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on p78



● The rally is scheduled for the midsummer weekend

YORK RALLY RETURNS

A GROUP of volunteers has formed to revive the York Rally for 2015. The rally will take place at its traditional home: York Racecourse on the Knavesmire, where the event began in 1945 – and where stage two of the 2014 Tour de France started.

The rally will be on the midsummer weekend, 20-21 June. Cyclists and potential cyclists from across Yorkshire and the UK are invited to attend, as

are cycle trade exhibitors. There is almost unlimited space on the Knavesmire for cycling clubs and associations to showcase their activities.

To support the re-launch of the event, the organisers are staging the York Rally Grande Classic Sportive in September through spectacular North York Moors scenery. There is a choice of rides: 36km, 100km, and 140km. All proceeds from the event

will be used towards staging the rally.

Full details can also be found at the new York Rally website, yorkrally.org, where supporters of the event can participate in the relaunch by becoming a 'Friend of the York Rally'.

The rally is an all-volunteer organised event. Anyone is welcome to attend meetings. The next is at Your Bike Shed, Micklegate, York, at 10am on 13 September 2014.

NEWS IN BRIEF

● L'EROICA BRITANNIA

CTC took part in the inaugural L'Eroica Britannia from 20-22 June, the first L'Eroica event that has taken place outside of Tuscany. L'Eroica is known as 'the most handsome bike race in the world', and all ride participants and visitors to the three-day festival were encouraged to take on a bit of vintage flair. (Photos of the day can be seen online: [instagram.com/ctc_cyclists](https://www.instagram.com/ctc_cyclists).) Riders had the option of 30, 50 and 100-mile routes from Bakewell showground on the Sunday, taking in the Monsal Trail, private lands of the Chatsworth Estate, and the picturesque towns of the Peak District. Over 2,000 did so on a wide range of vintage cycles. Sixty CTC volunteers helped out and were instrumental in directing riders. L'Eroica Britannia will return in 2015.

● RIDELONDON

Sixty-one CTC cyclists will join the through riding the RideLondon Surrey 100 sportive on 10 August in order to raise much-needed funds for CTC's campaigning work. The route uses roads from the London 2012 Olympic road race course and includes the climbs of Box Hill and Leith Hill. To sponsor CTC's cyclists, or follow their progress, visit CTC's Justgiving page: justgiving.com/cycliststouringclub. If you'd like to be a part of future Team CTC events, watch this space – and keep an eye on CycleClips and the CTC website.

● TRAIN WITH CTC

Due to high demand, additional CTC training courses have been lined up for late summer and autumn. As well as the regular courses – Trail and Technical Leader, Maintenance, and National Standard Instructor – we have some extra ones: Bike Tour Leader, Advanced Leader, Club Leader, Trail Inspection, Volunteer Trail Repair, and First Aid for Cyclists. There's a 10% discount for CTC members available until the end of 2014 on most courses. See ctc.org.uk/training.

● VELOFEST SUCCESS

7,000 cycling fans attended the CTC-partnered Velofest Tour de France event at Kilnsey Park Estate in the Yorkshire Dales in July. The weekend festival was on the route of Stage 1 and just 10 miles from the nearest point of Stage 2, enabling visitors to cycle parts of the route and see Le Tour en Yorkshire. Velofest was also a music festival, with live acts both nights culminating with headline act, Toploader, on the Sunday night.



● Meriden is said to be at the centre of England



● A new plaque was unveiled for cyclists killed in action

MERIDEN MARKS CENTENARY

FOUR HUNDRED cyclists attended the Meriden centennial service to commemorate the sacrifice of cyclists in WW1. The service was held on Sunday 18 May, just after the June-July issue of Cycle went to press. Riders began arriving from 10am onwards, their jerseys showing them to have ridden from Gloucestershire, Cheltenham, Tamworth, Evesham, and further afield.

John Bennett, one of the organisers, said: 'We were very pleased to have a great turnout on the day. It was fantastic to see cyclists come from far and wide to mark this occasion and pay their respects to cyclists who fought and died in the war.'

The ceremony commenced with a

brass band, and the Bishop of Warwick led the service to mark the 100 years since the start of the First World War. He also unveiled a new plaque dedicated to cyclists killed in action since 1945.

The memorial was originally unveiled in 1921 by CTC, and more than 10,000 cyclists attended. In the First World War, some cyclists joined the Army Cyclist Corps, which played a key role in reconnaissance and provided vital communications at the front. Many cyclists also joined up as ordinary soldiers.

For more about cyclists in the First World War, turn to page 48. For a blog about the day from CTC's Ed Holt, see bit.ly/1jtiZAb