Team CTC’s Top Ten Finishes

Team CTC’s Tamina Oliver (right) and Lydia Boylan both finished in the top ten in the National Series Surf and Turf two-day event in Blackpool in June. They were joined by teammates Astrid Wingler and Hannah Payton for the event’s three races: a 1km time trial and a 45 minute circuit race on the first day, and an 84km road race on the second.

In the road race, the green team had the most riders in the top ten, claiming sixth, seventh and ninth positions. The overall standings from the weekend saw Tamina fifth, Lydia seventh, Hannah 33rd and Astrid 41st.

Team Manager Steve Bailey was delighted. ‘I would never have dreamed we’d get three top ten finishers in the final race because it didn’t particularly suit our riders, but each one of the four girls played their part, worked as a team and were fantastic over both days. For Tamina and Lydia to get into the overall top ten general classification was a brilliant achievement.’

The Blackpool event came just days after the fourth round of the Johnston Health Tech Series of circuit races. The race was in Woking, a stone’s throw away from CTC National Office in Guildford, so dozens of CTC members and staff – including Chief Executive Gordon Seabright – were on hand to give the team their support.

‘I spoke to Lydia, Tamina and Astrid after the race,’ said Steve Bailey, ‘and their feeling was that the cheers they got from everyone at CTC and the rest of the crowd was worth an extra five seconds a lap in work rate, which at the end of the day can make a huge difference to where you finish.’

To read Bradley Stratton’s updates on Team CTC, visit ctc.org.uk > What we do > Team CTC.

Tidworth Bike Park takes off

Tidworth Bike Park in Wiltshire was officially opened on 15 June, after seven years of hard work by a group of mountain bikers and volunteers.

The Bike Park features seven trails with jumps, drops, and berms. It is suitable for riders of all ages and abilities, and has already been attracting riders from the nearby garrison towns.

With the future of the site put in the balance by concerns that the trails were too challenging, CTC stepped in to support Tidworth Freeride. The park is now part of the CTC Bike Park Network, joining Aston Hill in the Chiltern Hills, Rogate DH in the South Downs National Park, and Ride Tilgate near Crawley in Sussex.

Tidworth Bike Park was opened by Lt Col David Barron, Commander of Tidworth, Netheravon and Bulford Garrison, on behalf of the Ministry of Defence and the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO), which is running the site in partnership with CTC and Tidworth Freeride.

Phil Potts founder of the Tidworth Freeride club said: ‘It’s a milestone in Tidworth Freeride’s history. I’ve never doubted that we’d be back riding officially on the site and there are so many people to thank for making this possible. We are especially grateful to 26 Engineers Perham Down, in the guise of Staff Sgt Justin Lane and his men, who have helped build the car park.’

Rob Fuller, CTC’s Development Director, said: ‘Tidworth Bike Park has been a proving ground for the local downhill and freeride biking community for nearly 10 years. Built by hand from scratch, it demonstrates what’s possible when volunteers work together.

‘We’re so pleased that we can support the group and that the site is now one of CTC’s formalised bike parks, offering a challenge to riders of all levels, amongst the woodland of Salisbury Plain.’

For more on Tidworth Bike Park and the rest of the CTC Bike Park network, go online to ctc.org.uk/mtb.
RideLondon for all

A RANGE OF adapted cycles will be available at Green Park for the Prudential RideLondon FreeCycle event on Saturday 3 August, enabling riders of all abilities and their families to join in the ride through London on traffic-free streets. CTC, in partnership with Cycling Projects, is providing 40-50 special cycles for visitors to try. There will be experienced staff and volunteers to help. CTC is also providing many of the marshals and a Dr Bike Service during RideLondon. Drop by at Green Park and St Paul’s for help on getting your bike back on the road. And why not give your phone a quick charge with pedal power on CTC’s Tweet ’n’ Charge bikes?

