, racks, seats etc.
- **Community involvement** in design and possibly management.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

It would be fantastic if some of the inspirations generated by the competition could be developed further with a view to some actual art installations along paths.

We are passing the results to various relevant organisations, and will contact entrants if any opportunities present themselves. We also suggest that anyone interested in the topic does some follow-up themselves, with their own ideas. Below are a couple of relevant organisations – please let us know of any others.

Sustrans Art and the Travelling Landscape project – www.sustrans.org.uk/what-we-do/art-and-the-travelling-landscape

Make a Splash! - small grants for voluntary groups in Scotland, to encourage community participation in arts/crafts. Only relevant to ideas using community participation – not individual standalone artworks.

www.peoplemakingwaves.org.uk/makeasplash/apply

THE TOP ENTRIES

[to see all entries, and in full, go to Spokes website ... www.spokes.org.uk/wordpress – downloads – odds & ends - competitions]

The top 12 entries [with 10 prizewinners] were...

1 Oliver Brookes	Undulating landscaped bike paths - Bike 'Whoo-ops!'
2 Jon Jewitt	Sound-generating bike paths
3 Dave du Feu [no prize as in Spokes Resources Group]	Be Fruitful: path-side plantings of fruit bushes
4 Katharine Taylor	Train design for the side of a bike-path railway bridge
5 Tim Smith	Railway / canal paths and the Navy
6 Tim Smith [no prize, as second entry]	A Fork in the path (at a fork in the path)
7 Angus Ivory	Bike-shaped objects for children to climb on
8 Corinne Anderson	Decorative bike racks
9 Peter Hawkins	Livingstonehenge
10 Katharine Wake	3D map of the area surrounding the cycle path
11 Malcolm Jack	Cycling-related sculpture-signs
12 Lynn Molleson	Geo-caching trail

PRIZES - Top prizewinner has first choice of prize, and so on till all are claimed

Scottish Seabird Centre	www.seabird.org	Family ticket
Jupiter Artland	www.jupiterartland.org	Family ticket
 Edinburgh Bicycle Cooperative	www.edinburghbicycle.com	Revolution toolkit & minipump [£65 value]
Lauriston Castle	www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/Venues	Family ticket
Camera Obscura/ World of Illusions	camera-obscura.co.uk	Family ticket [2 prizes]
Gallery of Modern Art, Dean Centre	www.nationalgalleries.org	Family ticket for <i>Another World</i>
Sustrans	www.sustrans.org.uk	Complete set of all Sustrans Scotland maps
Out of the Blue	www.outoftheblue.org.uk	Lunch for 2 at OOTB arts cafe
Engine Shed cafe	www.theengineshed.org	Cheese toastie & hot drink for 2