

trade and industry

for professionals in HIKE & BIKE & TRAVEL & TOURISM

the b2b from KSA for 40 years

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September . 2019

an all action Month

moving through the aisles you'll find a tide of selling and buying opportunity - all happening at a Show that's waiting for you to be there . . .

- that's the September promise

COLOGNE DUSSELDORF FRIEDRICHSHAFEN HULL STONELEIGH
almost here, there, everywhere - yet still much to see & do in summer busy-ness



There is nowhere quite like Friedrichshafen, and no other Show does for its sector and all the branches than Eurobike. Held on the shore of Bodensee this is the destination for Trade and holidaymaking, business meetings and brainstorming - the one place for everything cycling with a backdrop of the Alps. Germany, Switzerland and Austria come together here . . . as will more than 1,400 exhibitors at the biggest and the best bicycle show in the world. This time there are over 150 newcomers to the Show, *THE* event with an enhanced dynamic which reflects how this business maker of a place giving you plenty of opportunity.

The past month or so has brought an awareness of where 2020 can go for people in the leisure Trade. People who had come from Munich with it's wide aisles with - as people are reflecting - probably a bit too little across too much acreage - then Manchester turned up trumps, all crowned with opportunity and togetherness, *writes editor Peter Lumley*

Billed as the only UK Outdoor Trade Show, OTS creamed off more than the best from where hitherto three venues had been something of a confusion: OIA are now gluing together what may not have been exactly broken but the Trade certainly had indulged in the scattering. Not too long afterwards I went back to meet the caravan awnings and tent people on the green of Stoneleigh. Here is probably one of the better site offerings for a Trade which needs space, and a lot of it, to demonstrate just what their business is about, yet this part of Warwickshire lacks the accommodation and services convenience of an Event City even though it sits right at the centre of England.

Manchester has made it - the good news is we'll be back there again in 2020.

I FEEL SLOVENIA

beingThere!

In a world of premium indulgences in thermal waters at popular destinations along the Sotla River at the very heart of a Slovakian region you'll find Podcetrtek. The European Commission has chosen this to be very first place in their "Well-being Tourism" selection for European Destinations of Excellence.

MORE INSIDE WITH Grace Oakfield.



coloured greenery

It rained, there was sun, the buyers came and on all the pitches people did business right through the Tent Show days at Stoneleigh Park. **LEFT:** Here is a scene from Vango's wide collection of family and touring tents, with their awnings for caravans and motorhomes.



UK heads to Hull

The caravan and holiday home Trade is again at The Lawns, Cottingham - September 3 to 5.

as simple as that . .

The Finding Level caravan mover goes a step further, Leisurewise are the people with the eMOVE that can even be operated from a Smartphone as well as the handset and control brain. Finding Level is programmed to set up a single or twin axle caravan so even your full to the brim glass of wine on the table won't spill!



boots along the aisle

Phillip Cook and Simon Wilkinson were at OTS with a footwear intro from the Northcape brand.

Peter Lumley being there at the editor's desk . . .

bicycles make it . . .

At the August G7 summit in France, a first for Boris Johnson as PM, topics included the ongoing trade war between USA and China, Europe backing the nuclear deal with Iran which Donald Trump dislikes, and democracy being well pummelled in Hong Kong.

Something special from Alpha Bikes was also on the scene: the world's first commercially available hydrogen fuel cell bike. Riding just like an ordinary bicycle this design brings the eco-transport solution which has significant advantages over electric battery powered bikes.

You get a longer range, up to 150km on one fill, refuelling taking under two minutes.

Topic Future from the G7 then!

Peter rl



September for a Tour of Britain

Some of the world's leading race teams are back on our roads for the OVO Energy Tour of Britain. Team INEOS, Team Jumbo – Visma and Team Sunweb headline the twenty teams confirmed for what the UK's biggest and most prestigious cycle stage race. Eleven of them come from their riding the Tour de France, including the French AG2R La Mondiale squad of Romain Bardet, making their first appearance here since 2009.

