# **TRAVELWISE**



lssue 17 | Autumn Winter 2016



## Season ticket loans for rail users

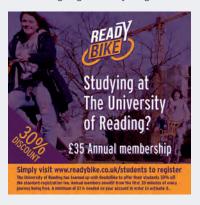
Now in addition to the 15% easit discounts on rail travel, staff can get a rail season ticket loan through HR. Contact Claire Eckett if you are interested: c.e.eckett@reading.ac.uk

# Stay safe on campus – construction traffic and diversions

With lots more construction traffic on campus for the next year or so it's important we are all careful to stay safe however we are travelling around campus.

## On your bike day and cycle to work day

After last year's very successful events we are holding another 'on your bike day' linked to the Reading Experience Event on 28 September. This will be from 12–4pm in RUSU Monteray Lounge and will be a onestop-shop for all things bike where you can rent or hire a second-hand bike; lights; locks and get general cycling advice.





We have been working hard over the last few months to install new sheltered cycle parking on all three main campuses, including two new gated cycle compounds outside the rear of RUSU, and at Earley Gate near Agriculture on Whiteknights Campus. A further one will be ready as part of the Library refurbishment project.

To access these compounds staff and students need to sign an agreement and register their campus card with Security Services in Whiteknights House. Users must ensure to keep their bicycles locked with a solid D-lock while in the compounds so as not to encourage thieves to break in.

### **CO-WHEELS NEW CAR CLUB**

We have a new **University car club** on campus, where anyone who has held a driver's licence for at least 12 months can register as a member of the Co-wheels scheme to rent a car by the hour. This time the car is based at Park Group Halls, outside Dunsden Crescent, to encourage more student use. We have options to get more in other locations if it is well used. Take advantage of their

introductory offers of free membership and free £10 credit for University staff and students. It has the benefit of being part of a wider scheme in Reading so there are additional cars in the area should this one be busy when you want to use it.

# UNIVERSITY TRAVEL SURVEY 2016 TARGET MET

A massive thank you to the 2633 students and staff across the University who completed the online 2016 university travel survey back in February. Here are some of the headline results, with the full report available on **sustainability services** website.

A key aim of the travel survey is to monitor how the University is doing against our University Travel Plan targets. We have an overall target of 1% reduction each year to 2017 in the proportion of journeys to the University being made by a single occupant car, from our baseline of 25% in 2012. This means that our target for 2016 was 21% or less single occupancy cars. The graph on this page shows the modal split for staff and student commutes to the University in 2016 (all campuses), and you can see from this figure that we have met this target! This has been achieved through you, University staff and students, increasing the proportion of walking, bus and train journeys. Thank you everyone for embracing the sustainable travel message whether it is to save your health, your purse or the environment! There is still more we can do and a review of the Travel Plan and its targets is due for 2017.

The travel survey is a great opportunity to hear from you about what we could do better. A full list of the identified issues and proposed actions is available in the report.

*f* For more information, please contact:

Estates and Facilities University of Reading

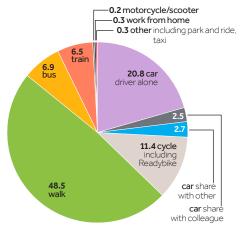
Whiteknights, Reading RG6 6BW (use RG6 6UR for satnay)

travel@reading.ac.uk Tel (0118) 378 7604

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**⑨** @UniRdg\_Sust

www.reading.ac.uk/ sustainabilityservices/travel We will be revising our University Travel Plan for 2017, and will be using your comments from the survey to identify actions we can undertake to make it easier for you to choose travel to our university campuses using more sustainable modes of travel.



**Overall main mode used to reach the University** all campuses

#### What you told us...

#### Demand for separate paths

The survey highlighted clear requests for separate cycle paths on campus from both pedestrians and cyclists. Work is already underway looking at a Strategy for campus routes and how they can be improved for all users (including pedestrians; cyclists; drivers; wheelchair users; visually impaired), so feedback from the survey has been fed into this piece of work. The survey identified the locations on campus where the largest numbers of staff and students feel this is an issue to help identify priorities.

Specific locations include: Friends Bridge to Meteorology; Queen's Drive; RUSU to Black Bridge; and Hopkins to Friends Bridge. We will provide an update on this work when it is more developed.

## Path safety and considerate behaviour

There continues to be concerns over inconsiderate and unsafe cycling and walking on campus paths. Cyclists speeding and groups of slow walkers blocking the paths for faster walkers and cyclists are just two examples. As mentioned above we are looking into improvements, but in the meantime we have to use the paths we have, and everyone has a right to be there

so please be considerate to others. This will be an even bigger issue with the amount of construction traffic on campus so look out for a safety campaign at the start of term.

#### University car club

There was clear support for proposals to reinstate the University car club, users of this facility had missed being able to rent a car by the hour for occasional trips. This is being relaunched in September with a new partner, and this time designed more for student use. Staff will also be able to use the car which will now be based at Park Group Halls outside Dunsden Crescent.

#### **Electric charging points**

Similarly there was clear support for installation of electric vehicle charging points. These have been scheduled for installation at the Sports Park car park for some time now, but a final installation date is not yet in place.

### Showers, changing facilities and lockers

Showers, changing facilities and lockers were felt to be of limited availability and generally poor quality across campus.

Showers are being installed in the new
Chancellors Building. Showers locations at university are shown on our campus shower map. Please do report specific issues with shower facilities, or lack therefore to travel@reading.ac.uk

#### Occasional parking permits

The procedure for obtaining occasional parking permits was felt to have some problems. Especially that advance notice is required for it to work smoothly but the permit is often needed precisely to deal with unexpected issues. Earley Gate staff found this a particular issue as they have to come to Whiteknights House to collect a permit, or plan it in advance. The Pay and Display car park on Queen's Drive should remove this difficulty for those at the main Whiteknights Campus, but we will need to look at improvements for staff at Earley Gate.

Congratulations to Sarah Spies, a student from Art, and Emma Lambden, a member of staff in ISLI, who each won an iPad in the Travel Survey Prize draw. We hope you enjoy using them!