

Cycling UK: Parklands,
Railton Road, Guildford, GU2 9JX
E: cycling@cyclingsuk.org
W: cyclingsuk.org
T: 01483 238301

Cycle promotes the work of Cycling UK. Cycle's circulation is approx. 51,000. Cycling UK is one of the UK's largest cycling membership organisations, with approx. 70,500 members and affiliates.

Chief Executive: Sarah Mitchell. Cyclists' Touring Club, a Company Limited by Guarantee, registered in England No 25185, registered as a charity in England and Wales Charity No 1147607 and in Scotland No SC042541.

Registered office: Parklands, Railton Road, Guildford, GU2 9JX.

Cycle magazine:

Editor: Dan Joyce

E: editor@cyclingsuk.org

Designer: Christina Richmond

Advertising: Millie Ursell

T: 0203 198 3092

E: millie.ursell@jamespembroke.com

Publisher: James Houston.

Cycle is published six times per year on behalf of Cycling UK by

James Pembroke Media:

Ground Floor Riverside North,

Walcot Yard, Bath, BA1 5BG.

T: 01225 337 777

Cycle is copyright Cycling UK,

James Pembroke Media,

and individual contributors.

Reproduction in whole or in part

without permission from Cycling UK

and James Pembroke Media is

forbidden. Views expressed in the

magazine are those of the individual

contributors and do not necessarily

reflect those of the editor or the

policies of Cycling UK. Advertising

bookings are subject to availability,

the terms and conditions of James

Pembroke Media, and final approval

by Cycling UK.

Printed by: Acorn Web Offset Ltd,

Loscoe Close,

Normanton

Industrial

Estate,

Normanton,

WF6 1TW

T: 01924

220633

Printed by: Acorn Web Offset Ltd,

Loscoe Close,

Normanton

Industrial

Estate,

Normanton,

WF6 1TW

T: 01924

220633

Printed by: Acorn Web Offset Ltd,

Loscoe Close,

Normanton

Industrial

Estate,

Normanton,

WF6 1TW



Cover photo: Whiteleaf Hill, near Princes Risborough, on Royal Chilterns Way. By Robyn Furtado.



From the editor

If this were the December issue only, we might have had some robins and tinsel on the cover. But it's the December/January issue, so we're instead looking ahead to a ride you might do next year: Royal Chilterns Way, Cycling UK's latest long-distance route.

It's traditional, when Christmas trees have shed their needles and the winter gloom of January starts to seep into your bones, to think wistfully about the holiday (holidays?) you might have when the warmer weather arrives. I'm hoping for a week on Andalusian mountain roads with club mates, then several days (on-brand alert!) bikepacking Traus Eryri later on.

How far any of us will need to rein in our 2026 holiday aspirations remains to be seen; this issue will be landing on doormats shortly after the UK Autumn Budget. The good news is that great cycling trips don't have to break the bank. When you're cycling abroad, day-to-day expenses might be limited to lunchtime snacks and espressos, then a glass or two of wine with dinner. In the UK you can trim the fat even further.

Back in the February/March issue (cyclingsuk.org/touring-under-£100), Rob Ainsley wrote about the week's cycling holiday he enjoyed on a budget of £100. This issue he's exploring low-cost, alternative accommodation options for those who don't fancy bivvying under a hedge – hostels, bunkhouses and more. You could go cheaper still, eliminating the overnight costs by using your own home for a week of day rides that you haven't done before.

Whatever your plans for 2026, I hope they involve getting away from it all by bike. You deserve it.



DAN JOYCE
Editor



QUICK RELEASES

04 Freewheeling

Bits and pieces from the bike world

07 Quick releases

Brilliant glow rides; special offer on gift membership; police turn a blind eye to station bike theft; new e-bike assurance scheme; and more

TOUR & EXPLORE

16 Chiltern thrills

Riding Cycling UK's latest long-distance bikepacking route

24 Weekender

The Edinburgh Dawn Patrol: a spin around the Scottish capital

26 Brompton oratory

Talking up the benefits of a hire-bike Brompton taken on tour

FEATURE

30 Overnight successes

Alternative accommodation options for UK tours

REVIEWS

37 Gear

Components and accessories tested

44 Shop window

Previews of new products

46 Books

Cycling inspiration when you're stuck inside

48 Small wonders

Compact electric folding bikes from FLIT and MiRider

55 Cube Nuroad Pro FE

An all-rounder for gravel, touring and commuting

58 Grinder-resistant D-locks

Six locks designed to thwart tooled-up thieves

OVER TO YOU

63 Letters

Your feedback on Cycle and cycling

66 Profile

Finding balance again

68 Q&A

Your technical, health and legal questions answered

70 Bike finder

A practical utility bike that will carry a trombone

73 Travellers' tales

Cycling UK members' ride reports