Ten UCI World Tour teams line up including Team Dimension Data of Mark Cavendish, EF Education First Pro Cycling, Lotto Soudal, Mitchelton - Scott, Team Katusha Alpecin and Movistar Team who won the team classification at leTour. Five UCI Pro-Continental squads compete, led by Corendon – Circus Cycling Team, who have confirmed rising star Mathieu van der Poel will race, the Israel Cycling Academy team make their debut with a potential line-up including the last back-to-back stage winner in the Tour of Britain Matthias Brändle and former Irish national champion Connor Dunne. There are also Belgian and Danish rivals competing against the Great Britain cycling team and four other British UCI Continental squads who have earned selection through a season long qualification criteria.

Says OVO Energy Tour of Britain Race Director Mick Bennett: "Once again we're delighted to welcome such a strong line-up of teams and I think we're in for an exciting eight days of racing in September". The ToB is from Glasgow on Saturday, September 7, and finishes in Manchester city centre. ITV4 will screen live free-to-air coverage flag-to-flag of each stage in the UK, along with a nightly highlights programme showing the best of the action.

PARLIAMENT.

"the relationship between international trade and the environment is complex, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development argues that trade can have both positive and negative environmental impacts"

inquiry is inviting submissions

"Combating climate change has never been a more imperative policy goal in the national psyche, which clearly is demonstrated by the Extinction Rebellion protests, which brought many of the UK's cities to a standstill, and then the declaration of a 'climate emergency' by the House of Commons in May."

So reckons Committee Chair Angus Brendan MacNeil MP who tells the Committee will explore how the Government can support positive environmental outcomes through trade policy. That includes the achievement of the internationally agreed climate targets set out in the Paris Agreement, and how the negative environmental impacts of trade can be mitigated. In doing so, the Committee will examine how effectively existing free trade agreements address environmental issues, and consider how the Government could implement its commitment, as set out in the 2017 Trade White Paper, to the maintenance of high standards of environmental protection in trade agreements".

"Increased levels of international trade can lead to negative environmental outcomes due the requirements of producing and transporting goods – which can be energy and resource intensive. Counter to this, however, is the argument that increased trade can boost a country's economic growth and access to new technologies – and therefore its ability to manage environmental challenges".

Angus Brendan MacNeil MP says "How we might use trade policy as a tool in the battle against climate change has not been fully explored by policy makers. My Committee's inquiry will look at this issue in depth, with a view to coming up with practical, implementable policy suggestions to ensure that the UK takes advantage of the potential for trade policy to support positive environmental outcomes."

The Committee is inviting submissions on questions such as the relationship between trade and investment liberalisation and environmental outcomes, and the question of how effectively do trade and investment agreements address environmental issues, including climate change? How might the Government seek to address environmental issues, including climate change, at the multilateral and plurilateral level as part of its trade policy come post-Brexit? And can the imposition or reduction of tariffs on trade in goods be used to pursue environmental aims? Importantly too, how can coherence be ensured between trade and environmental policy across Whitehall?

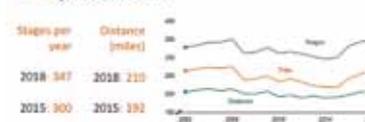
For submissions there is a deadline of October 1.

UCI in consultations sessions

Britain, along with Germany, Colombia, Australia, Russia and Brazil are amongst a count of fifteen countries with the highest number of respondents in a consultation launched by the UCI to assess public opinion on the appeal of road cycling and expectations regarding its future . The five best-represented countries were the USA, France, Spain, Belgium and Italy. Launched in French, English, Spanish, Arabic, Russian, Portuguese, German and Italian, the UCI consultation covered topics that may – or may not – make road cycling even more exciting. A series of proposals are to be drawn up and put before the Professional Cycling Council and the UCI Management Committee for their approval in 2020.

