



CHESTER CYCLING CAMPAIGN

Working to Create a Cycle Friendly City.....

CYCLING MATTERS!

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF CHESTER CYCLING CAMPAIGN



SPRING 2026

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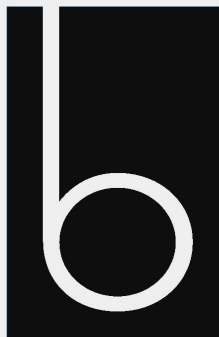
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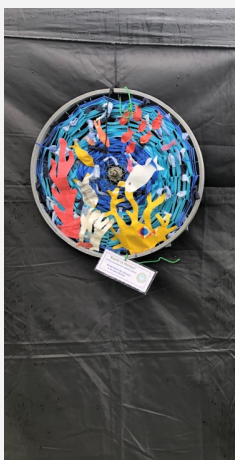
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Chester Cycling Campaign at Local Green Events

On 28th March Chester Cycling Campaign took part in the Hoole Green Festival at Hoole Community Centre. The well-attended event had plenty of interest for all the family. Cycle Campaign members were able to discuss cycling in Chester, point cyclists to our online route maps of leisure rides and encourage non-cyclists to dig out their bikes (or buy one from Bren Bikes) and use the Cycling Campaign member offers (see overleaf) to get (re)started at cycling.



From 6–14 June 2026, people across the UK will come together for Great Big Green Week – the UK’s biggest celebration of action for climate and nature. In Chester on **Sunday 7th June** Town Hall Square will host eco stalls including Chester Cycling Campaign. Last year our cycle-based smoothie maker was very popular. We are also running the schools ‘Decorate a bike wheel’ competition again. We’re hoping for an even better display of wheels this year!



Chester Movement Strategy



Cheshire West and Chester Council is currently developing a "Chester Movement Strategy" (CMS). The Campaign has been invited to put forward suggestions and be involved in future planning activities. We are asking all cyclists in Chester to tell us what you want and we will take your comments to the council.

Let us know:

- What would you change?
- Is crossing the ring road a problem?
- What junctions or crossings are an issue?
- Anything else you want to see, that would help cyclists in Chester?

Chester Movement Strategy will be a plan for all types of transport in Chester and will include a focused action plan prioritising early delivery within the first five years. The Council says it will be a long-term vision for how people move into, around and across the city including practical proposals to improve transport networks, support active travel, strengthen public transport and enhance access across Chester. All comments welcome. We look forward to hearing from you; you can contact us via chestercyclecity.org or on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/chestercyclecity).



Lord Mayor of Chester learns to ride a bike

As you may have seen in the local press, The Lord Mayor of Chester, Councillor Sherin Akhtar, is facing her fears during her mayoral year and learning how to ride a bike. She has a lifelong nervousness of cycling after she had a bad fall when learning to ride as a child. But the Chester mum-of-two is determined to conquer her fears and help raise funds for her chosen charities, Chester Women's Aid and the Heath Youth Club, at the same time.



Councillor Akhtar is being helped by Live! Cheshire, which supports people with disabilities with learning and social activities, including cycling, and Bren Bikes, which provides bike repair and maintenance and sells refurbished bikes, offering a cheap and sustainable way to get started.

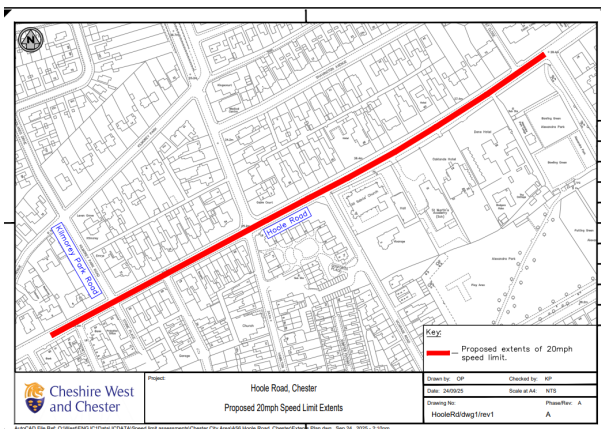


Chester Cycling Campaign has a Cycle Buddy scheme (it's free to any adults in Chester) to help anyone to build up confidence on a bike and learn about handy routes. For full information see the article on p. 10 or [see our website for details](#).

New 20mph Speed Limits in Chester

Four new 20mph speed limits came into effect on 20th March:

- Huntington, around the primary school
- Dee Banks, around the school (and into the dip)
- Hoole Road, around the school
- Liverpool Road, around the school



Map showing extent of 20mph along Hoole Road



Hoole Road showing new 20mph signs

The Campaign continues to press the council for further 20mph limits including across Hoole Bridge which is currently being looked at by the council, thanks to the efforts of local councillors and campaign members. This is currently a dangerous and unpleasant crossing for both cyclists and pedestrians. A reduced speed limit would lessen the likelihood of serious injury in the case of an accident.

