



## **Infrastructure & Normalisation: Voices from the Mini-Holland Boroughs**

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# Mini-Holland is over a third complete....



- Thoughts, perceptions and attitudes to Mini-Holland.
- 10 semi-structured interviews. 11 participants.

Participant	Borough	Sex	Age *	Interviewed	Length (Mins)	Commute	Cyclist type	Car owner
1	WF	F	40s	Work place	22	Train / Tube	Leisure	Y
2	WF	M	Mid	Café	40	Cycle	Utility & Leisure	Y
8	WF	M	30s	Home	35	Cycle	Utility & Leisure	Y
11	WF	F	Mid	Café	66	Tube	Leisure	Y
11b	WF	M	Mid	" "	" "	Cycle	Utility & Leisure	Y
12	WF	F	Mid	Home	45	Tube	Non	Y
4	E	M	Mid	Café	35	Walk	Non	Y
7	E	M	Retired	Café	57	Non	Leisure	Y
9	E	F	Mid	Café	48	Train / Tube	Non	Y
5	K	M	60s	Café	65	Cycle	Utility & Leisure	N
6	K	F	Mid	Skype	43	Non	Utility & Leisure	Y

\* As certain ages were unknown a broad classification is provided. 'Mid' refers to mid-life stage (30 - 50 approx)



***“We’ve got Mini-Holland here...It’s caused massive, practically civil war in the community. People either love it or completely hate it. Nobody is neutral about it”.***

**(P12, F, WF)**



***“...The actual carrying out of the scheme appears to have caused the maximum amount of disruption possible”.***

(Participant 7, M, Enfield, Retired)





## Transport in Mini-Holland Boroughs

- **Public transport improvement**
- **“Awful lot more cyclists”. (P7, M, Enfield)**

- **Sense cycling is logical and legitimate**

*“For the first time there was an entire column about cycling and there was no but in the article. It was all positive”. (P2, M, WF)*

*“To avoid the crush and the Victoria line at 8am”. (P11b, M, WF)*

*“...I feel **guilty**. Yeah, I feel a lot more **guilty**, every time I turn the engine on”.* (P6, Female, Kingston)

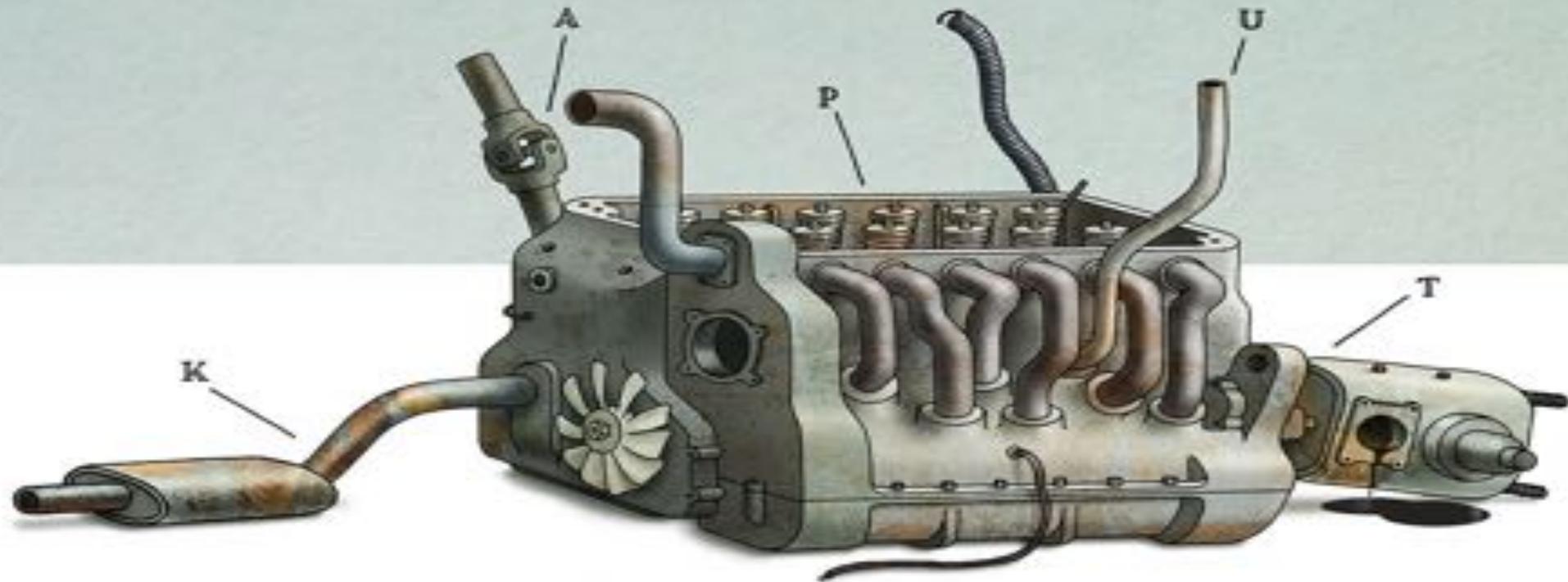


Fig.1 The Internal Combustion Engine



# Who is cycling in Mini-Holland boroughs?

*“Very slick, cycle gear, cycle shorts, snazzy bike, racing bike....they tend to be the ones that are just about speed.”*

(Participant 12, F, WF)



# Who is cycling in Mini-Holland boroughs?

*“...They’ve usually got a big massive basket, pannier thing on the front with flowers in it...usually a toddler clinging on to the back....”*

(Participant 12, F, WF)



# Who is cycling in Mini-Holland boroughs?

*“Hipster Fixies who are heading for a pizza or a craft beer”.*

(Participant 2, M, WF)





## Behaviour change...?

- **Waltham Forest:**

*“More stick than carrot....it is so hard to drive around that people have finally twigged that it’s not worth it...”*

(Participant 2, M, WF)

*“Do I want to sit in the Sunday traffic to get to my mate’s house?”*

(Participant 11b, M, WF)

# Not just about the bike....

*“I walk my kids the back ways. It’s quieter, safer.....one uses a scooter and I’m not panicking about him going out on the road and hitting a van piling through...”*

(Participant 8, M, WF, 30s)

*“I’m so envious...”* (P12, F, WF)





# Barriers to cycling

*“To me it’s a safety issue. I don’t feel safe on London’s roads...”. (P11, F, WF)*

*“...When Mini-Holland first arrived we did think...oh, would they be able to cycle everywhere? And then the second they left the house, I was convinced they were going to be flattened”. (P12, F, WF)*

*“When I have cycled, it’s felt a lot more dangerous than living in Oxford”. (P4, M, Enfield)*

## Ethnicity and exclusion

*“I think minorities you don’t tend to see...cycling in this borough is quite a white middle class thing”.*  
(Participant 8, M, WF, 30s)



## Future of MHP

- WF: Sense of transport behaviour change and potential near market conversion
- Enfield may take more time especially in the North of the borough – owing to proximity and culture. Kingston perception of higher cycling levels.
- Cycling seen perceived as ‘white, middle-class’ activity. More research required.



*“One of the reasons why cycling in Denmark is such a pleasure is they started putting in their cycle lanes in the early 70s so they’ve got them. We’re at the stage that they were in 1977. And we’ve got to get on with it...”*

(Participant 5, M, Kingston, 60s).