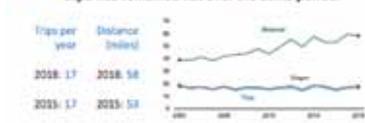
Walking and Cycling Statistics, England: 2018

People have walked more often and further distances over the last three years, following a period of decline.



Nearly all (97%) local authorities had at least 60% of their adult population walking at least once a week.

The average number of miles cycled has generally increased over time, but the number of cycling trips has remained flat over the same period.



11% of adults cycled at least once per week but a small number (5%) of local authorities had more than 20% of adults cycling at least once per week, with Cambridge and Oxford having the highest rates.

meaningful figures?

The Grayling codswallop has gone, the fish out of water person who as far as I can discover was no friend to cycling so let's sign him off - and anyway as far as I can discover he most certainly will not will not be missed: by anyone? For too long, some have seen cycling as a niche activity, rather than a normal activity for anyone who can keep their balance, and with walking too, if we can up the numbers of people doing it, then the all round benefits are significant.

For people and the planet, cycling and walking brings more meaningful ways of travel which simply moves people to better health. For businesses, it means increased productivity and increased footfall in shops. And for society as a whole it means lower congestion, better air quality, and vibrant, attractive places and communities.

So just what is Boris boy up to with his new batch of joyriders, the ones who probably wouldn't have a clue on how to mend a puncture . . . and let's face it, as things stand it is more than a leaking tube which needs mending. Still, here (left) are some *undoubtedly* dodgy statistics, which someone may be able to explain away. Yet I doubt it!

Birthplace of the Industrial Revolution

heritage with bikes

The place is Ironbridge, one of the first locations in the UK to be designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This designation recognised the area's unique and unrivalled contribution to the birth of the industrial revolution in the 18th century. What took place here in a forge or two set around this picturesque gorge is felt right across the world today. Now Telford & Wrekin Council is committed to promoting the heritage and culture of the Ironbridge Gorge one of the most iconic destinations of the borough, and probably even Britain.

The Festival of Imagination has been made a reality thanks to funding from Arts Council England's Cultural Destinations Tourism Fund gained through the work of a Council intent on battling the loss of heritage crafts. Skills lost and markets closing for a whole host of what were thriving industrial trades is the crux of the movement which looks to help more than 200 heritage crafts at risk of becoming extinct in the UK. Bicycle frame building is one of those skill sets, and the new festival is a focus on saving them for future generations. It is reckoned thousands of people will flock to the Festival of Imagination in the Ironbridge Gorge in September to see metalwork and other skilled crafts such as coracle making and wool spinning.

The second Heritage Crafts Association Red List saw the amount of UK heritage crafts which are endangered rise from 169 in 2017 to 212 in 2019. These are traditional skilled crafts which are at real risk of disappearing. The HCA is backed by its president Prince Charles who wants to ensure these treasured skills do not disappear and in a foreword to the Heritage Craft Association's first Red List of Endangered Crafts 2019, he said: "I have always had a particular admiration for those craftspeople who can strike the delicate balance between producing work that speaks to the needs of the present, while honouring a lineage of practice stretching back into the past".

"These craftspeople not only fulfil the role of makers of local and sustainable products – as important as that is in an increasingly globalised throwaway world – but they are also stewards of living traditions, protecting and passing on legacies of knowledge and skill that will, with hope, be treasured and put to good use by succeeding generations."

One of the businesses of that remit in the Ironbridge Gorge is Bicycles By Design, the company of Peter Bird and Robert Wade who over the past 38

years have won many awards for their bicycle products and designs. It's reckoned they are two of only about fifteen to twenty craftsmen in the UK making handmade, bespoke bicycle frames. "There is no specialist training and you can't go to frame building school, you either have to be an apprentice or you teach yourself," tells Robert Wade.

