According to the 2018 census Beckenham, a suburb south of Christchurch’s central city has the highest commuter cycling rates in New Zealand. Why? And what can be learned from Beckenham that could help other suburbs increase their cycling rates? This research used a range of methods including analysis of census data, an analysis of the local geography, a community survey and focus groups of local residents, to identify factors that may encourage people to cycle. Research shows that there is likely a range of factors that influence residents in Beckenham to cycle. These include: perceived safety, filtered permeability facilitated by the presence of the river, community participation, distance to work, workplaces that support cycling, street design and layout, cycle infrastructure and environmental/Personal values. It is concluded that some key initiatives could help encourage cycling in other areas including improving cycling infrastructure, creating filtered permeability, lower speed limits and fostering a sense of cycle community.