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Hello and welcome to the latest newsletter.

£200! That's the amount that Alistair Darling's surprise **budget** increase in fuel duty could add to yearly family fuel costs. The increase, from September, will no doubt cause many commuters to consider if alternative travel could be cheaper. TfW employers can help their employees by promoting the alternatives - For those who have no choice but to drive this newsletter lets you know of our plans to help you promote www.camshare.co.uk during 2009-10.

This month we also tell you about our exciting **Breakfast Safari** on 10th June - get it in your diary now and book early as the FREE places are limited.

Last month we had a close up look at the **Guided Bus** and were very impressed. With the promised journey times, the comfort and Wi-Fi! this is a quality service. The new buses are currently on my route (15). And so when I'm not cycling I can now do my 9 mile commute in wonderful comfort. I may now get a Blackberry to catch up on a few emails on the way to work, while enjoying the changing Cambridgeshire countryside. If you've had a trip too, do let us know what your thoughts were.

We're very excited about our new employer benefit. We are negotiating season ticket discounts with **National Express**. I look forward to telling you more about this shortly.

Finally the **TRAVEL PLAN PLUS project**, that is setting up a major travel plan network in the wider Science Park area of Cambridge (see previous newsletters), moves on apace. I am currently finalising agreement of job descriptions for a travel plan co-ordinator and admin assistant. I have also been considering options for office locations in the travel plan network work area.

Mark Webb

TfW Development Manager 01223 715696

TfW Breakfast Meeting 10 June 2009 – Travel Plan Safari



Our next FREE breakfast meeting will be on Wednesday 10th June 2009 at the East of England Development Agency's (EEDA) offices in Histon, Cambridgeshire and is entitled "**Travel Planning in a Recession**". We are very grateful to TfW employer, EEDA, for sponsoring this breakfast.

This will be a useful and practical event. We will begin with a couple of introductory presentations. Then we'll set off on a **travel plan 'safari'**. You will visit various 'stations' to hear about and ask questions on approaches to linking travel plan measures to recession-busting messages. For example we intend to have stations discussing car sharing, car clubs, bus & train transport, cycling and flexible working.

At each station will be an expert who will lead the 15 minute sessions. Finally we will end with a 'mop up' session where delegates can share what they have learnt and what they will take away from the event. The agenda is available from our web site at http://www.tfw.org.uk/documents/TfWBreakfastMeetingAgendaJune2009_000.doc

If you would like to attend please **contact Gary Armstrong on 01223 715695 or email ga@tfw.org.uk** – places are limited so please respond soon to reserve your place.

National Lift Share Day – Tuesday 9 June

If you are thinking about promoting car sharing this is the day to do it! Contact TfW to discuss how to do this or take a look at www.nationalliftshareday.org for more information on National Liftshare Day.

CamShare Prize Draw May 2009



TfW is running prizes for CamShare employers' staff who are car sharing or cycle journey sharing or attempting to do so **during May 2009**. To enter the prize draw just click on www.camshare.co.uk register and search to find a 'match' and make contact with your 'match'. Or if you are already registered, up-date your profile anytime and contact a 'match' during May.

If you are a CamShare Manager of your workplace private group, please download this editable poster (http://www.tfw.org.uk/documents/CamShareA3posterEditable_001.pdf) and up-date with your contact details and distribute. Newly designed editable posters will be available for June BikeBUDI, September and January CamShare prize draws.

Discounts on Train Season Tickets



We are in the final stages of negotiating a 10% discount for all employees belonging to **full** Travel for Work employers who purchase monthly, or longer, season ticket for train travel from any National Express East Anglia station through to Cambridge.

There are exciting additional benefits for season ticket purchasers eg. discounted travel on other train journeys within the "Network Card" area and discounted railcard for partners and children.

This discount will provide a real incentive to help commuters consider train travel and will be very useful for TfW employers to include in their travel plans.

Watch out for a special newsletter with full details on this offer in the near future.

Travel Surgeries - a great idea from Cambridgeshire County Council Travel Adviser



"The Travel Doctor is in the house ...

Leave the car in the driveway and be liberated onto public transport and healthier methods of travel – your feet and your bike."

This was the message from Sarah Bedford, Business Travel Adviser at the County Council. Sarah had organised travel surgeries to help colleagues at five of the County work sites consider the different travel options to and for work.

Sarah was really pleased to see her surgeries full. She offered information on the various healthy travel options, sustainable travel incentives, personalised travel planning, information on car sharing and travel freebies (slap wraps, tyre pressure gauges, etc.)

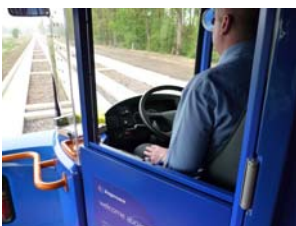
If you would like to organise a Travel Surgery at your workplace Sarah would be happy to let you know how she organised hers. Contact Sarah on 01223 715691

Take-a-Stand Scheme - We're giving away £££s for cycle parking



Reminder, if you could benefit from a share of the pot of money to provide or improve cycle parking on your site see <http://www.tfw.org.uk/services.php#ServicesTakeAStand> for an application form and scheme guidelines as well as installation guidelines and suppliers for the "Take A Stand" scheme. You have until 30 June 2009 to get your bids in. For more details and advice please call Lindsey on 01223 715694/715550.