Integrated Funding for Active Travel

Some good news regarding changes the current Government has introduced. There will be no more ad hoc competitive funding for Active Travel. In December 2025, the Government announced multi-year, integrated funding for Active Travel over the next 4 years. Cheshire West & Chester has £5.8M, for capital and revenue. This is a relatively small amount but it does enable planning.

The draft Local Transport Delivery Plan (LTDP) Consolidated Transport Programme for 2026/27 to 2029/30 includes:

- 🚲 Active Travel: Enhancing borough-wide walking, wheeling and cycling networks, including LCWIP routes, cycle hangars, monitoring, and accessibility improvements.
- 🚲 Safety & Traffic Management: Safer routes, 20mph areas, signalised crossings, School Streets and targeted road safety measures to reduce collisions and encourage active travel.
- 🚲 Active Travel Corridors & Placemaking: Delivery of larger active travel projects, which could include Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan priority routes and Shropshire Union Canal enhancements.

This is all great news for cycling in Chester.

Bike Shop Discounts!

Being a Campaign member is great value: at only £10 per year for individual annual membership (or £5 for students/unwaged, or £15 for a family).

Your membership fees can easily be recouped by buying from your local bike shop - wins all round!

Here are the local bike shops offering discounts:

- [Bike Factory](#) on Boughton – offering a 10% discount on bikes, parts and accessories (excluding labour, special offers and sale items)
- [Chester Cycle Hub](#) – offering 10% off the labour element of their “Ready To Ride Service”
- [Leisure Lakes Bikes](#) Frodsham – offering 10% discount on parts, accessories, and clothing.

There are even more member benefits:

- Cycle Training Lessons Discount
- Free Cycle Health Check at Bren Bikes
- Free Cycle Safety Check
- Free Loan of Our Cycle Workstand and Set of Cycle Tools

See full details on our [website](#).



Cycling Campaign Social Evenings

Our fun and well-attended social evenings have been running since August 2025. Everyone is welcome. Please feel free to join us!

Bi-monthly socials so far have covered a ride to get to know 'snickets' or the lesser known routes around Chester, a talk on cycle holiday planning and on dealing with roadside emergencies.



Social rides are short and last about an hour, followed by socialising afterwards in a pub or other venue. Indoor events last about two hours.

Upcoming events include Travelling with a Bike and Bike Friendly Routes into Chester. Please check our [website](#) or [Facebook](#) for dates and details.

Get a Cycle Buddy!

Spring is here, a good time to get on your bike! Are you one of the many people who say they would like to cycle in and around Chester but are unsure about riding on your own, riding in traffic, which route to take, where to park your bike, etc. etc? Or maybe you'd like to get back on a bike after some time and need a bit of a confidence boost?

If so, Chester Cycle Buddies can help.

We match up an experienced volunteer cyclist with people who would like some support, and tailor the support to their needs.

It's free, and you don't have to be a member of Chester Cycling Campaign to use Cycle Buddies!

Joyce (pictured right) recently used Cycle Buddies to find out how to get into Chester city centre from her home in the outskirts, and where to park her bike once in the city centre. People are often surprised to learn how easy it can be to get around Chester by cycle. Although we are continually campaigning for further improvements there are a good number of pleasant, traffic free or low traffic routes if you know where to go. You can get to work, accompany children cycling to school, go shopping, go for a coffee with a friend— and all while getting some exercise too!



Joyce (left) and Cathey (right), her cycle buddy from the Campaign.

Check out the [Chester Cycle Buddies Scheme](#) page on our website.

Join the Campaign electronically, via our [website](#).
Or, if you prefer, use the form below.

Join the Chester Cycling Campaign!

Name	
Address	
Post Code	
Phone	
Email	

If you are happy to receive your Campaign bulletins by e-mail and to be notified of Campaign activities by email, please tick here:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Individual Membership | £10.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Unwaged\Student | £5.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Family Membership | £15.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Corporate Membership | £25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Life Membership | £100.00 |

Membership is valid until end of September during year of joining. Join after April 1st and it will be valid until the end of September in the following year!

How did you hear about the Chester Cycling Campaign?

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chester Cycling Campaign website | <input type="checkbox"/> | Local Event |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Friend | <input type="checkbox"/> | Local Press |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cycling Matters Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social Network |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Other – state: | | |

I enclose an additional donation of £ _____

I agree to this information being placed on an electronic database for Campaign purposes only.

Signed _____ Date _____

Please send completed form & cheque (payable to Chester Cycling Campaign) to:

Chester Cycling Campaign Membership Secretary
1 King's Crescent West
Chester
CH3 5TQ