

Cycle is the magazine of CTC – the UK's national cyclists' organisation.

The magazine promotes the work of CTC and the CTC Charitable Trust (Registered Charity No. 1104324). Formed in 1878, CTC is the UK's largest cycling membership organisation with 70,000 members and affiliates. To join CTC, turn to page 80 and contact the Membership Dept.

CTC, Parklands, Railton Road, Guildford, GU2 9JX
Tel: 0844 736 8450 Fax: 0844 736 8454
Email: cycling@ctc.org.uk
Website: ctc.org.uk

CTC Patron:
Her Majesty the Queen
President: Jon Snow
CTC Council Chair:
David Cox
Chief Executive:
Kevin Mayne
CTC (Cyclists' Touring Club) is a company limited by guarantee registered in England No. 25185

Cycle Magazine
Editor: Dan Joyce
email: editor@ctc.org.uk
Designers:
Simon Goddard and Gemma Hancock
Advertising:
Serena Street
tel: 0207 657 1820,
email: serena.street@tenalps.com

Creative Director:
James Houston
Publisher:
James Pembroke
Cycle is published six times per year on behalf of CTC by James Pembroke Publishing, 90 Walcot Street, Bath, BA1 5BG.
Tel: 01225 337777.
Cycle is copyright CTC, James Pembroke Publishing and individual contributors. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission from CTC and James Pembroke Publishing is forbidden. Views expressed in the magazine are those of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the editor or the policies of CTC. Advertising bookings are subject to availability, the terms and conditions of Ten Alps PLC and final approval by CTC. Printed by St Ives (Plymouth) Ltd, Eastern Wood Road, Plympton, Plymouth, PL7 5ET. Tel: 01752 349431

Cover: Riders in the Fred Whittom sportive, by Steve Fleming

{ FROM }

THE EDITOR



AUTUMN officially began on 21 September. But of course it didn't, and never does, arrive like a set-change at the theatre, curtains opening on a whole new landscape. You see and feel it arrive by degrees. Swathes of brown and tan spread through the trees. Your cycling gear starts to adapt, accumulating arm warmers, knee warmers, long-finger gloves, and more. A chill freshness lasts longer into the morning. There are swallows on telephone cables. Then none.

Yet there are dates in the season that say to the bike industry: autumn has arrived. They're the bike shows, those huge-halled exhibitions where the bikes, components and clothing for the following year are laid out for inspection – not just by bike shop owners, who want to see what they'll be stocking, but by the curious press and public too.

Eurobike in Germany is the biggest. Then there's the hardly autumnal Interbike in the sunny Nevada desert. And then there's the UK's biggest: the Cycle Show, which begins in Birmingham just days after you'll read this. It's a great opportunity to see next year's products now.

What will the trends be for 2012? Well, change in the cycle industry also arrives by degrees, but I'd expect more electric bikes, more 29er mountain bikes, more road bikes for recreational use, and a slow-burn upsurge in adventure cycling – or to you and me, touring. We'll find out soon!

DAN JOYCE



MEMBERSHIP
Get five years CTC membership for the price of four. Details on p72

Left: Jon Sparks



44

36

64

Contents

THIS ISSUE

- 16 Eurobike & the Cycle Show**
Top picks from Eurobike and the upcoming Cycle Show
- 28 Along England's backbone**
Touring the Pennine Cycleway
- 32 Great Divide ride**
Off-road down the Rocky Mountains
- 36 Young at heart**
Proof that cycling keeps you young
- 41 Bike recycling benefits**
How cycle maintenance is helping young people
- 44 Centres of attention**
Mountain bike trail centres are popular, but do they need to change?
- {COVER FEATURE}**
- 56 Your next bike**
Benchmark sportive, touring, commuting and mountain bikes
- 64 Waterproof jackets**
Weatherproof yourself for autumn

EVERY ISSUE

- 4 CTC Shop**
- 6 News**
- 13 Events news**
- 23 Your letters**
- 26 CTC & me**
- 30 Holiday guide**
- 50 Cycling answers**
- 68 Gear reviews**
- 72 CTC member benefits**
- 76 What's on**
- 80 CTC contacts**
- 81 CTC Prize Draw**
- 82 Travellers' Tales**
- 83 CTC Cycling Holidays**