"Yes, there are quite a lot of people playing at bicycle frame building but not many doing it as a practicing craft". Alongside their successful business of making bicycles and tandems, Peter and Robert also run lessons at their Coalport workshop on how to build a bike frame, although this doesn't really translate into people using the skills for a trade. "The case is that 99% of the people doing the courses will be doing it for the experience of building their own bicycle frame so they have no intention of going into business," says Robert.

The Festival of Imagination is about not only looking at the heritage and past, but also celebrating the present and looking at what the area can contribute in the future. Heritage crafts also need to keep up to pace with technology such as electric bicycles, believes Robert Wade. "Technology has moved forward. Batteries and motors for bikes have got smaller and more efficient, so being able to incorporate that into a bespoke frame is something that is going to be very important for us in the future."

Mary Lewis, the Endangered Crafts Officer for the HCA, is responsible for pulling together the Red List and tells tradeandindustry b2b that "these endangered crafts are part of our cultural heritage. We have this bank of knowledge and skills to be able to make all of these different products but eventually, without these skills, our now-built heritage will begin to deteriorate. We have been traditionally very good in this country at preserving our built heritage, but very poor at maintaining the skills and knowledge of the crafts and techniques behind all of that".

Festival of Imagination Ironbridge from September 14-29.

Robert Wade, left, from Bicycles By Design and Endangered Crafts Officer Mary Lewis.



let's say it gain . . there is nowhere quite like Friedrichshafen, no other Show does for the sector and all the branches than Eurobike.

NUMBER ONE

euobike-show.com

Don't expect surprises because this is THE show with organisers who know how to produce their website and the brand-new homepage so everything you need to know is right there in front of you. A full exhibitor briefing tells you about exhibitors you'll meet at Eurobike with a web designed to be just about as mobile as a cyclist, with flexibility, sporty dynamism, an abbreviated URL and heaps new functions.

As well as that full list of exhibitors, the side programme is described in detail. The pages will give you regular news items on the five major themes of urban mobility, sporting performance, the business to customer connection, the Global scene and also the internals of doing business in the bicycle world. There is also a big plus with the directory: exhibitor profiles with additional information, videos, social media links and the contacts.

Innovate Textile & Apparel Europe

functional textiles . Wellness . game changers

Implementing digitalisation in the textile and apparel industry is the topic when Innovate Textile & Apparel Europe returns to Amsterdam in October, executives from around the world will be there to share the dialogue and hear how the goal may be reached.

The Re:Think Materials session delves into functional textiles and the materials and technologies involved. Functional textiles and how 3D printing can be a game changer for manufacturers, and looking to how digital products are being integrated with textiles and clothing in the performance wear sector.

Simplifying Consumer Health and Wellness discusses the development of textiles used for pain relief as an alternative to medicine by delivering medications, vitamins and supplements directly through the garment and how this disruptive technology works. And could that be the case in sports participation, we must ask!

Functional textiles inspired by fur, feather and foam structures and how the adoption of 3D printing provides a solution for mass customisable textile manufacturing for the future as well as aiming to achieve sustainability from the manufacturer's perspective. That comes with the topic Bioinspired Textiles with 3D Printing. Commercialising Smart Textiles for Sport & Fitness, that's another presentation which will discuss consumers' attitudes and expectations towards smart clothes for sport and fitness. The presenter will help delegates to identify features the products, opportunities for value adding.

This also looks at how the marketplace is responding to burgeoning consumer trends by outlining examples from today's market players who are capitalising on increasing opportunity by successfully developing and commercialising innovative products for different types of use cases within sport, the fitness and wellness sector.

This conference is the sort of event where coats of many colours and styles will be paraded, offering opportunity to have dialogue across people engaged across design and manufacturing, the supply chain, e-textiles standardisation and the compliance and intellectual property aspects.



