

EVENT NEWS

RECENT & FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN THE CYCLING WORLD



EVENTS NEWS IN BRIEF

MILDENHALL RALLY

There's another way to get to the Mildenhall Cycling Rally, which takes place in Suffolk from 27-29 August. Anyone living within the 165-mile route travelled by Yorkshire Bikeline from Hull to Mildenhall can take advantage of a £15.00 return fare for them, their cycle and any luggage. To book your place on the Yorkshire Bikeline, contact them direct on 01482 222122 or by email to bikeline@bikelinekaroo.co.uk. More information about the Mildenhall Cycling Rally is at www.mildenhallrally.org.uk.

BIG BIKE BASH

This year the Big Bike Bash mountain bike festival will take place on the weekend of 20-21 August at the charity UK Youth's Avon Tyrell Activity Centre in the New Forest. A celebration of all things mountain biking, it attracted 400 riders and their families in 2010. The 2011 event promises to be even bigger, with mountain biking events for all ages. There's a cross-country race, a lake jump, and a new jumps track. The Big Bike Bash has a festival atmosphere, with live music and a bar selling real ale. Ticket prices are £40 per adult and £20 for under-18s, which includes on-site camping. For more information, call Matt on 07854 556138, Nick on 07947 583585, or visit www.bigbikebash.co.uk.

SCARBOROUGH FESTIVAL

A festival of cycling took place in Scarborough from 10-12 June, with CTC involved via the Cycle Champions project and affiliated local club Richardsons CC. On the Friday there was a BMX display at Hairy Bob's Skatepark. Saturday saw British Cycling run GoRide races for children and road races for adults on Oliver's Mount. Sunday had a guided social ride up the Scarborough-Whitby cycle path.

York on course

CTC's York Cycle Show on 25-26 June marked the end of Bike Week, and saw sunny conditions and healthy visitor numbers. The show's new Facebook and Twitter links, plus selective advertising in local and cycling media helped publicise the event to a wider audience.

After incurring losses during the last few years, the preliminary 2011 show figures are looking better. This year, for the first time, visitors were charged to enter the racecourse site, with a wristband system to show who had paid. We must apologise to those Saturday day visitors who were wrongly advised that their wristbands were only valid for that day. The colour distinction was intended only to help us make visitor counts.

The Ron Kitching CTC Challenge Ride and Sportive attracted a much bigger field this year, with 245 riders making their way over the Howardian Hills to the North York Moors and back. The prize for the best turned-out rider and bike in pre-1990 kit was won by Donald Smith. CTC's Chris Juden awarded him his prize of a Rouleur annual (top, centre), donated by Rouleur Publishing.

Back at the show, the crowds were entertained on both days by the Savage Skills stunt team. Children were kept amused by Bo Clown (alias Derek Carpenter), bungee jumping, and giant

inflatables. Inside the trade show, established attendees like Dawes and Islabikes were joined by some new faces, such as Claud Butler. An Olympic Torch Relay exhibition also visited the show.

Guest speakers gave talks at the show for the first time this year. They included paralympic cycling gold medallist David Stone, storyteller Roop Singh, staff from Brookes saddles, and CTC's own Roger Geffen.

The arena space was used by CTC Cycle Champions and Bike Club, who ran events for young riders over the weekend. Long-serving show committee member Dave Bishop has recently retired from active involvement in organising arena events, including those that form part of the British Cycling calendar.

For campers – and cyclists returning from rides – the gas-powered shower units again proved popular. We are grateful

to York Racecourse for the facility to connect to their water and drainage systems.

Sunday saw a good attendance by cyclists at the 9am York Minster Service and the return ride to the racecourse. A collection at the service went to The Yorkshire Air Ambulance, as did one at Saturday's Auction Sale. Long queues outside the lounge marquee for Sunday's 'saddlebag sale' testified to its popularity.

My thanks to the volunteers who came along on the Monday to help clear the site. We now await confirmation of York's 2012 horse racing calendar so that we can finalise next year's dates.

Anyone who can help arrange and co-ordinate competitive arena events, or otherwise assist with the running and development of the show, is welcome to attend our AGM at 10am in York Railway Institute, on Saturday 19 November.

Finally, everyone who spent £1 on a show programme was entered into a prize draw. Programme number 1079 wins the Claud Butler bike. Programme 601 wins a Feather Cycles T-shirt. Programmes 62 and 376 win a Combi Buff. Programme 717 wins a High 5 Race Pack. To claim your prizes, email yorkcycleshow@ctc.org.uk or call 07765 070120.

Paul Hepworth, Chair, York Cycle Show Committee

