



Cambridge Cycling Campaign

P.O. Box 204, Cambridge CB4 3FN
phone: 01223 690718 fax: 07092 376664
contact @ camcycle.org.uk
www.camcycle.org.uk

P R E S S R E L E A S E

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for immediate use

Cambridge Cycling Campaign hits milestone 1,000 members

Cambridge Cycling Campaign today announced that it has recruited its 1,000th member.

Co-ordinator Martin Lucas-Smith said: "while the difference from 999 won't change our day-to-day activities, 1,000 is something of a magic number. Our size gives more credibility and authority in our negotiations with local government, companies and so on. We believe that there may well be more members of

Cambridge Cycling Campaign than local political parties. It says a lot about people's concern about their means of transport that so many join an interest group when other transport users are not organised collectively like this. Our expert knowledge on many cycling and transport issues has lead to increased levels of membership, as well as respect from a wide variety of decision-makers and provision of information and other services to cyclists."

1,000th member is Cormac O'Connell. He said: "I've been in and around the Cambridge area for the past 12 years or so, but recently moved into town itself which gave me the perfect opportunity of changing 4 wheels for 2. I wanted to join Cambridge Cycling Campaign to help show my support to the highly pro-active members of the



1,000th member, Cormac O'Connell

cycling community that do so much in Cambridge to make it better for the rest of us.”

He continued: “Cambridge is a fantastic place for riding a bike, but there are still areas of improvement. We are lucky to have a lobbying group to bring this to the attention of the Council, as individual voices are often not heard. I ride into work pretty much every day (I'm not just a fair weather commuter) from across Parker's Piece to the West Cambridge site and get to take advantage of some of the better cycle paths in town.”

Starting with 50 members who joined at a public meeting in 1995, the Campaign has grown steadily, even though Cambridge is perhaps a city with a more fluid population than most. In recent years, the internet has become the most fruitful way for new members to join. With more than 25% of journeys to work made by bike in Cambridge, there is still scope for further growth.

Nor is the need for the Cycling Campaign diminished. With the scale of new development proposed in and around Cambridge, traffic pressures and competition for scarce road space are going to get worse. Newcomers are less likely to already be part of Cambridge's 'cycling culture'. Locally we don't have the space to accommodate 50% more people if they all drive cars and globally climate change needs individuals to change their travel methods. But people have to feel that cycling is safe and convenient if they are to take it up.

E N D S

For further information, please contact:

David Earl, Membership secretary, 07977 500014

or Martin Lucas-Smith, Co-ordinator, 01223 690718
(or better, email to contact @ camcycle.org.uk)

A high resolution version of the photograph of Cormac O'Connell is available at
<http://www.camcycle.org.uk/images/people/cormac-1000th-member.jpg>