

Spokes competition 2015, Entry 9

A Future Commute from Kings Buildings to Marchmont.

2. Who is it suitable for?

Families with young children / Experienced cyclists / Novice cyclists / Other – **EVERYONE**

3. Where is the route located?... Ed south

4. Brief description of route

a. Start point... Kings Buildings Campus

b. End point (or circular)... Marchmont

c. Brief description... How cycle commuting should feel!

5. Any interesting / useful / beautiful features / facilities en route ...

All the improvements suggested on the route are attainable – let's keep campaigning!

6. Why is this a favourite route of yours? [This question is very important in the judging. You can just write one or two sentences or up to **300 words maximum**].

Everyone should enjoy their ride home from work - I do!

My cycle-friendly employer provides plenty of secure and covered cycle parking under my office building, so getting to my bike is no problem. On campus non-motorised transport has priority. At the exit, traffic lights take me to the segregated cycle lane on West Mains Road.

After the whizz down to Blackford Station I can usually sail on to the Dutch-style roundabout which gives priority to cyclists all around its perimeter. This is so much better than the experimental cycle phase on the traffic lights abandoned a few years back.

The rest of Blackford Avenue is very quiet now that it is not a through-route in to town. Soon I am turning up Kilgraston Road. Some days I have to give way to a bus coming down the hill, but usually I only have to worry about dodging the pedestrians. They tend to spill all over the road now that most motor vehicles have been banished. It's even more crowded in the mornings with students and school pupils going in opposite directions.

Marchmont Road is easier to navigate than it used to be too. The big lorries that used to deliver to the shops are banned, so they have been replaced by much smaller electric vehicles - Utrecht style.

When I turn in to my street in Marchmont, I have to be extra careful. Since it became a home-zone, I am a guest on the street, so I need to give way to young children playing football and hurtling around on their scooters.

The secure, covered on-street parking for my bike is only a short walk from my door.