

# Full speed ahead for Car-Free Day

Can we make it from zero to three Hackney motor-free locations in a year?

**Saturday 22 September** is the day when towns and cities all over Europe get the chance for a breather from constant motor traffic – and it looks as if Hackney might at last be joining in this annual event.

We have put forward three locations: Mare Street (Hackney Town Hall Square), Curtain Road in Shoreditch, and Kingsland High Street in Dalston. The first of these would be promoted by the Council, whose regeneration plans for the Square already

provide for temporary temporary traffic diversions for events like these. For the other two locations, the lead would be taken by Transport for London (TfL), which manages the major road network – reducing pressure on our cash-strapped Council.

TfL officers are busy considering the Shoreditch and Dalston applications, and have indicated their support in principle. Meanwhile we are taking deputations to two Council committee meetings in the next couple of weeks, introduced by Councillor and LCC member Jessica Crowe, to promote the idea and seek the support of the local authority

The Greater London Authority fully supports Car Free Day, and is currently planning for a motor-free Trafalgar Square. Imagine a motor-free Saturday in Mare Street, Shoreditch and Dalston as well. Lovely!



Photo courtesy of Davinder Singh / www.sikhkids.com

Several Hackney cyclists recently had a lot of fun accompanying hundreds of Sikhs from Gudwaras all over East London on their first-ever mass charity ride

## 1950s parking rejected

Thought you'd seen the last of 1950s-style front-wheel-only cycle parking? So did we until Councillor Chit Chong tipped us off that this very low-security form of facility was to be installed at the new West Reservoir sailing centre in Stoke Newington.

Luckily, swift lobbying of the appropriate officer in the Leisure and Learning department got results: the wheel benders would be replaced by proper stands.

The fly in the ointment is that the new equipment comes from a stock of 100 or more Groundwork-designed stands which had been commissioned for use in our streets, but which Hackney had run out of money, manpower or enthusiasm to install. So we can park conveniently and securely at the sailing centre now...but what about outside the shops?

### NEWS IN BRIEF [www.hackney-cyclists.org.uk](http://www.hackney-cyclists.org.uk) NEWS IN BRIEF

«Our training project Cycle Active received high praise from Yasin Ozturk, director of the Turkish/Kurdish community organisation Euphrates Learning River, for the work it has done training older people in the community. Congratulations to Claire, Patrick and the other trainers.  
[www.cycleactive.org](http://www.cycleactive.org)

«Things are moving fast in Shoreditch, with TfL's new proposals to reform the one-way system on display from 24 to 28 June at

Shoreditch Town Hall. We already know that these proposals conflict with the plans approved for years by ourselves and Hackney Council. While TfL's plans would provide some improvements for pedestrians, the primary aim still seems to be to maximise throughput of motor traffic.

«Thanks to everyone who worked on our stall at London Fields Festival the other week, which featured a display on our junctions campaign and the maintenance workshop. Many maps

were sold, several lapsed members were persuaded to rejoin and everyone had a lot of fun. Thanks also to London Fields Cycles for doing the Doctor Bike.

«We need your knowledge! We're collecting suggestions of good 'non-official' routes for cycling in the Borough, to contribute to a new series of LCC cycling maps. Please mark your routes on a photocopied map and send them by 20 June to Tim Evans at 155 Chatsworth Road, E5.



Hackney LCC meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 8pm at the Pub on the Park, London Fields E8. Social from 7pm. Next meeting Weds 4 July. All members welcome.

### CONTACTS

**Membership contacts**  
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**Treasurer**  
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**Fix your bike! Our maintenance workshop happens every Thursday from 6.30pm at Hackney City Farm, Goldsmith's Row, London E2. Expert volunteer help offered, plus cost-price spares.**