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## FROM THE EDITOR

**AH, SUMMER.** Short sleeves, long rides, and the only sport I'll watch all year on the telly: the Tour de France. You don't have to be a sporting cyclist to appreciate it any more than you need to run around a stadium to appreciate the Olympics. You can follow each stage fanatically or just sit back and watch the peloton sweep through spectacular cycling countryside – spectacular cycling countryside like Yorkshire.

I dare say that there were a few raised eyebrows in the rest of Europe, and even the rest of Britain, when the Grand Départ was awarded to Yorkshire. Here (I write as resident) cyclists were excited and pleased, of course, but somewhat less surprised. Of course the Tour de France was coming to Yorkshire. Why wouldn't it?

If that sounds chauvinistic, consider that Lonely Planet last year put Yorkshire in the top three places in the world to visit in 2014. It's well worth coming to, especially with a bike.

Those panoramic helicopter shots of cyclists winding through the Dales and the Peak District may well prompt cyclists across Britain and the world to make just such a visit. The Tour de France isn't just a race. It's a window into the cycling possibilities that a place offers, a source of inspiration for your own more sedate tour of France... or of Yorkshire.

**Dan Joyce**  
EDITOR



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Clockwise from far left: Chris Juden, Dave Barber, Bruce Mathieson

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Shimano's drop-bar hydraulic-brake levers arrive

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