



Katherine Miles,
a 2024 winner

Awards

100 WOMEN IN CYCLING

Cycling UK's 100 Women in Cycling returns this month, celebrating exceptional women who make a meaningful difference in the cycling community. You can discover the full list, read profiles and be inspired by their stories on our website, cyclinguk.org/100women, from mid-December. Don't miss this chance to explore, celebrate and share the achievements of women who are championing positive change in cycling.

Communications

BRAND NEW CYCLING UK

Research shows us that awareness of Cycling UK and what we do is low, and that our current brand isn't helping us to engage new people. So we are working on an improved brand to communicate who we are and what we stand for. This process will invite input from members, trustees and others. We're not changing our name; we'll still be Cycling UK. The new brand will launch in spring.



Only 1 in 4
households with an
income below £15,000
have access to a bike
(source: Department
for Transport)



Report potholes to help
get them fixed promptly

Campaigns

FILL THOSE HOLES

As the frosts arrive, water that's seeped into the cracks in the road will freeze and thaw and the potholes will expand. People will post pictures of lifeguards at the side of craters in the road or rubber ducks floating in them, though I'm uneasy about attempts to highlight the problem through humour.

In January 2023 Cycling UK member Harry Colledge tragically died after hitting a six-inch deep crack in a road near Preston. The coroner at the inquest into his death found that a previous inspection of the road by highways officers had been "insufficient and of an unacceptable standard", that the council's position "defies all reasonable logic", and that Harry's family were "well within their rights to be outraged". I doubt they see anything humorous in the collective failure of national and local governments to fix this problem.

If you've been injured after hitting a pothole and tried to claim compensation, you might have received a response saying

that when the council last inspected the road, on a given date, they didn't see a pothole. That defence doesn't really work if the council has been told about a pothole and done nothing about it. So we've made it easy for anyone to report hazards on UK roads with our Fill That hole reporting tool, fillthathole.org.uk, in association with Cycle-SOS (part of Fletchers Solicitors).

Since we launched Fill That Hole in 2007, more than 200,000 road defects have been reported on the site, helping councils prioritise their repair works. But after 16 years the old Fill That Hole tool was looking in need of a revamp, so we're grateful to Cycle-SOS, who operate our members Incident Line (cycle-sos.co.uk/cycling-uk-incident-line), for their additional support to relaunch Fill That Hole on a new platform in January this year. If you haven't used Fill That Hole for a while, try it the next time you see a pothole on your travels – nearly 5,000 people have done so this year alone.

Duncan Dollimore