

News, views, & events

QUICK RELEASES

THIS MONTH GREAT NEWS ON GIFT AID MEANS HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS IN EXTRA FUNDING. PLUS: A POLL OF THE CLUB & SUMMER EVENTS

Finance

CYCLING UK WINS GIFT AID!

The taxman said yes: you can now Gift Aid your membership and help Cycling UK raise £500,000. **Matt Mallinder** explains how



The Inland Revenue agrees: it's charitable promoting cycling for all

Photo: You Can Bike Too

AFTER LENGTHY negotiations with the Inland Revenue, Cycling UK has won the right for our members to have their membership fee Gift Aided, such is the public benefit of enabling, developing and supporting people to cycle. That's more money for training, touring, campaigning and inclusive cycling promotion.

Gift Aid is worth an extra £8.35 every year to the charity for a standard £43.00 adult membership – at no cost to you. It gets better: we can also retrospectively claim Gift Aid back to the time we became a charity in 2012. So that could turn your £8.35 into £33.40. If just a quarter of the membership signed up to Gift Aid, this could be worth £500,000.

WHAT IS GIFT AID?

Gift Aid enables a charity to claim 25p for each £1 of your donation. This is equivalent to

us claiming tax back on the money that you've paid on donations (such as your membership).

WHY CYCLING UK IS CHARITABLE

Your membership provides you with a range of personal benefits, such as third-party insurance, but your membership fee also pays for a wider range of charitable services that benefit both you and wider society.

You support our campaigning work to get funding for cycling and improved cycling infrastructure, both nationally and locally through our Right to Ride network. That improves your cycling environment and that of every other cyclist. So that's charitable. The 13,000 rides that our Member Groups put on every year are open to all newcomers to experience the social, wellbeing and fitness benefits of cycling together. That's charitable. Every pound of your membership fee can be doubled through statutory funders, grants and corporates to generate funding for our local cycling development projects. In the last year alone, we've helped 95,000 people overcome barriers – physical, mental, economic and social – to take up cycling. That's charitable.

WHAT IT'S WORTH

Gift Aid could be worth somewhere in the region of £100,000 to £200,000 every year to Cycling UK. Since we can retrospectively claim back to the time we became a charity in 2012, that would quadruple Gift Aid savings

Stay in touch

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

IT'S EASY, NOT TAXING

Am I eligible for Gift Aid?

Anyone paying income tax in one calendar year equal to the value of the gift to the charity – e.g. £8.35 for adult membership of Cycling UK – can claim Gift Aid. This could be tax paid on your personal salary or on your pension income. You can Gift Aid as many charities as you support, as long as you paid the corresponding income tax.

Self-assessment taxpayers can claim Gift Aid on donations too, and higher-rate income taxpayers can claim even more Gift Aid by virtue of paying more tax. See www.gov.uk/donating-to-charity/gift-aid for further details.

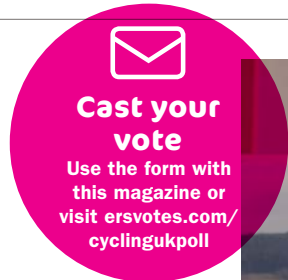
HOW TO SIGN UP FOR GIFT AID

There are five easy ways to sign up:

- Complete the personalised Gift Aid form that will be sent to you via email in the next few days.
- Visit www.cyclinguk.org/giftaid and log on to the website using your membership number, then complete the online form.
- Complete the paper declaration included with the separate address sheet in this magazine.
- Phone **01483 238301** and speak to one of the membership team.
- Complete the Gift Aid form with your letter of renewal or when you renew online.

giftaid it

for the first year. It would make a huge difference in the level and volume of our campaigning, to the support and development that we could give to our group network, and towards getting the UK cycling. There's no additional cost to you, and the Gift Aid form takes only moments to complete online or by post. Thank you for your consideration. ➤



CTC rebrand

OFFICIAL NOTICE: POLL OF THE WHOLE CLUB

Voting papers and a Freepost address are provided with this issue of Cycle – or you can vote online

CTC RECENTLY rebranded and is now trading as Cycling UK. A petition from some members under article 11.2 of the charity’s governing document means that members are now being asked to vote to either confirm or reverse the decision of CTC Council (charity trustees elected by the membership), who voted 15-1 that the charity should rebrand. The background on the rebrand was in the April/May issue of Cycle and can be seen at bit.ly/cyclinguk-rebrand.

