

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### ► TRI-VETS RETURN FOR 2013

2013 will be a CTC 'Tri-Vets' year, and we are looking for Member Groups to put on events. The CTC Triennial Veterans' Rides are 100-mile 'century' rides' organised throughout the country every three years. They're exclusively for veterans aged 50-plus. Camaraderie runs high, as does the determination to complete the event in the allotted time of 12 hours. Member Groups interested in organising an event as part of a national series in the middle of June 2013 should send initial emails of interest to [ctcevents@ctc.org.uk](mailto:ctcevents@ctc.org.uk).

### ► BIG BIKE BASH

This year's Big Bike Bash takes place on 18-19 August at Avon Tyrrell in the New Forest. Aimed at the keen biker or the happy amateur, the event combines mountain biking with live music and a beer festival. The cross-country race course is 5km of twisty singletrack that includes water crossings and North Shore. There are also fun competitions like pint-to-pint racing, malt loaf eating and a lake jump. There are plenty of activities to keep non-bikers and children entertained. Ticket prices for this year's event, with overnight camping available, are £40 per adult and £20 for under-18s who compete and £10 for non-competitors. Tickets for under-12s cost just 1p, with an accompanying adult. Last year's event raised £8,000, which has gone into improving the off-road cycling facilities for young people at Avon Tyrrell. For more about the event, visit [bigbikebash.co.uk](http://bigbikebash.co.uk).



### ► MILDENHALL RALLY

Mildenhall Cycling Rally runs as usual over the August Bank Holiday weekend, 25-27 August. Camping is available on site; booking forms are on the website. Grass-track racing will form the centrepiece of the Rally, while CTC Suffolk will be organising a range of audax rides. There will be a two-day trade show (Sunday and Monday) open to the public. Full details at [mildenhallrally.org.uk](http://mildenhallrally.org.uk).



Photos by Paul Hepworth & Dan Joyce

## York weathers the storm

**NORTH YORKSHIRE** was deluged with rain just before this year's York Cycle Show, raising doubts that the racecourse-based event could go ahead. The organising committee had already had to set up the show in three increasingly wet days rather than five, because of the arrival of the Olympic torch in the city, and then on Friday the weather worsened. The committee met that day and decided to proceed.

While the weather eased over the weekend, any routes onto the racecourse – and particularly to the camping pitches – became quagmires. Show registration was moved to the entrance, cars re-routed, and some visitors and traders were towed on site.

On Saturday, the weekend's events got underway with the Ron Kitching Challenge Rides departing, followed by various leisure rides led by local volunteers. The trade tents provided welcome shelter for many when rain returned. In the arena, CTC's Ginny Leonard worked with local MTB activity operators Grit Track and Trail running skills sessions for younger riders.

Samsung Bike Week shared a gazebo with CTC, and the ever popular Savage Skills stunt team packed visitors four deep around their display area. North Yorkshire Police officers

showcased their bikes and provided a useful site security presence. A climbing wall proved popular with many youngsters. Visiting speakers included Brooks Saddles, CTC Chief Executive Gordon Seabright, and technical guru Chris Juden. Three vintage bike groups presented a combined display.

The afternoon Cycle Auction got underway, led by York Lions. As they vacated their marquee, the Foresters folk group moved in to set up, then gave a rousing evening's entertainment.

The rain that had already fallen presented another problem: the River Ouse flooded the riverside cyclepath, complicating Sunday's cycle parade from the Minster to the racecourse. But the cyclists were safely re-routed.

Council Chair David Cox presented the Cliff Pratt Award to retired Committee colleague Trevor Wheatcroft of Hull, who had long managed the campsite bookings. We hope that Trevor is restored to full health soon.

None of the Committee is getting any younger, and we would welcome younger volunteers at our November AGM in York, when the 2012-13 Committee will be elected.

**Paul Hepworth, Chair of York Cycle Show Committee**

- 1 Q&A with Chris Juden – like Cycle, but live!
- 2 Wellies were a wise investment but rain didn't stop play
- 3 Trevor Wheatcroft (right) receives his award from David Cox
- 4 Spa's new audax bike

### SIGN UP FOR CYCLECLIPS

CTC's free weekly email newsletter: send your CTC membership no. to [membership@ctc.org.uk](mailto:membership@ctc.org.uk)

## CTC'S SPORTIVE DIARY

**ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY** cyclists ignored the threat of rain to take part in the CTC Ron Kitching Challenge Ride and Sportive on 23 July, setting off north from a muddy York Cycle Show to ride through the Howardian Hills and North York Moors. Many of those on the 150km route attempted the hard climb of Rosedale Chimney, which at 33% in places is one of the steepest roads in Britain.