TfW takes a ride on The Guided Bus



The TfW team glided along the guideway when they tested out part of the new Guided Busway between Cambridge Regional College and Histon, earlier in the month.

We all felt the ride scored top marks - taking 4 mins between CRC and Histon. The bus has the comfort of a quality coach - with high backed leather seats, Wi-Fi for laptops and air conditioning. It was easy to see how the guideway will provide a valuable new option for commuters on the congested Cambridge to Huntingdon corridor. And it has the added benefit of an off-road cycle highway alongside.

"We are looking forward to assisting businesses to promote the busway and cycleway as part of their travel plans" said Mark Webb at TfW.

TfW is told that tickets will be similarly priced to local bus fares and available at ticket machines at stops or by pre-paid smartcard. You may use your Dayrider, Megarider and multi-operator tickets. For more information visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/guided.

Bike Week 13 – 21 June – tell us about your cycling commute



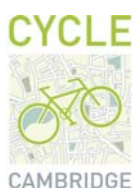
If you are a cycling commuter tell us your story, preferred routes and round trip distance travelled. There are 3 story winning categories - longest commute, novice cyclist commuter story and experienced cyclist. Include your route, gear and experience to help inspire others to follow your example during bike week 13-21 June 'Get more out of life: live local, get cycling'.

The winner of each category will be rewarded with a one day cycle ride at Thetford Forest Park including mountain bike hire for use on four cycle trails for beginners to very difficult. The runners-up prize is a bicycle 'D' lock. To view further competition details click here <http://www.tfw.org.uk/news.php#cstories>



Deadline for your submissions is Friday 29 May, so we can roll out your stories early June to inspire similar journeys in Bike Week.

For other ideas on what events to organise go to <http://www.tfw.org.uk/tp-cycling.php> and scroll down to 'Bike Week'. Then register your event with www.bikeweek.org.uk and tell TfW what you're doing too!



A new Cambridge Cycle Route map has been produced by **Cycle Cambridge** and is available from either Cambridge City Council (Tel: 01223 457177) or Cambridgeshire County Council (Tel: 01223 699916). For more information on Cycle Cambridge take a look at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cycling

Other News – Cambridgeshire

Cambridgeshire Transport Commission



The Commission has produced a summary of the evidence submitted by interested parties at the six public hearings held in March 2009 including organisations both for and against the controversial congestion charge.

Click on the link below to find out what these organisations had to say. There has been a further four meetings in April and the evidence from these sessions should be available shortly. In addition further public hearings will be held in June. See <http://www.cambstransportcommission.co.uk/Default.aspx>

Cycling Accident Black Spots in Cambridge

Data released by Government agency Directgov's Innovation Blog has led to the creation of a map of all the reported accidents involving bicycles in the UK for the years 2005, 2006, and 2007. See: http://labs.timesonline.co.uk/2009/cycling_accidents/ and an article that appeared in the London Evening Standard: <http://tinyurl.com/c3uplv>

The police define an accident as *Involving personal injury occurring on the public highway (including footways) in which at least one road vehicle or a vehicle in collision with a pedestrian is involved and which becomes known to the police within 30 days of its occurrence. The vehicle need not be moving, and accidents involving stationary vehicles and pedestrians or users are included. One accident may give rise to several casualties. "Damage-only" accidents are not included.*

Possibly the most immediately useful aspect of the data on the map is that it enables easy identification of the accident black spots – there may well be plenty of anecdotal evidence that they exist but a map gives clear at-a-glance evidence to members of the public.

Calling all Unicyclists!



Are there any unicyclists at work? If so do let them know about a *unicycling Marathon* on Sunday 14th June 2009 in Foxton, Cambridgeshire to raise funds for the Stroke Association and Addenbrooke's Neurological Critical Care Unit.

Ordinary cyclists and runners are welcome too! Sign up at Foxton village shop or call 01223 872161 or 01223 870799 or look at <http://www.foxtoncambs.info/youth.htm>

National

Bicycle Aid for Africa

Re~Cycle's mission is to collect secondhand bicycles and ship them to Africa. Their partners distribute bikes and teach riders the skills to repair and maintain them. The bikes also help health/AIDS workers reach remote villages and even provide an ambulance service in remote Namibia. So if your employees have any old bikes they no longer need and wish to donate them to a good cause please let them know about Re~Cycle at: www.re-cycle.org

New Website aimed at Women Cyclists



Bike Belles is a new website to encourage and inspire more women to get out and about on two wheels. Brought to you by Sustrans, the UK's leading sustainable transport charity, the website features news, events and a host of useful hints and tips for new, existing and returning women cyclists. Visit www.bikebelles.org.uk

Curitiba's Rapid Bus Transit System

Curitiba, in Brazil, has a population of 1.75 million and 75% of the working population travel to work by bus! If you want to find out why their public transit system is so good - and all that without having an underground system! - have a look at this interesting video: <http://www.treehugger.com/files/2009/03/curitiba-brazil-bus-rapid-transit-video.php>

This video illustrates how Curitiba's public transportation system operates, including an interview with the former Mayor and architect Jaime Lerner. Curitiba is currently constructing a new line which will have a linear park and 18km of bike lane that parallels the bus transit route.

We see some linkages to how the guided bus system will work - CCG has fortunately factored in cycling - which as you will see, Curitiba did not initially.

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