

Opinion Letters

THIS MONTH CYCLISTS WELCOME, CYCLE TRACK GATES, LOWER GEARS, WASPS, CYCLE INSURANCE, AND MORE

Get in touch

LETTERS are edited for space, clarity and, if necessary, legality. The editor reads and acknowledges all members' letters but publishes only a selection and doesn't enter into correspondence. Feedback for the next issue must arrive by 23 December. Please include your membership number.

WRITE TO: Cycle, PO Box 313, Scarborough, YO12 6WZ or email editor@cyclingsuk.org



The West Kernow Way's cycle-friendly Keigwin House

Letter of the month

Cyclists welcome

What a welcome sight the article 'You're Welcome' in the Aug/Sep issue was. I live near King Alfred's Way and I've seen some of the wonderful small businesses that seem to have cropped up to support people cycling it. I'm sure the same will be happening with the West Kernow Way, the Cantii Way and any other such routes.

As a member since the early 1990s, I remember the old CTC handbook well and always thought its demise was a shame. As I started reading the article, I began thinking to myself: "This is exactly what the old handbook used to be. Wouldn't it be great to have a new online version?"

As I read further, I see that's exactly what is being planned. Are there any plans for Cycling UK members to contribute recommendations of cycle-friendly businesses? With the outreach available through Cycling UK, such a resource could become a huge benefit both for Cycling UK members and the cycling community as a whole.

Neil Warwick

It's not UK-wide but businesses in Cornwall, Kent, and Norfolk (where the Experience Project is happening) can already apply to become cycle-friendly places, and members can suggest to owners that they do so – see cyclingsuk.org/experience.

Win a Green Oil bike care kit worth £64.99

The letter of the month wins an Eco Rider Deluxe set, courtesy of Green Oil. Green Oil's plant-based lubes and cleaners are fully biodegradable and contain no PTFE. The kit comprises: Green Oil Wet Chain Lube; Ecogrease; Green Clean Bike Cleaner; Clean Chain Degreaser; FSC Drive Chain Brush; two Bike Armour cable-rub protectors; an EcoRag; a reusable plastic tub for water or storage; and some seeds to grow your own food! For details, or to order Green Oil products, visit green-oil.net



Open to all

In relation to the letter about not being able to get through gates on a handcycle, I thought I'd send you a photo of this gate in Broughton Wood, a Forestry England site near Broughton in Furness. It is based on a similar one, which I think was the first ever of this design, in Grizedale Forest. Sadly the one in Grizedale has fallen into a state of disrepair.

The gate is really easy to use and it swings both ways, so it's usable in either direction. As it self closes, such a design would make sense for fields with sheep and cows in. It would be nice to see such a design rolled out more widely.

Alan Grace

Incy spider

What a pity you reviewed a 46-30 Middleburn chainset, a setup one can get cheaper elsewhere, rather than something unique to Middleburn and especially wanted by Cycle's readers. I'm talking about the *truly* sub-compact doubles that can be assembled upon Middleburn's 'Incy' spider.

This five-arm spider has BCDs of 110 and 58mm, accepting outer rings down to 34 and inners as small as 20 teeth! My Incy runs 40-20 with an 11-36 10-speed cassette. The resulting 15in bottom gear helps this 68-year-old continue to access all areas without much difficulty or a motor!

Chris Juden