Charles Ross REPORTS

action with promise

tales from two cities showing a similar light



FunctionalFabricFair.com

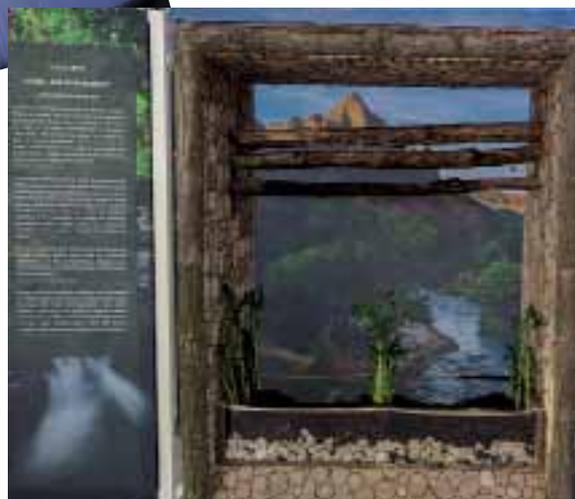
The exhibition with roots in AthLeisure sourcing has just staged their second outing in the USA . A joint project between Reed Exhibitions & Performance Days, it was staged again during New York City's Fashion Sourcing Week alongside other events, the TexWorld and TexFusion. This was the year with twice the number of exhibitors showing to a footfall of 1800 people – a gathering to compliment the popularity of the Munich exhibition.

The show theme was Water, once again built around the Forum area of rival fabrics laid out next to each other, alongside an active Presentation programme. Footfall from designers and fabric developers at Canada Goose, Reebok, Victoria's Secret, Under Armour, Greg Norman Collection and others mean exhibitors were happy. In contrast the TexFusion exhibition staged a couple of days later had just 180 people stop by on even the busiest day. On October 22 to 23 the FFF 2 in Portland, Oregon, is angled more towards the brands from the west coast so if you want to see a winner – be there, this is the show to attend.



FOCUS TOPIC
WATER – OUR RESPONSIBILITY
 LIFE DEPENDS ON WATER
 Of all the water that exists on our planet, roughly 97% is salt-water and less than 3% is freshwater. Most of Earth's freshwater is frozen in glaciers, ice caps, or is deep underground in aquifers. Less than 1% of Earth's water is freshwater that is easily accessible to us to meet our needs, and most of that water is replenished by precipitation—a vital component of the water cycle, affecting every living thing on Earth.
 Source: worldbank.org

at FFF the show theme was water



rubbish is a right monster at Munich

Outdoor by ISPO

I reckon this main European show of the summer delivered on everything required at the now relocated exhibition. Full marks go to Messe Munich for apparently delivering on all they promised: there were wide aisles, a central focus in each hall, plus clearer product areas (B6 was CSR + sustainability; B4 was Innovation + start-ups; A4 – a retailer presentation area; C5 + 6: tents on display).



The one hassle came with it being into business from the word go, as opposed to the enjoyable journeys to Friedrichshafen. I found a hang up in that the programme seemed too full as the EOG also had their own information programme in a room above B4. That meant a lot of dashing between papers. What the EOG got right was that people come to the shows for more than just buying product: they want to see new stuff, talk with their peers (& rivals), come up to speed on new topics/ rationale/ product markets/ legislation. And that all fits in well with the preview of new product development. It also gave an opportunity for the outdoor industry to demonstrate what they believed on in terms of reducing footprints (following thinking from EOCA) by using less carpet and regular drinking water refill sites in the halls.

A new format was also used to judge the entries for the Outstanding Awards by having them used in the field: with the results reorted in our July *tradeandindustry* b2b. For our judging there were over 200 entries, quite a high benchmark for future competitions, as the submitted paperwork really got examined. In all it was a good move by the EOG, but I was left with the feeling that if the Messe made a profit from this show, then they must be making twice the money from February's exhibition.



electric scooters & bikes

One of my lasting memories of the streets of New York was the amount of electrically assisted vehicles: cargo bikes, e-scooters, pedelecs and gearless versions. This even transferred to the men in black suits guarding Trump: speed through traffic - *big tick*. Wearing a stab vest labelled Secret Service – *big fail!*

The only difference between the capital riding habits was that stopping for pedestrian crossing was not in their rule book.

but note . .