THE POLL, PROPOSED BY PHILIP BENSTEAD:

“We are petitioning the CTC to demand a poll of the whole club so CTC members will have the opportunity to endorse or overturn the motion passed at CTC Council meeting on 23rd January 2016 that agreed to the replacement of the existing branding of ‘Cyclists’ Touring Club or CTC’ and associated logo(s) and heritage marks with ‘CYCLING UK’ or another branding name and logo(s).”

SUPPORTING WORDS FROM PROPOSER PHILIP BENSTEAD

“Some think ‘Cyclists’ Touring Club’ is unappealing or nondescript. To rectify this, it was re-branded as ‘Cycling UK’. This brand has been criticised by many – bit.ly/1WpVAC2. In addition, the acronym (‘CUK’) has disagreeable connotations and the word champion suggests competitiveness.

“In my view, the consultation with the membership and implementation were dubious, with the use of survey methods lacking in intellectual rigour. I believe that with the Council required by the Chair to maintain commercial confidentiality, the membership were kept in the dark.

“Over time, we have adjusted our name –

“We needed a new name that covers the full breadth of what we do”

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cycling_UK – but since 1883, it has become established in the corridors of power and the media. We learnt at the AGM that the CEO welcomes use of the word ‘CLUB’ and that he wishes to promote and develop the use of the ‘WINGED WHEEL’. This seems inopportune to discard the related name. What counts is ‘What does CTC do for CYCLING and those who enjoy it’ and to broadcast it as widely as possible. How to make ‘Cyclists’ Touring Club’ relevant: we need to embrace the full name and incorporate a strapline that shouts out to all. ‘Cyclists’ Touring Club’ – The ‘Voice’ of Cycling.”

RESPONSE FROM DAVID COX, CHAIR OF COUNCIL:

Since 2011, Council has considered extensive research conducted by three separate agencies, with members, groups, non-members, partners and government. This research backed up our experiences, that while the name Cyclists’ Touring Club explains what some of our members do – tour – it fails to explain the full breadth of what this charity now does.

The name Cyclists’ Touring Club or CTC doesn’t help us when campaigning for better cycling infrastructure, nor in getting media attention. It has limited appeal when attracting newcomers to our local leisure rides, to our cycle training and community cycling projects, or to off-road cyclists.

Since 1878, we have been the voice of all UK cyclists, standing up to protect the rights of cyclists on and off-road, changing political will and gaining funding for cycling infrastructure (www.cyclinguk.org/history). Today, we lead over 13,000 local group rides, our Cyclists’ Defence Fund fights cycling injustice and, through our community cycling project work, last year alone we helped one million people start and continue to cycle. That’s why we need a name that encompasses the breadth of what we do, not just for recognition from the five million existing cyclists – but to reach out to the UK population who rarely cycle or never have.



Former Councillor Philip Benstead proposed the poll of the whole club



Chair David Cox is calling for members to endorse the rebrand



HOW TO VOTE:

Please do take the time to vote at www.ersvotes.com/cyclingukpoll or by using the voting form attached to the address sheet supplied with this issue of Cycle. If you have any queries with regards to voting, please contact Cycling UK membership on 01483 238301 during office hours or email membership@cyclinguk.org.





