PRODUCT NEWS FROM THE CYCLING WORLD

Kids' stuff

It's not often you see scores of smiling kids pedalling and scooting around at once, but that was that scene at the Islabikes family fun day on 27th March near Ludlow. Held at the company's new rural premises to celebrate four years in business, its prime purpose was for cycling families to try out the children's bikes on led rides, an obstacle course, and in the test area. But there was also a presentation of the 2010 bikes, which is why Cycle was attending.

The miniature-reach brake lever is made by Tektro solely for Islabikes

Colour is the most obvious change, with the bikes now offered in red and blue not just platinum silver. A big choice in bike spec and accessories – including tyre options, smaller carrier racks and appropriate panniers – is already available on ordering.

The range has been extended at the top end with a Luath 700 Large, a do-it-all road/touring/cyclo-cross bike suitable for riders aged 13-plus. At the bottom end, even the tiny Rothan balance bike now comes with a brake. Also appearing on the Cnoc starter bikes, this miniature-reach lever is made by Tektro solely for Islabikes.

It's one of a number of parts made specifically for Islabikes. Others include the tube sets, which are thinner and lighter than tubes for adult bikes as they



don't need to be as strong; a very short-reach Ahedstem; and chromoplastic mudguards for smaller wheels.

Also new for 2010 is a collection of four fixed-wheel track bikes for children aged 6 to 10-plus. The Reis range is available with 20in (451), 24in (507), 26in (559) and 700C (622) wheels. Clearances are sufficient for grass-track racing as well as hard-surfaced tracks.

Children's cycle clothing wasn't ready for the presentation but is in the pipeline.

For more information, visit www.islabikes.co.uk or 01584 856881.

Moulton specials

To celebrate the 90th birthday of engineer and innovator Dr Alex Moulton, saddle makers Brooks England have produced a limited edition, individually numbered 'AM90' Swift saddle in 'Oxblood' coloured leather. The first example was presented to Dr Moulton fitted to a stainless steel F-frame design Moulton called the Moulton Sixty, which was built as a gift for him.

The remaining 89 saddles are offered for sale by The Moulton Bicycle Company on

a first come, first served basis. With strong demand from overseas,

anyone wanting one of these unique saddles is advised to act quickly. As for the Moulton Sixty, it is rumoured that this may appear as a production model. Dr Moulton celebrated his 90th birthday on 9th April. He pioneered small wheels and full suspension in the cycle market when he launched his eponymous bike in 1962. It remains popular today, typically in a space-frame design.

Dr. Moulton's memoirs, 'From Bristol to Bradford on Avon' were published earlier this year. It's comprehensive account of his engineering achievements that should appeal to Moulton aficionados. Find out more at www.alexmoultonbooks.com.

For more on the bikes or the new saddle, visit www.moultonbicycles. co.uk or tel. 01225 865895.

PRODUCT NEWS IN BRIEF

8-SPEED ROADRAT Cotic have launched an Alfine hub-geared version of their 700Cwheeled steel-framed commuting bike, the Roadrat. Retailing for £849, it's comfortably under the £1,000 limit for Cycle2Work bikes. The bike comes with a flat bar, V-brakes and 28mm tyres, and the frame has fittings for mudguards, rear carrier, and disc brakes front and rear. It's also available as flat and drop bar singlespeed versions, as a flat bar derailleur-geared bike. and as a frame. See www.cotic.co.uk.

ELECTRIC BIKE MAG

The arowing electric cycle market is to get a dedicated magazine from August 2010, when the first issue of Electric Rike is launched. Produced by Velo Vision Ltd the company behind the magazine of the same name - it will focus on electricassist cycle reviews, accessories and events. A quarterly subscription will cost £10 but it will also be available free online and at selected cycle dealers. Its only competition, as far as we can see, is the increasingly electric-cycle focused A2B Magazine. For more about Electric Bike, visit www. electricbikemag.co.uk or tel: 01904 692800.

THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE

A2Z have launched a singlespeed conversion kit to switch a 9- or 10speed Campag cassette for a solitary cog. It costs £14.95 and is available from Windwave dealers: www.vindwave.co.uk.