The electric zipboard, scooter or whatever it's called, may well look the bees-knees yet as useful as it may seem and how easy it would be to stock and sell - these two wheel transporters are NOT legal on UK roads.

Electric board scooters and the like which are not pedelec styled must carry number plates, be licensed and insured for road use. Riders must be helmeted too.

Polartec is sold

Transferring over from the workwear side of business owners Milliken, the safety and workwear specialists, Steve Layton is now heading up Polartec. The Venture Capitalists who have put so much energy back into the brand had wanted to sell up their shares and it is an endorsement that a major textile manufacturer wanted to buy them: do think in terms of \$100s of millions.

The bigger company now makes this knitter much stronger in terms of stability in terms of finance, analysis and back office support. At Millikan over 100 PhDs are employed, most being Chemistry graduates, so we must expect two areas to be considered low hanging fruit: oil resistant DWRs and better lamination for NeoShell.

Their keenness to tackle the concern towards plastics-in-the-ocean is key.

RIGHT: Steve Layton



photo: Alex Berard

PERFORMANCE DAYS
 FUNCTIONAL FABRIC FAIR
 NOV 13-14th
 2019 | MUNICH
 GET YOUR FREE TICKET
www.performance-days.com
 KICKOFF WINTER 2021/22
 UPDATE SUMMER 2021

diary dates to note

EUROPEAN OUTDOOR GROUP

EUROPEAN OUTDOOR SUMMIT
 INTERLAKEN SWITZERLAND
 26 - 27 SEPTEMBER 2019



wasps away!



evolved from PopNot to Intyre

The very first idea to prevent rim crashing and improve riding performance along with anti-puncture technology, a tubular shaped insert, was the PopNot. That was predecessor of all anti-flat inserts to have been brought to market over the years. It was designed and manufactured about 33yrs ago in Chico, California, by Bob Seals. Bob was a passionate crazy biker and single speed mtb expert who also introduced RetroTech Classis cruiser bicycles with modern geometry, the CoolTool, the very first multi-purpose bike tool, and Klean Kanteen which ranks amongst the most sold canteens in the US and EU.

It was at Eurobike in 2017 that ABS Roc was launched, this being a Multi-performance Techno-foam Ring for Tubeless Tyres. The bead lock and rim protection system enables riding even at zero pressure and has been presented on the world cycling stage by Skopre S.r.l. with the developer Alessandro Bonarotti.

This new brand Intyre from Skopre, which integrates ABS Roc beside the original product in bright green, was presented by Skopre to Vittoria which adopted it with the trademark Airliner. Work is in progress to offer a wider range of designs, sections colours and differentiated densities, both for tubeless and traditional tyres with inner tubes.

The Intyre product has been changing off road riding, raising performance and safety for all riders, being designed for professional and amateur use in all specialties, from extreme Downhill to Cross Country, MTB Enduro and Gravel. The system eliminates the risks and worries deriving from a flat tyre, cuts and snake bites - aka pinching. The product is reckoned to dampen vibrations, improves comfort and driving precision, and allows over an hour of riding with a run-flat tyre at zero pressure by up to 80kg riders. Easy to install, the size range covers also E-bikes and is extremely light - for a 27.5 tyre size it's 110g, while a 55mm diameter insert for PLUS/E-bikes having a tyre width 2.6in to 3.0in for a 29in tyre size weights 320g. Price range is €45.00 for Gravel to €65.00 for E-bikes/Plus.

