

this is cycling UK



Stay in touch

- **CYCLECLIPS:** free weekly email newsletter. Sign up at cyclinguk.org/subscribe
- **CAMPAIGN NEWS:** monthly campaigns bulletin. Sign up at cyclinguk.org/subscribe-to-cycle-campaign-news



The road ahead

While cycling levels surged in 2020, group rides, cycle holidays, and events were badly hit. **Sarah Mitchell** looks forward to a more normal summer

Summer is the cycling season, and this year, fingers crossed, we should be able to get back to the group cycling we missed out on in 2020. For many of us there will be a huge sense of relief and excitement in seeing old friends again, being on the open road together, and descending on our favourite coffee-and-cake haunts. When we're out on our bikes, at least we can start to get the sense of a return to normal life.



And all just in time for the Women's Festival of Cycling, which kicked off on 17 July, shortly before Cycle went to press. There have been rides across the UK aimed at encouraging more women out onto their bikes, and we're looking forward to hearing all about them.

In recent months teams at Cycling UK have been busy launching two new projects north of the border. Shift provides grants to community organisations to run cycling activities in their local area, and Rural Connections supports people in Scotland's most remote areas to make more active everyday journeys. Both projects are funded by Transport Scotland.

In September we expect to hear the results of the Government's revisions to the Highway Code. Thanks to your efforts backing our campaign for improvements, we hope to see some significant changes on car-dooring, overtaking, and other vital areas that will improve road safety.

Over the summer you'll have the chance to support our projects and campaigns work – and win some fabulous prizes – with our annual raffle. All funds raised go to support our work. Prizes include an Islabikes e-bike and some CTC

heritage items. Find out more on pages 16 and 17.

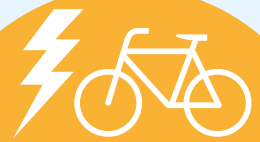
Recently the board of trustees had to make the difficult decision to wind up CTC Cycling Holidays and Tours (CTC H&T), which for 20 years offered volunteer-led cycling trips throughout the world. After many months of trying to find ways to grow the business, the trustees reluctantly came to the decision that

the combination of increased compliance costs, a drop in demand, and the huge market disruption caused by the pandemic made the business no longer viable.

I'm glad we'll be able to honour those trips already committed to, and hope that we will be able to share some alternative holiday offers for members in 2022. Meanwhile I'd like to thank all the volunteer directors and tour leaders who have given their time and expertise to CTC H&Ts over the years, and to the participants who all added to that unique 'CTC Tours' camaraderie. If you have a particular memory of a tour, please do consider sharing this in our Travellers' Tales section in Cycle. Get in touch at editor@cyclinguk.org.

In this issue you'll also hear about our Routes and Roots trail in Belfast, a new leisure route that brings to life the city's unique maritime history. Our Tales of the Trails route in South Wales aims to do the same for that area's mining history.

I'll be celebrating other aspects of our heritage in the coming months. I'm excited to be joining CTC Coventry to celebrate their centenary in October. I also hope to join the Meriden Cyclists' Memorial Service in September, and I very much hope we'll be able to do this in person as planned!



£2,699.99

Value of the Islabikes eJanis e-bike you could win in our summer raffle (p16-17)

“
I'd like to thank all the volunteer directors and tour leaders who gave their time and expertise to CTC Cycling Holidays and Tours
”