The Get Gorge-ous riders began with 5-mile training rides

Find events near you
 Search for organised rides at cyclinguk.org/uk-cycling-events

Cycle shorts

WELSH FESTIVAL OF CYCLING

The Welsh Festival of Cycling returns to Llandovery in mid Wales from 21-26 July. It's based at Llandovery Rugby Club, where pitches for tents, caravans and motorhomes will be available. There will be four rides per day, from short family rides to 70-mile ones into the surrounding hills, including audax rides and Tourist Competition events. Those wishing to explore off-road are also catered for. For details, contact Emrys Jones: [01952 257522, demrys2jones@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:01952257522_demrys2jones@hotmail.co.uk).

ELECTION TIME

At the AGM in Derby on 7 May, the proposed governance changes were endorsed by members, so the Board of Trustees is now implementing those changes, including the new process of recruiting Board members. The next edition of Cycle will include full details on how to apply to become a Board member of Cycling UK. The full governance proposal can be found online: bit.ly/cyclinguk-governance2016

Cycling events

CYCLE INTO SUMMER

There are scores of Cycling UK rides and events across the country this June and July. **Tony Upfold** picks out a handful

I F YOU'RE looking for inspiration for your cycling summer, visit the Cycling UK website (see 'Find events near you' above). Here's a sample of four events taking place in June, July and beyond.

1 GET GORGE-OUS

Nearly 80 Cycling UK members are looking forward to having a gorgeous time when they tackle the longest bike ride of their lives on Saturday 2 July. They will be taking part in the 2016 Get Gorge-ous Cycle Challenge – a 50-mile trip from Bristol to the Cheddar Gorge and back. The event, organised by Cycle Bristol CTC, invites adults of all abilities to get on their bikes and discover – or rediscover – the joys of cycling. Those lucky enough to get a place have been taking part in training rides, beginning with a five-mile outing in February. Cycle Bristol CTC club secretary Liz Daniels said: 'It has been really rewarding to see the riders' fitness and confidence grow as each week goes by.'

2 RIDELONDON

Cyclists will once again take over the capital's closed roads as the RideLondon FreeCycle enters its fourth year. Since the event's inception, Cycling UK and over 800 volunteers have serviced over 10,000 bikes there. We are now taking registrations from members who would like to be part of our volunteer Dr Bike team for 2016. We will be helping participants enjoying the FreeCycle on Saturday 6 August at six locations, providing basic bike safety checks. All volunteers will

receive a Cycling UK T-shirt and goody bag, and a travel bursary is available. For details or to volunteer, visit cyclinguk.org/support-cycling-uk/volunteer.

3 TOURIST COMPETITION

Congratulations to Paul Mills, Lowri Evans, and Chester & North Wales, the winners of the Tourist Competition's male (and overall), female and group categories for 2015. More than 3,000 participants took part in over 179 events across the UK. For more details about the winners and runners-up, see bit.ly/cyclinguk-touristcomp2015. The 2016 Tourist Competition is well underway, with a few changes to make it easier to take part. Members need only register once for the whole competition. Other improvements will include more support for organisers and better communication with participants with regular results and event updates. Visit cyclinguk.org/ctc-tourist-competition.

4 TRI-VETS

More than 600 cyclists have already registered for the 2016 Tri-Vets. If you are over 50 and would like a summer cycling challenge, why not have a go? To earn the Tri-Vets 2016 award and certificate, you must ride 100 miles or 100 kilometres in 12 hours in one of the events. These rides are not races and have a wonderful social aspect to them, with lunch, route guidance and support offered on most. To register, go to cyclinguk.org/cycling-uk-tri-vets-rides-2016.



Camping is available at York Rally from £25 for the weekend

Photo: Mike Handley

YORK RALLY RETURNS

Following its successful relaunch last year, the now independent York Rally returns on the weekend of 18-19 June to its traditional home on the Knavesmire at York Racecourse. Entry, parking, and most activities are free. There will be rides out from the Rally each day, while events on site include a trade show, grasstrack racing, an auction, a saddlebag sale, cycle club displays, cycling talks, and a Go-Ride skills circuit for children. There will be a range of catering available, including a bar. Campsite bookings for the weekend cost from £25 for a lightweight pitch and from £30 for a motorist pitch. For details, visit the website yorkrally.org.