Exhibiting at Eurobike. *Opportunity!* Skopre is seeking distributors and agents.



it's the nature of the beast

You probably won't believe this but wasps are pretty timid creatures when they meet another wasp. Well, the truth is they don't get to having to be timid very often because they go out of their way to stay right out of the way of their ilk. Wasps can see a lot further than other flying pests, about seven metres or so apparently, and seeing they are territorial the moment they spot something of a mirror image that isn't family or friend they don't get chummy but go in the other direction.

And there you have it: the Waspinator is a make-believe wasp nest - wasps don't come near 'cos they always avoid other wasp families!



who is Armadillo Merino?

the safe, no-brainer base layer

People are aware that when a company designs and manufactures next-to-skin protective clothing for the professional operator then what they make will also admirably serve ordinary mortals. That is those who don't happen to be an astronaut, put life at risk in the special forces or the military, be in a SWAT team, the Police, fire, ambulance or a search and rescue Teams.

The unique properties and attributes of the merino fibre treats us all the same though, so with the Armadillo product people get to wear just what all of

those special guys get to use.

The clothing from that brand is sold as being just right for the people want a garment which helps them work harder, faster, stronger and for longer. Andy Caughey began working with his Armadillo collection in 2011, amongst it are wool garments that will stand over a day or so in the heat of things and still stays sweet. His is a styling which deserves to be on you back, summer or winter - and even on a warm summer day there is a kindness about wool which makes it a best friend!

There is a unique property with wool which should never be under-estimated, there is a lot of it growing! Then there are other features about wool, too, which make it the no-brainer base layer. It's a pretty friendly, easy-wear, no risk bit of clothing too.

And it comes at the far end of the scale from commonly issued petrochemical base layer garments. People who wear these in high stress conditions can find there are very big dangers associated with a fabric that melts! As the name suggests, confirms even, petrochemical clothing not only will melt when there is a lot of heat around, but it will drip and catch fire, putting at high risk specialist teams operating anywhere near a conflagration, and that doesn't have to be in places were bullets fly. Even a hot pan problem in the home is nowhere to be wearing or using man-mades unless they really are fire-proof.

Armadillo is Andy Caughey's baby, well perhaps not a baby but the eight year old brand that Armed Forces guys have come to respect for being a wool-len tin that does exactly the job that's on the label . .

When in 2016 Balas Textile set up a laboratory it was to test all of its materials for thermal and hygrometric performance as well as to confirm the physical performance of its fabrics supplied for the fashion and technical markets. In a company committed to an active and sustainable environmental strategy it works to the Oeko-Tex Standard 100 label, and that has helped grow business by 50% over the past three years. Bala are renowned for an innovation capability,

flexibility and also the quality of its products and related services.

Company chairman Olivier Balas has recently been elected head of the textile union Unitex, for a two-year term. The company was created in 2001, today Balas Textile manufacture specialised water-repellent fabric, personal protective fabric and technical fabrics for sport, fashion and luxury goods. www.balas-textile.com



a Stoneleigh fly-past

It appeared as a black dot in the sky, zoomed down on the Sprayway collection of Zempshire feature-proud tents - ones bugs won't light on nor come near. A New Zealand brand gaining attention for quality detailing.



THE HULL AND EAST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE
CARAVAN MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

from Hull to Harrogate

The oldest event in the caravan exhibitions' calendar is to move to a new location in September next year. After 44 years in the grounds of the University of Hull at The Lawns in Cottingham, near Hull, the trade and public exhibitions featuring the majority of the industry's manufacturers will in future be held at the Yorkshire Event Centre, home of the enormous Great Yorkshire Show, in Harrogate.

Next year's public show – Caravan, Motorhome and Holiday Home Expo 2020 – will be held over three days, rather than the traditional two, September 11 - 13, followed by the trade show on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

The exhibition is run by the Yorkshire-based caravan manufacturers group – HERCMA – which, along with many other companies in the industry, use the annual event to launch their new season's models. A spokesman for the group said the move to the much larger site would enable many more exhibitors to be accommodated as well as increase the scope of the show with, in particular, plenty of room for motorhomes.