The next events are the Phil Liggett Challenge Ride and Sportive, starting from Sheffield on 19 August; the Witches' Curse from Clitheroe on 9 September; and the Tour of Worcester on 14 October. Entries are open for all three at [ctcchallengerides.co.uk](http://ctcchallengerides.co.uk) – with on-the-day entries available where spaces are available. There's a £10 discount for CTC members and any group of four can enter for £60. The routes are fully marked and have feed stops, on course support including spare wheels, and a goody bag for all finishers.

Team Raleigh have announced they will be sending four riders from this year's squad to ride the Phil Liggett event, which includes the Peak District climbs of Holme Moss and Winnats Pass.

### Bewitching opportunity

For the Witches' Curse event, Merlin Cycles have come on board as the sponsor. Merlin exclusively distribute Sensa bikes, and to celebrate the partnership with CTC they are giving away a Sensa Umbria Tiagra Special worth over £500. It's a lightweight aluminium road bike (9.8kg) equipped with a full Shimano Tiagra groupset with a triple chainring, offering you the climbing ability you'll want for riding hilly sportives, whether you're a beginner or an experienced rider. For a full specification, and for more details of other Sensa bikes, visit [merlincycles.com](http://merlincycles.com).



Phil O'Connor/SportivePhoto.com

(Above) Climbing Rosedale Chimney on the CTC Ron Kitching Challenge Ride and Sportive. (Below) The Sensa Umbria Tiagra Special that we're giving away, thanks to Merlin Cycles



## The Cycle Show 2012

**THE CYCLE SHOW** returns to Birmingham's NEC on the 27-30 September, with Specialized, Trek, Madison and Chicken Cyclekit joining last year's exhibitors.

Inside the NEC halls, you'll find a new MTB pump track, electric bike village, and a VIP lounge where you can meet pro riders, medallists and celebs. Outside, there's an MTB demo track.

There are also extra cycling features and events to look forward to this year. After the show closes on Saturday, the action moves outside for a criterium race featuring elite international riders. And there are sportives setting off from the show on Sunday.

There's a 96km 'challenge' and 150km 'pro' sportive, which head into the Warwickshire countryside before returning in time for a visit to the show. The pro ride will include pro riders, as its name suggests.

CTC members get a 10% discount on the Tour Ride entries, from the normal price of £35. The discount code is **CTCTR**. Entering the sportive also gives you two show tickets for the price of one (valid on any day), plus half price parking on the day of the sportive. For more on the rides, visit [tourride.co.uk](http://tourride.co.uk)

To find out about all the latest from the show and to book tickets, visit [cycleshow.co.uk](http://cycleshow.co.uk). CTC members can book show tickets at a discounted price of £11.50 by visiting [cycleshow.co.uk/](http://cycleshow.co.uk/) CTC and using the code **CTC**.



Upper Street Events

As well as looking at next year's bikes, you'll be able to test them. Two sportives set off from the NEC too

### HOW TO ENTER

Complete the coupon below, or a photocopy, and send it to: Merlin Cycles Prize Draw, CTC, Parklands, Railton Road, Guildford, GU2 9JX.



Name .....

Membership no .....

Address .....

Daytime telephone number .....

Email: .....

Preferred size: 48  50  52  54  56  58  60  62

I do not wish to receive offers from Merlin Cycles.

I do not wish my details to be passed onto any third party.

### CTC PRIZE DRAW RULES

**1.** This is a prize draw open to CTC members. One entry per person. **2.** Entries must be received by 31 August 2012. **3.** The draw will be made on 5 September 2012. **4.** The winner will be notified and may be required to take part in publicity. **5.** There is one prize, as described, donated by Merlin Cycles. **6.** There is no cash alternative. **7.** Bike sizes subject to availability. **8.** Employees of CTC, James Pembroke Publishing, Merlin Cycles and their agents cannot enter. **9.** Entry coupons will become the property of Merlin Cycles after the draw, unless indicated otherwise.