

Catch up with the bicycle



The Mayor, Boris Johnson, recently launched his summer of cycling campaign in Trafalgar Square, aimed at boosting the number of cyclists in the Capital.

This latest 'Catch up with the bicycle' campaign is one of several measures helping TfL to increase cycling by 400 per cent by 2050. Over the next few months there are a number of events encouraging people to take to two wheels.

Dates for the diary

• **Sunday 9 August:** Join a Freewheel-style event in Hounslow for a fun, traffic-free cycle around the borough's green spaces

- **Saturday 19 September:** Tour of Britain final – enjoy the UK's foremost professional cycling race and biggest live sporting event, played out on the streets of London
- **Sunday 20 September:** A bigger London Freewheel this year will see cyclists on traffic-free roads, taking in the Capital's iconic sights

Visit tfl.gov.uk/cycling

The cycling section of the TfL website has been updated to coincide with the launch of the 'Catch up with the bicycle' campaign. The site focuses on the specific needs of different types of cyclist and includes information on the new Cycle Hire Scheme, a prominent part of the

Kingsbury to go step-free

To enable step-free access and refurbishment at Kingsbury on the Jubilee line, the station will close during the following weekends:

- 18-19 July
- 25-26 July
- 12-13 September
- 26-27 September
- 10-11 October
- 17-18 October
- 31 October to 1 November

The ticket hall will remain open during these times.

Mayor's cycling revolution.

There is also a section on Greenways: safe, pleasant routes through parks and quiet residential streets which are ideal for boosting new cyclists' confidence.

New innovations include a facility to record your route with commentary and a photo gallery for capturing the cycle experience in London. All this amounts to a one-stop-shop for everyone who wants to know more about cycling. For further details, go to tfl.gov.uk/cycling

TfL would appreciate any support your organisation can offer in promoting these events. If you can help with promotion in your newsletter or distributing postcards, please email gsr@tfl.gov.uk

For more information

Further details are available from: Group Government & Stakeholder Relations, Transport for London, Windsor House, 42-50 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0TL. Telephone: 020 7126 4126, email: gsr@tfl.gov.uk

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Transport for London news

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Visit TfL's website at tfl.gov.uk



Crossrail construction begins

London's first new major railway in a generation – and Europe's largest engineering project – reached a landmark as construction began on the vital scheme.

Prime Minister Gordon Brown and Mayor of London Boris Johnson joined business leaders to mark the occasion, as the first of 300 steel piles was driven into the dock, laying the foundations for the new Crossrail Canary Wharf station.

Being built in North Dock, between Canary Wharf and North Quay, the station will be one of the largest on the Crossrail network.

The Prime Minister said: 'Many people said it would never be built, but we are celebrating a defining moment for London as Crossrail's construction gets under way. Crossrail will bring a massive economic boost to the city, creating thousands of jobs and adding at least £20bn to our economy.'

Crossrail will run for 118km from Maidenhead and Heathrow in the west through central London and on to Canary Wharf and Shenfield in the east.

The project will employ around 14,000 people at its peak, with another 7,000 jobs being created indirectly through project support services such as manufacturing equipment. The majority of

these jobs will be undertaken by Londoners, particularly those living in boroughs along the Crossrail route.

The Mayor, who pressed the button on the machine which started the construction, said: 'When the first of Crossrail's chariots glide smoothly along its lines in 2017, it will change the face of transport in London and the South East forever.'

With construction starting at Canary Wharf and preliminary works beginning at Tottenham Court Road, Farringdon and Paddington, four of the major new stations will be underway this year. For the latest project information, visit www.crossrail.co.uk

Inside • Join the cycle revolution • Crime falls on the Tube • New technology cuts speeding



Crime falls on Tube and DLR

Transport for London (TfL) welcomed a significant drop in robberies on the Tube and Docklands Light Railway (DLR) for the third year running.

The latest statistics released by the British Transport Police show that crime has continued to fall on these networks, with robberies cut by 29 per cent in 2008/09.

Since 2005/06, the Tube and DLR have seen robberies reduced by 73 per cent, despite carrying more passengers than ever before. Pickpocketing and vandalism also fell last year, as did violent crimes and public order offences, which means there are now just 13 crimes for every million passenger journeys. London Overground has also seen a 23.9 per cent reduction in crime, with a 71 per cent cut in criminal damage and 46 per cent drop in robberies.



New technology helps to reduce traffic accidents



TfL has recently launched a six-month trial of the Intelligent Speed Adaptation (ISA) technology which aims to reduce road casualties and help drivers avoid speeding penalties.

The technology allows drivers to select an option that automatically stops acceleration at the speed limit specific to any road within the M25. It is estimated that, if two thirds of London drivers used ISA, road casualties could be reduced by 10 per cent.

Brixton enjoys a makeover



Work has begun on the final phase of the transformation of Brixton town centre. Following a public consultation in 2005, a new central square will be used for a mix of cultural activities and local events.

At the same time, highway works will take place to improve the area for pedestrians, bus-

users and cyclists. The gyratory system around St Matthews Church will be removed and Brixton Hill widened for two-way traffic to cut congestion. The makeover should be complete by late 2010.

To keep up-to-date with the works, please visit tfl.gov.uk/brixtonsquare

New Piccadilly line timetable

The Piccadilly line is used by more than 650,000 travellers every day and, in recent years, rising passenger numbers have meant that trains stop at stations for longer, incurring more delays.

Timetable changes have been made to reflect this and services have been increased at peak times. As a result, time spent waiting for trains by passengers has decreased by 25 per cent.

Artists greet the streets of Southwark

The streets surrounding Southwark Tube station feel more like an art gallery now a striking 37-metre artwork has been unveiled.

Commissioned by Art on the Underground, this large-scale work entitled Art for Everyone, by Peter McDonald toys with the idea of transforming public space into a place for art.

Art on the Underground began in 2000 under the name Platform for Art and continues the tradition of London Underground's (LU's) rich cultural heritage by delivering contemporary art programmes and projects. These directly involve specific communities or individuals and enrich the journeys of millions who use the Tube.

Since January, McDonald has been the artist-in-residence at Southwark station and has created a series of paintings inspired by his discussions with staff and



the station's role in providing connections to theatres and art galleries in the area.

His paintings have also been turned into badges, making artwork available to the community on a more personal scale.

Working alongside McDonald, artist Jessie Brennan has

developed Impossible Buildings: Interpreting Place, a project with LU staff and students from The Charter School in Dulwich.

Together, they explored the station's architecture and local environment, and this has resulted in a special leaflet which is available from the station.

London's new bus moves closer

TfL has announced that six manufacturers have qualified to bid for the contract to design and build a new bus for London.

David Brown, TfL's Managing Director of Surface Transport, said: 'We had an overwhelming response to the New Bus for London design competition; and now we hand the baton to the

bus manufacturers to turn those fantastic ideas into a brand new bus for the Capital's fleet. We're well on track to see the first of these on the road in 2011.'

Key features the manufacturers are being asked to include are an open platform at the rear and green technology producing substantially fewer emissions of carbon dioxide, in addition to meeting stringent accessibility requirements.



Excellence award for London Transport Museum

London Transport Museum has scooped the marketing prize in the 2009 Museums and Heritage Excellence Awards for

the marketing campaign of its retrospective exhibition, The Art of the Poster. The judges said that the winning project 'successfully

moved the traditional image of the Museum into new and exciting territory, making audiences look at public spaces in a new way.'