

# August 2023 Newsletter

## AIR POLLUTION THEME OF THE MONTH: TRAVELWISE



### In this issue:

- > Meet Dave, our Cycling Commuter Expert, the active travel hero this month!
- > New bike stands installed at Wednesbury Baptist Church
- > Curious about cycling? More local sessions!
- > Dr Bike and free Cycle Security Markings
- > Upcoming TravelWise week! 16-22 September



A corkboard-style graphic with a brown background. At the top left is a photo of a man (Dave) in cycling gear riding a road bike, secured with green checkered tape. To the right is a white card with a paperclip icon that says "MEET DAVE". Below this is his bio: "Age: 57", "Cycling Commuter Expert", and "Wednesbury" with a location pin icon. To the left of the bio is a "Q &amp; A" section with three questions and answers. To the right is another white card with a blue checkered border titled "Dave's Top Tips" containing five numbered tips. At the bottom left is a small globe icon with the letters "an" below it. At the bottom right is a black silhouette of a bicycle. The Sandwell logo is at the bottom center.



## Dave: Active Travel Hero

Dave is our active travel hero this month! Dave cycles all around Sandwell and commutes to Birmingham for work.

Want to shout out an air quality champion or active travel hero? Just email us!

## Bike Stand Installation!

The first of a series of cycle stands has been installed at Wednesbury Baptist Church! We hope this provides better facilities for safe and secure bike parking and to encourage others to make the shift towards more active travel.

Five other sites from the Faith Centre Air Quality project across Sandwell will have bike stands installed this summer.



## Curious about Cycling?

There is a wide range of community rides and lessons available across local parks in Sandwell, in partnership with British Cycling.

- West Smethwick Park- Weekly led rides on Thursdays at 1pm
- Lightwoods, Bearwood- Led rides on Tuesday and Friday mornings 11-12
- Victoria Park, Tipton- Weekly “Gentle Pedal in the Park” session on Wednesdays at 9:30am
- Friar Park Millennium Centre, Wednesbury- Weekly led ride on Mondays at 10am, by The Leisurely Pedal, in partnership with Cycling UK

Check out details and other upcoming rides at - [Let's Ride - Homepage \(letsride.co.uk\)](https://letsride.co.uk).

Plan your own cycling route using Sandwell’s interactive cycle map!  
<https://sandwell.activemap.co.uk/>

**YES I WHEEL**

**Dr Bike and Security Marking**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September, 3pm to 6pm, Skills Helpline,  
George Street Car Park, West Bromwich, B70 6AA

Bring your bike for a **FREE** bike health check, repairs, and security marking with bikeRegister!

**Cycle Security Marking and Dr Bike session – what is it?**

**Cycle Security (FREE - usually £9.99)** – Small but Permanent marking on your bike and register with National Cycle Database online – help find your bike if it gets pinched!

**Dr Bike** – Get your bike safety checked (brakes, gears etc) and any small repairs for **FREE!**

**PLUS!**  
Take part in our survey and receive a **FREE** "sold secure" D lock (first to participants), Worth £30!

## TravelWise Week 2023

**WORLD CAR FREE DAY**

**Fri 22 Sept 2023**

Leave your car at home and find more sustainable ways to travel

**TravelWise Week**  
16-22 SEPTEMBER

**5 DAY TRAVEL CHALLENGE**

**16th - 22 Sept 2023**

During TravelWise Week, schools, workplaces, and other organisations are encouraged to hold a 5-day Travel Challenge by delivering a series of active and sustainable travel activities from Monday to Friday.

What will you be doing?

# Farm to town walking and cycling family event

Guided  
walks

Cycling  
activities

Saturday 16th September 2023  
11am - 1pm

Fun  
activities

Bike  
skills

At Victoria Park  
Victoria Road, Tipton, DY4 8SW



*If you have any questions about any of the items featured in this or previous newsletters, or maybe you have a story you would like to share about what your centre is doing to help improve local air quality, please contact us at [pollution\\_control@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:pollution_control@sandwell.gov.uk).*