



New year, new skills

 Cycle maintenance and urban biking instruction are two of the new skills courses that CTC's training department is launching this year to meet the needs of a wider range of cyclists, CTC members, ride leaders and cycle instructors.

The maintenance course has three programmes aimed at different users. 'Fundamentals' is for cyclists wanting the confidence and ability to tackle basic maintenance – everything from wheel removal and punctures onwards. 'National Standards Maintenance' is for Bikeability instructors. 'Fleet Maintenance' is for those looking after fleets of bikes in a voluntary or professional capacity.

'Skill Instructor Urban' covers all the key areas for those teaching others formally and informally in contained cycling areas, such as BMX and jump parks. It also enables access to the Go-mtb Awards Orientation course for teaching and certificating riding skills.

'Pick and Mix' is skills instruction for groups wanting a day's course developed around their needs. There's a choice of half-day and full-day sessions on riding skill and confidence building (off-road and on), maintenance at various levels, first aid, and off-road riding



CTC now offers three cycle maintenance courses

beyond trail centres.

'Tutor Light' is a new instructors' course for the teaching of CTC's maintenance courses, and for the Young Leader and Ride Supporter courses.

For more details, visit promtb.net, email mtb@ctc.org.uk or call 0844 736 8463.

FROM THE TOURING DEPT MARK WATERS



It was a pleasure watching a TV programme recently about the history of camping, not least

because its roots were entwined with the development of cycle touring. It was how the early protagonists got out into the wide open spaces from the dark satanic mill towns, with their equipment strapped to their bikes.

Thomas Hiram Holding, one of CTC's leading lights in the early years, also initiated the creation of the Association of Cycle Campers in 1901. Being a tailor by trade, his skills enabled him to fabricate appropriate equipment, notably a tent. This novel pastime quickly gained in popularity among Edwardian gentlemen (while more conservative members of society undoubtedly disapproved of it). Thus was cycle camping born, and long may it thrive!

When you head off into the wilds on your own camping trips this year, equipped with the latest lightweight equipment strapped to your modern lightweight tourer, riding on smooth(ish) tarmac roads, guiding yourself with a GPS unit or a clear, accurate, full-colour map, consider the fortitude of our forebears. They did much the same thing but with the most basic of kit.

They keep telling us that life isn't going to be easy in 2011 but in some respects we are among the luckiest generations of cyclists.

If you've not tried cycle camping, CTC can help get you started. Read information sheet INF3, which is on the website, or call the CTC Helpline: 0844 736 8450.

Photo finish

 CTC's judging panel have picked the winners of the photography competition that we ran in the Aug/Sep 2010 issue of *Cycle*. Luke Minogue wins the over-18 category for his atmospheric beach shot, while Tim MacQueen's track cycling shot wins the

under-18 category. Luke's shot was taken on the south coast on a late summer's evening last year. Tim took his photo at the National Track Championships in Manchester. 'I think this was just a shot taken when they were warming up,' he

said. 'It was difficult to get a good photo with a nice blurry background without the rider also being blurred.'

Luke and Tim each win a £69.99 Ogio camera backpack from Madison. Submitted photos will be uploaded to CTC's Flickr site in due course.



Over-18 winner: Luke Minogue's beach shot



Under-18 winner: Tim MacQueen's track-riding shot