

comfortable recumbent trike. Its only disadvantage is the difficulty of taking it on public transport. (I have no car.) I can now be seen every day in Cheltenham, cycling about, shopping and simply enjoying the outdoors.

Barry Lovius

TINY BIKE



This mountain bike is made of stainless steel and is smaller than a coin. It was made with a start-of-the-art laser cutting machine, and is kept by Midlands manhole manufacturer Fabweld Steel Products of Telford. The bicycle has pedals and treaded tyres. The company is considering selling the tiny two-wheeler in a charity auction.

Brian Bould

RAIN CHECK

As a regular cycle commuter, I was pleased to see the article in the June-July issue of Cycle about cycling to work. As I often cycle during the course of my working day, I can't use Lycra for all my journeys, so good waterproofs are a must – arriving at a meeting dripping wet is worse than arriving in shorts! My one bugbear has always been the lack of cycling-specific overtrousers with a full-length zip.

Plenty of these are on the market for walking, but I have completely failed to find any for cycling. Overtrousers designed for walking are not usually long enough or hardwearing enough around the seat. Having struggled and hopped my way into cycling overtrousers on the roadside too many times, I'd love to hear if anyone knows of any such trousers with full-length zips.

Pat Mackie

Overtrousers with a reinforced seat and zips part way up the lower leg are available – for example, the Endura Venturi II and Altura Attack overtrousers. But you might find Rainlegs sufficient for anything

but downpours (www.rainlegs.com). No hopping to get them on or off, either.

CONTACTS CORRECTION

Your report last issue under the heading Event News is incorrect in one respect. Janet Gregory is not the Secretary of Chester and North Wales CTC; she is the excellent Secretary of CTC Two Mills, a subsidiary member group of Chester & North Wales CTC, whose equally efficient Secretary is Lowri Evans.

David Ackerley

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Here's Steve Swanton (left) receiving his CTC Certificate of Merit from Chairman of CTC Wantage, John Tranter.

'Steve was a founder member of CTC Wantage in 1994,' said John Tranter. 'He has held all possible offices within the committee over this time, including Chairman and Secretary. He has shown complete dedication to the cause of making cycling accessible to all. He has been responsible for a number of new initiatives over the years, including the introduction of a "10 Mile Club" of weekly evening rides, specifically tailored to beginners.

'In April 2010, he was instrumental in organising the Abingdon Freewheeling Cycling Festival, which again had the specific aim of introducing people to the enjoyment of cycling. The event was a great success with approximately 200 cyclists registering for the graded rides.'

Steve Boreham, CTC Wantage



Letters are edited for space (if above 150 words), clarity and, if necessary, legality. Please note that if you have a specific complaint or query about CTC policy, you should address it to your CTC Councillor or relevant National Office staff member. Letters and emails for the October-November issue of Cycle must be received by 31 August.

OBITUARIES

JOHN BATTILANA: 1918-2011

John was born in Leeds and joined CTC in 1936, becoming a Life Member, and Secretary of the Leeds Section for 25 years. John met his wife Elsie through cycling, and they rode prodigious distances together. They cycled weekly as a family after the birth of their son, until prevented by Elsie's arthritis in the mid-1960s. John kept his bike in trim and briefly returned to the roads aged 85, after Elsie's death. Their ashes are scattered together at their favourite cycling destination. *Anthony Battilana*

BERNARD WILLIAMSON: 22/8/35-19/4/11

Bernard Williamson, a founder member of Reading CTC, died whilst cycling. He was a lifelong cyclist. We have Bernard to thank for Reading CTC's popular Tuesday rides. He led members on many runs, including the dawn till dusk rides. His enthusiasm for cycling led him to act as Publicity Officer for the Tandem Club for some years. Bernard was a campaigner too, and helped make some local routes fit for cyclists. I'll remember him for his youthful looks and cheerful manner. *Mick Simmons*

ANN DRAPER: JUNE 1940-MAY 2011

Ann started cycling in 1974, mainly to be with husband Philip and children Paul and Helen on Walsall Section Family Group rides. She later became Press Secretary, Social Secretary and Section President. She loved attending the CTC Birthday Rides and York Rally. She rode in five tri-vets, an achievement she was very proud of. Weekends and holidays were spent tandem touring with Philip in Suffolk, Holland and Belgium. Ann was a wonderful carer, especially when Helen – who had 14-month-old twins – had a stroke in 2001. *Phil Draper*

DAVID ALLBUTT: 17/8/48-19/5/11

Died in a collision with a car while cycling, details pending an inquest. Born in Chesterton, Dave joined Crewe Clarion Wheelers following his marriage to Sheila. Dave competed in time trials, road races and on the track. He was the club's BAR Champion in 2004 and pilot of the tandem crew that set the National Clarion 12-hour record of 255.66 miles in 1985. He put a great deal back into the sport, organising races, timekeeping, and encouraging beginners. *Andrew Grace*