More than 50,000 cyclists are expected for the FreeCycle event. It costs nothing and you can enter on the day. Visit prudentialridelondon.co.uk for details.

THE CYCLE SHOW

THE APPROACH of autumn means that it’s bike show time once again: the Cycle Show returns to Birmingham’s NEC from 27-29 September. More than 25,000 visitors are expected to attend to get a first look at 2014 bikes and equipment – and to try them out.

There will be a new ‘premium road bike’ test circuit, where you can try road bikes costing over £1500. Other test opportunities include: the MTB demo track, which includes woodland singletrack and rock gardens; the Dare2B commuter test track; two tracks for kids, for those aged under 5 and 6-12; and a track for electric bikes.

The Quest 88 Inclusive Cycling Hub was popular last year and returns for 2013. It will showcase inclusive cycles for children and adults with disabilities, and fittings and cycle try-outs are available.

The Cycle Show is open from 9:30 to 5pm each day. CTC members can purchase discounted tickets at just £11.50 per adult (when booked online), compared to £16 on the door. Enter ‘CTC’ in the discount box when booking. The code is valid until 20/9/13. Tickets for under-18s are just £1, with under fives free. There’s a £1 per transaction booking fee.

Visit cycleshow.co.uk/ctc for details.

York Cycle Show update

APOLOGIES TO CTC members confused by the news story last issue about the 2013 York Cycle Show, planned for 22-23 June. The decision to cancel took place after Cycle had gone to press. It was caused by insufficient advance trade bookings.

An Extra Meeting of the Show Committee was held on 22 June in York to begin planning for 2014 and beyond. This meeting looked at options for the event in future years. One might be a social gathering, with day rides, a small trade presence, and the addition of audax and sportive events.

Chair of the York Cycle Show Committee Paul Hepworth said: ‘Recent years have been affected by adverse weather and changes in retail patterns. One of the show’s regular traders went into liquidation last year. Reduced income and attendance depleted the committee’s reserves.’

Events News in Brief

› LADIES’ DAY AT DALBY
CTC and Dalby Bike Barn are staging a Ladies’ Day in Dalby Forest, North Yorkshire, on 10 August. Starting at 10am, there will be skills sessions and led rides (road and off-road) for women and girls of all abilities. It will be a perfect opportunity for those who may be nervous about joining a public course or perhaps for those who want to have some quality mother-daughter time together.

There will be women-specific demo bikes available from the UK’s leading brands, along with women’s clothing and components. For details, see dalbybikebarn.co.uk

› BRUMMEL BUMMEL
Southampton Cycling Campaign organised their first Brummell Bummel on 26 May. It was a leisurely Sunday morning ride from the Wellington Arms pub in Southampton to the Turfcutters pub in the New Forest. It was organised in memory of CTC member Mark Brummell, a cyclist who was killed at the Ipley crossroads in the New Forest on 28 May 2012 after being hit by a car. The ride was a great success and attracted around 50 cyclists, along with the local BBC television unit and other local reporters. It also raised £100 for CTC’s newly-launched Road Justice campaign.

› NEW WINCHESTER GROUP
Winchester CTC, currently an informal group within South Hampshire CTC, has applied to become a formal CTC member group. An inaugural meeting will take place at Winchester Baptist Hall, Swan Lane, Winchester, at 7.30pm on 9 October.

› THE BIG BIKE BASH 2013
The Big Bike Bash mountain bike festival will take place at the Avon Tyrell activity centre in the New Forest from 24-26 August. It’s a celebration of mountain biking, music, and real ale, which raises money for UK Youth, the country’s leading youth work charity. Ticket prices for this year’s event are £50 per adult and £20 for under-18s for those who want to take part in any of the competitions; for non-participants, tickets are £20. Tickets for children under five are just 1p. All ticket prices include camping. Contact Anne, Catherine or Louis on 01425 672347 or email bigbikebash@ukyouth.org. More details at bigbikebash.co.uk