

Going Dutch

new homes, new travel
arrangements in the
Netherlands

Speaker: **Richard Armitage** CMILT
Chair, Cycling Forum, Chartered Institute
of Logistics & Transport

New Date: **Tuesday 1st May 2012 - 7pm**
Friends Meeting House, Mount Street,
Manchester M2 5NS





Take a photographic tour of new housing in three Dutch cities and discover how people get around these new developments.

Followed by discussion and debate

Acknowledgement:

Thanks to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation SUNN Project (Sustainable Urban Neighbourhoods Network) for organising the study tour of the Netherlands on which this evening will be based. For more on this visit:

<http://www.jrf.org.uk/publications/local-government-sustainable-urban-neighbourhoods>

Greater Manchester
Cycling Campaign



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Working to make cycling quicker safer easier and more enjoyable



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Just how good is cycling in the Netherlands? Last year, I got the chance to find out for myself. I was privileged to join a study tour of new housing in three Dutch cities, organised by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation SUNN Project.

For two years, the Sustainable Urban Neighbourhoods Network (SUNN) arranged for a group of about 60 professionals involved in new residential developments - designers, architects, urban planners, developers, housing association managers, and one transport person (me) - to tour new developments around England. This was a fascinating and instructive process, showing the good, the bad and the sadly indifferent in modern residential areas. And at the end, we went Dutch.

In the Netherlands, the new homes we saw have many different designs and sizes. The bicycle is frequently the best way to get around - the quickest and most direct routes between A and B, the most pleasant way to travel (traffic-free) and proper cycle storage, hire and maintenance facilities abound. This leaves public transport - mainly rail - to take you longer distances (e.g. to work).

Despite high quality building standards, low energy consumption homes, pleasant surroundings and significant transport infrastructure investment, the finances work too. Public subsidy is nearly totally absent and yet these developments are financially successful.

The car is never allowed to dominate the streets or the view in these new 'urban extensions', but there is still plenty of parking. It is not about ownership, but use and management. Meanwhile, Dutch motorway queues are easily as good as ours, so the car has not been banished.

The results are obvious to see and Dutch people are queuing up to live in these areas, especially Houten near Utrecht. To hear more on this, please join me on **Tuesday 1st May 2012 at 19:00 hours at Friends Meeting House, Mount Street, Manchester M2 5NS** where I will give a photographic tour called **Going Dutch: new homes, new travel arrangements in the Netherlands.**

Richard Armitage CMILT, Chair of the Cycling Forum, Chartered Institute of Logistics & Transport, and sustainable travel specialist.

Greater Manchester Cycling Campaign

Greater Manchester Cycling Campaign is a voluntary group working to make cycling in Greater Manchester quicker, safer, easier and more enjoyable. The Campaign wants more people to use bicycles or other kinds of human powered vehicle for transport and leisure purposes, whilst appreciating the benefits for our wellbeing, health, climate and economy. We aim to represent, empower and encourage people with our monthly meetings, e-mail lists, newsletters, regular social rides and events.



We have been operating since 1981 and were formerly called Sprocket. Members have campaigned for and supported many improvements for local cyclists, including the creation of "The Greater Manchester Cycling Book" (with 27 pages of maps) in 1985, and the "Manchester and surrounding districts Cycling map" in 1998, revised 2002. GMCC was the first local organisation to offer free adult cycle training - something since offered by 2 of our local authorities, and soon to be offered in all 10 GM boroughs. We also engage many national issues, both independently and through our membership of Cyclenation. Although our focus is cycling we also support walking and public transport wherever possible.

Our meetings are held at the Friends Meeting House (close to Manchester Town Hall) on the 2nd Monday of every month, from 7pm until about 9pm. The meeting is regularly followed by discussions in a nearby pub (usually The Waterhouse). Members and non-members are welcome to attend meetings, or just turn up for social rides and events. Please visit www.gmcc.org.uk or email honsec@gmcc.org.uk for more information.