

# EVENT NEWS

RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN THE CYCLING WORLD



Photos by Paul Hepworth & Dan Joyce

## EVENTS NEWS IN BRIEF

### BIRTHDAY INVITATION

CTC's Birthday Rides week takes place from 19th-25th August. While campsite and accommodation bookings have closed, if you live locally or arrange your own place to stay you can still attend. A registration pack including entry to and route sheets for all the rides, the Birthday Tea, competitions and social events costs £90. There's a choice of four rides every day from Friday to Tuesday, plus a selection of trips – including a visit to the Eden Project. You can find route profiles for typical rides available at [falmouthwheeler.co.uk](http://falmouthwheeler.co.uk). For more information about the Birthday Rides, or to register, visit [www.birthdayrides.org](http://www.birthdayrides.org) or contact organiser Paul Parkinson on 01326 372934.

### GEAR UP FOR RIDE + STRIDE

On 11th September, 10,000 churches nationwide will open their doors to welcome cyclists and walkers. Ride + Stride is a sponsored bike ride (or walk) between 10,000 churches, with the aim of topping the £1.5 million raised last year to help repair some of Britain's 47,000 churches, chapels and meeting houses. Even if you're not religious, churches form part of the landscape of the countryside. CTC President and Channel 4 news presenter, Jon Snow, is the patron. For more information about Ride + Stride and to register visit [www.rideandstrideuk.org](http://www.rideandstrideuk.org).

### BIG BIKE BASH

On 21st and 22nd August, the Big Bike Bash mountain biking weekend takes place at Avon Tyrell in the New Forest. There is cross-country racing, a lake jump, live music, a beer festival, and children's events. The event raises money for UK Youth. For more information, visit [www.bigbikebash.co.uk](http://www.bigbikebash.co.uk)

## York: CTC's marquee event

After nine months of planning and a week to set up, this year's York Cycle Show took place under changeable skies. Grey clouds and showers on Saturday didn't dampen enthusiasm, especially out on the rides leaving the site. Sunday saw blue skies and sunshine, with visitors standing several deep around the Zero Gravity stunt show and encircling the arena.

CTC's Cycle Champions joined forces with Bike Club to run a range of competitive activities for younger riders. This could become a national event next year, culminating at the show. CTC South Yorkshire Champion Steve Marsden, meanwhile, invited us to host a weekend stay by a group of special needs youngsters and their adapted bikes, plus carers. This would meet their expedition criteria for a Duke of Edinburgh scheme's Gold Award. They took part in the Minster Service and parade, as well as the arena events.

In the Trade Area, UK exhibitors were joined by colleagues from Belgium, Italy and South Africa. There were three electric bike companies represented and one electric bike magazine being launched.

In terms of amenities, the food court was well received, and the real ale barman and one caterer set

up TVs on the Friday evening for World Cup coverage. For the first time, we hired portable showers – which cost more but meant better facilities.

The 'Lycra Sunday' Service at York Minster was well attended, and York Police helped volunteers marshal a revised route that utilised the riverside cyclepath. I discovered a fortnight earlier that a 5K run was scheduled for the riverside path, raising funds for prostate cancer research, but they kindly put back their start to give our ride time to pass by.

Some strategic thinking on the show is needed, in liaison with CTC's National Events Steering Group and through them CTC Council. The cost of hiring the Knavesmire plus all the equipment has exceeded income for the last few years, which spurred thoughts of moving to the showground at Harrogate. That has vastly superior facilities and would be instrumental in helping to attract external funding, without which the show will not survive.

The dates for next year's event will be confirmed after the release of the 2011 horse racing calendar this October, plus details of the June Ordination Service at York Minster.

*Paul Hepworth, Chair, York Cycle Show Committee*

## PHIL LIGGETT CTC CHALLENGE

Join cycling commentator and former CTC President Phil Liggett for a challenging ride through the Peak District on Sunday 8th August. Bridging the gap between audax and sportive rides, the Phil Liggett CTC Challenge Ride joins up some of the most stunning scenery in South Yorkshire – and some of the most testing climbs. The 100km route includes Holme Moss, while the 150km option adds Winnats Pass and Monsal Head.

Features of this year's event

include: a signposted route; a certificate for all finishers; and a valuable goody bag for all CTC members. Nutrition products are provided by ZipVit Sport. Entry is just £20 and you can enter online until 5th August (at <http://tinyurl.com/29t6mrt>) or on the day. Proceeds from the event go to the CTC Charitable Trust.

The event starts at Stannington, Sheffield at 8am. For more details, see [www.ctc.org.uk/challengerides](http://www.ctc.org.uk/challengerides) or call CTC on 0844 736 8450.



# October is show time



This autumn the UK's largest Cycle Show returns for its ninth year, with the Earls Court venue open to the public from 8th-10th October. It's a great opportunity to check out – and even try out – 2011 bikes. There's a 'street' test track and an 'off-road' one, the Tirol Mountain Bike Experience, incorporating North Shore (raised wooden platforms).

In the show's arena, experts from different disciplines will be on-hand for a range of Q&A sessions. There will also be competitions and stunt courses on display throughout the weekend. At the Cycle Store, you can buy new clothing and accessories rather than just window shopping. There is free, secure cycle parking for visitors arriving at the Cycle



Show by bike. The Show opens for trade and press on Thursday 7th October and then is open to the general public from Friday 8th to Sunday 10th from 10am to 6pm daily (Sunday 5pm). Tickets are already on sale, at a special offer price of

£10.50 for CTC members (normally £12 in advance). A £1 booking fee applies per transaction. Discount code: CTC.

For more information, to book tickets, or to sign up to the newsletter, visit [www.cycleshow.co.uk](http://www.cycleshow.co.uk).

# I AM a better cyclist...



## ...thanks to IAM Cycling

Our new 'How to be a better cyclist' book contains all of the information you need to be a better, safer and more confident cyclist – whatever your age or ability. Packed with photos, diagrams and checklists, it will help take your cycling to a whole new level.

The IAM also has a terrific members' pack full of cycling benefits and can provide on-road training with qualified instructors.

Packed full of useful advice  
**only £9.99**  
 (+P&P)  
 Available online



For more details about what IAM Cycling has to offer, please contact

**0845 126 8600 | [iam.org.uk/ctc](http://iam.org.uk/ctc)**

A Skill for Life

