

this is cycling UK



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Code unread?

Most people don't re-read the Highway Code so this year's welcome revisions risk going unnoticed. Cycling UK is working to change that, says **Sarah Mitchell**

What good is a change in the rules if no one knows about them? Following our campaigning win on the Highway Code earlier this year we've been busy highlighting the facts about the changes to road users far and wide, as well as pushing the Department for Transport to invest in high-quality information campaigns.

Many of you enjoyed our simple illustrations, our frequently-asked-questions, and our short and clear film about the new Highway Code [all of which you can view at cyclinguk.org/highwaycode]. Thanks to you, our members, we were successful in this campaign after many years, and thanks also to many of you for helping spread the word about the changes to your friends and family.

At Cycling UK we are determined to introduce more people to the joys of cycling each year. That's why we are really delighted to have secured continued funding for our behaviour change projects in Scotland from Transport Scotland, and in England from the Department for Transport. In the last year alone these projects worked with tens of thousands of people across disadvantaged communities, and they are central to our mission of getting millions more people cycling. Find out more about our behaviour change work here: cyclinguk.org/community-outreach.

Our members regularly tell us about poor-quality cycle lanes, and we know that road design is important in encouraging people to cycle across the UK. So we welcome the creation of Active Travel England. This new body, headed up in the interim by former professional cyclist Chris Boardman, will set out and enforce good and consistent design standards in infrastructure in all our towns and cities. We'll be supporting



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Right: Robert Spinning

the new board as it develops and have high hopes for its impact.

In the meantime, there is an immediate way for Cycling UK members and supporters to influence your local area and ensure that it becomes more cycle-friendly. This May national elections in Northern Ireland and local elections in Wales, Scotland and England are your chance to have your say. We'd

love you to get involved: we've produced cycling manifestos and would encourage you to ask your local candidates to adopt these. See page 47 and cyclinguk.org/elections-2022.

As the days lengthen and (hopefully!) the weather improves we know that many of you will be turning your attention to your cycling adventures for 2022. That's why we'll be launching our newest route, the Cantii Way in Kent, on 26 May (cyclinguk.org/cantii-way-2022).

Following on from this there's our annual celebration of cycling, Bike Week (cyclinguk.org/bikeweek), which takes place from 6-12 June. For seven days we'll be inspiring local communities to help make the changes they'd like to see through cycling. We encourage you to take part, show how great riding can be, and make a donation so that we can reach even more people and enable everyone to cycle.

Another date for your diary should be the National Cycling Show: after two years of covid complications, shows are back – and we'll be there. Cycling UK members can get a free ticket (cyclinguk.org/MemberBenefit-NCS), so do join us at Birmingham NEC on 18-19 June.

Happy cycling this spring, and I look forward to seeing many of you out and about. ●



16,500

Members and supporters who backed Cycling UK's Highway Code campaign

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