

#1 CYCLING MAGAZINE
 Cycle's circulation is **53,000**, making it the biggest UK cycling magazine.



Photos: Chris Juden & Steve Worland

Cycle is the magazine of CTC – the UK's national cyclists' organisation. With **68,500** members, plus affiliates, CTC is the UK's largest cycling membership organisation.

CTC Charitable Trust a Company Limited by Guarantee registered in England No 5125969, registered as a charity in England and Wales Charity No 1104324 and in Scotland Charity No SC038626. Cyclists' Touring Club (CTC) a Company Limited by Guarantee registered in England No 25185 and registered as a charity in Scotland No SC042541, application for registration in England and Wales currently subject to review.

CTC, Parklands, Railton Road, Guildford, GU2 9JX
 Tel: 0844 736 8450
 Email: cycling@ctc.org.uk
 Website: ctc.org.uk

CTC Patron:
 Her Majesty the Queen
President: Jon Snow
CTC Council Chair:
 David Cox
Chief Executive:
 Gordon Seabright

Cycle Magazine
Editor: Dan Joyce
 email: editor@ctc.org.uk
Designers:
 Simon Goddard and Gemma Hancock
Advertising:
 Arthur Priggs
 tel: 020 7487 8410
 email: arthurp@jppublishing.co.uk
Creative Director:
 James Houston

Publisher:
James Pembroke
 Cycle is published six times per year on behalf of CTC by James Pembroke Publishing, 90 Walcot Street, Bath, BA1 5BG. Tel: 01225 337777. Cycle is copyright CTC, James Pembroke Publishing and individual contributors. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission from CTC and James Pembroke Publishing 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 CTC. Advertising bookings are subject to availability, the terms and conditions of James Pembroke Publishing, and final approval by CTC. Printed by St Ives (Plymouth) Ltd, Eastern Wood Road, Plympton, Plymouth, PL7 5ET. Tel: 01752 349431
Cover: By Seb Rogers. Boredale House, at the southern end of Ullswater

{ FROM }

THE EDITOR



MOUNTAIN BIKING only moves forward when new ideas gain traction. The big noise now is 29-inch wheels, which touring cyclists will know better as 700Cs with fat tyres. Bigger wheels roll over bumps better and are more efficient on soft surfaces, so you'd think the off-road community would have immediately embraced them.

They didn't. Twenty-niners were barges; clown bikes; unnecessary. It's bizarre that a technologically fast-moving sector of the cycling world was so conservative.

In any event, big wheels aren't new but an older idea whose time has come. Gary Fisher has been pushing them hard for over a decade, and others longer than that. Twenty years ago, as a magazine staff writer, I tested a Specialized Crossroads hybrid with, I think, 700x40C tyres and real off-road potential.

The magazine's technical editor was Geoff Apps, whose Cleland cycles had debuted commercially in 1980 with 650B wheels. He approved of the Specialized's bigger wheels for use off-road, though the bike dropped off the radar soon after. Only now does the momentum behind bigger wheels seem unstoppable.

What we ride, of course, is less important than how and where we ride. In 20 years, the biggest change has been the development of trail centres. Yet access to 'natural' trails has stood still – except in one part of the UK: Scotland. Its open access laws are the gold standard that we'd do well to emulate elsewhere.

DAN JOYCE



Contents

EVERY ISSUE

- 6 News**
CTC's analysis of the cycling news
- 10 Campaigns comment**
Segregated cycling: is it the way forward?
- 19 Events news**
Recent and upcoming cycling events
- 23 Shop window**
Shiny things from bike shows
- 27 Letters**
Your feedback on Cycle and cycling
- 31 CTC & Me**
Chief Executive Kevin Mayne bows out
- 34 Cycling Planet**
The cycling legacy from the Olympics
- 56 Q&A**
Your technical, health and legal questions answered
- 70 Biketest: Raleigh Superbe**
1950s Heron-badged roadster reborn
- 72 Grouptest: pedals**
Clipless pedals for recessed cleats
- 76 Gear up**
Components, kit and accessories on test
- 80 CTC member benefits**
Special offers for CTC members

- 82 What's on**
CTC events in April and May
- 86 CTC Contacts**
How to get in touch, nationally and locally
- 89 Travellers' Tales**
CTC members' ride reports
- 91 CTC Cycling Holidays**
Let us take you there

THIS ISSUE

- 12 Charity update**
Green light from the Charity Commission
- 14 CTC AGM Agenda**
What we're voting on this May
- 36 Mud, pies, and off-road highs**
CTC's early-season Ride to the Pies event
- 44 Himalayan highway**
Cycle touring on the roof of the world
- 50 Stopped in our tracks?**
Can we kick-start off-road access?
- 62 They made it big**
29ers from Genesis, Whyte and Trek