Camping show

PITCH UP AT THE NEC

The Caravan, Camping and Motorhome Show returns to Birmingham’s NEC from 21-26 February. A dedicated Tent & Camping Hall will display hundreds of tents, including lightweight ones for cycling adventures. Cycling UK members can get advance tickets for just £11.50 by quoting CYC23 at ccmshow.co.uk.

Donate

CYCLISTS’ DEFENCE FUND

A big thank you to everyone who has supported the Cyclists’ Defence Fund (CDF). Your donation will be put to good use as we look to address more injustices in 2023 and make cycling safer for all. If you haven’t already, please watch Duncan Dollimore talking about where we might be taking action next (cyclinguk.org/campaign/cyclists-defence-fund) and consider making a monthly donation to CDF. Every pound helps.

A WAY AHEAD?

We’re a step closer to the creation of a multi-user route for England’s newest National Trail, Wainwright’s Coast to Coast route, thanks to your donations to the Cyclists’ Defence Fund. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) and Natural England agreed to further discussions with Cycling UK and the British Horse Society (BHS) after the two charities threatened legal action over the lack of consideration of a multi-use route. The Wainwright route from St Bees to Robin Hood’s Bay has been a popular walking trail for many years and is now to be dedicated as a National Trail. However, Natural England has a legal duty when creating new National Trails to consider how they could be made multi-use. They failed to do this and ignored recommendations from a report by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, which highlighted the wider benefits that a route for cyclists and horse riders could bring. Natural England has now agreed to make this report public and consider the recommendations.

Cycling UK and BHS are proposing a ‘braided’ route, which follows existing bridleway sections of the Coast to Coast route and then diverts onto parallel trails for other parts. This would not alter the walking route, just create further opportunities for people to enjoy the amazing landscapes in different ways. Moving forwards, we’ll be working with partners along the trail to refine and develop a proposed riders’ route, so that it can become an official alternative route for the National Trail, as well as looking at ways to promote responsible access.

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Our route suggestions for you to try in 2023: cyclinguk.org/article/23-cycle-routes-do-2023

Access

CRIMINALS ON DARTMOOR

Veer off the bridleways or byways in Dartmoor and you could be prosecuted for a criminal offence. There are miles of surfaced tracks and old tramways used by rangers and their 4x4s, which it is currently illegal to cycle along. The National Park has the opportunity to update its current bylaws after 25 years this year. Cycling UK hopes it will listen and remove the unnecessary restrictions for people wishing to enjoy Dartmoor while cycling. cyclinguk.org/offroadcampaigns