



Wooden work? Think again

BAMBOO MOUNTAIN BIKE

Bamboo bikes aren't new – Calfee in the USA have been producing them for a while – but these ones are handbuilt in the UK. Bamboo is stiff, strong and fairly light, and it's treated to prevent damage from water or wear. The lugs are made from flax fibre composite. The frame is £1,000, with bikes from £1,750. rawbamboobikes.co.uk

Indoor racing SCALEXTRIC OLYMPIC VELODROME SET

Computer games have dented the popularity of slot car racing. But if you've got a nipper who might be interested, why not get the Olympic velodrome version? The 'cars' are cyclists in Team GB strip, and the track is 2.72m long. It's compatible with other Micro Scalextric products. £69.99. scalextric.com



Bigger presence ANTHEM X 29ER 2

Giant are just one of the manufacturers ramping up their 29er mountain bike range for the UK for 2012 – along with Scott, Specialized, Cube and others. There's now a cheaper Anthem X 29er 2 (£1,799) alongside the Anthem X 29er 1, an Xtc Composite 29er hardtail, and three budget Talon 29er hardtails. For wheels-on-the-ground off-road riding, we reckon big wheels are the way forward. giant-bicycles.com



Saddle up RIDO R-LT

This new R-Lt version (£67.50) is a leaner and more conventional-looking version of the Rido saddle, which carries your weight solely on your sit bones to give a ride that's perineum-pressure free – if not quite 'rainbow stuffed with cloud'. Dan has used an original one for five years and is testing this one for the next issue. rido-cyclesaddles.com

SHOP WINDOW

With Christmas and 2012 around the corner, **Dan Joyce** previews new products from across the UK cycling market



These are just previews. For bike and gear reviews, turn to p56 onwards



Easy on, easy off CONDOR ITALIA STEP THRU

We've had quite a few queries about step-through frames recently. The Condor Italia Step Thru (sic) is one answer. It costs £499.99 for the aluminium frame, carbon fork, and headset, with full bike builds from £999.99. With mid-drop brakes and fittings for a rear rack and mudguards, it could make a good light tourer. Sizes: 49-61cm, in 3cm steps. condorcycles.com

Supporting role CARRADICE BAGMAN SADDLEBAG SUPPORT

Carradice were showing this new version of their Bagman saddlebag support at The Cycle Show. It clamps to the seatpost too, to provide a more stable load platform for heavier saddlebags. No word on pricing or availability yet. carradice.co.uk

Adventure bike GENESIS FORTITUDE

Both Chris Juden and Dan Joyce were quizzed by the designer of this forthcoming steel 29er, so we're interested to see how it turns out. It will exist in three versions: singlespeed; geared; and an expedition model with Alfine 11-speed gears and 'every mount/eyelet/boss you could think of to fit racks, mudguards, sleeping bag holders, etc.' Could be a great rough-stuff tourer. genesisbikes.co.uk