"We see this change as a tremendous and exciting opportunity to make the event even bigger and better within the extensive and attractive grounds of the Yorkshire Event Centre," he said. "We wanted the event to remain in Yorkshire and the move to a more central position in the country opens up a whole new catchment area, with over six million people living within an hour's drive. "We are certain we'll attract a substantial new audience to what will be a fantastic show in a spectacular and iconic location which is already well-known to vast numbers of people. The Great Yorkshire Show actually attracts more than 135,000 people over its three days."

on The Lawns 2019

It is the biggest caravan Trade show in Europe, and this year celebrates its 44th year. At The Lawns in Cottingham, near Hull, it opens 10-5 from September 3 to 5 with Trade visitors - parks, dealers, distributors, suppliers – coming from all over the UK and Europe to attend. It's a place with more than 160 caravan holiday homes, lodges and park homes on show, including 35 twin units, and about 100 tourers. A small number of motorhomes, all the latest models for 2020 from 17 leading makers, along with about 35 other exhibitors. It has just about everything you'd expect from a Show that is right for the people, right for the business.

The public get their own days September 7-8.
www.caravanandholidayhometradeshow.co.uk

MOTORHOME and CARAVAN SHOW 2019

tin tents on wheels

It is the country's biggest leisure vehicle show, an event highlighting much that is the related product which move through the UK market. The peripheral booths, those small businesses, makers and suppliers on the aisles are always a happy hunting ground for retailers looking to add-value and attract footfall at their shop. Yes, nec is one of those cavernous all-embracing cathedrals of show, and hope to sell all with opportunity as the driver for portfolio building here. Taking a few minutes watching how someone else grabs the attention of passing wallets can help retailers spot how they could have till ringing at their own counter. That's not a new ploy: I have witnessed just that at exhibitions and trade fairs over a decade or three and will admit finding my trawling the small booths often discovers the pioneering spirit in a hitherto unrecognised brand. Try it, you will be amazed!

Of the interest stakes which PR is pushing to build awareness of the October 15-20 Birmingham show it is as much the unlikely as it is the must-have which comes the fore . . . so lot of visitors will be hoping they can get to check the fit of prototype carbon fibre race seats from Cobra that driver and passenger will find in a new 4x4 off-road camper van from Rolling Homes. It is a vehicle built to perform in off-road terrain, a VW T6 150 PS 4 Motion (4x4) SWB that is fitted it with full off-road Suspension which has raised the van by 100mm, and has full under extremities protection, prototype wheels and off-road tyres. To give this off-road camping home full year-round use - even at the darkest depth of a December night on the Arctic the driver can switch on super-bright laser lights to arc the terrain. Awesome.

There are three lengths of new Alu-Tech bodied Bailey Discovery models being shown at nec. This new go-anywhere vehicle set is reckoned to provide functional compact solutions for all tastes and ages and comes light enough for younger or newer driving licence holders to comply with towing rules paperwork. An easily spotted feature with the Discovery is the unique wrap-around L-shaped air awning (as pictured) that sits around the caravan's curved bodyshell. This Discovery air awning gives more additional space for living and relaxing, for storage or sleeping in the optional two-person sleeping tent. The awning is electric or hand-pump erected. There is a two-slot bike rack set over the drawbar, somewhat a good feature tourists will appreciate.



you want
opportunity
- You got it!



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Grace Oakfield first of a new series
wwwtime WELFARE & WELLNESS & WONDERING

Let's begin at the beginning . .

just as you thought it was all going swimmingly . . up pops a problem none of us thought would ever come our way. YET IT HAS. So where to turn next, who do you ask . . . and above all: Just *WHO* do you trust.

I certainly am not alone on this planet in having such stuff happen, yet on the face of it, often I may just as well have been the one and only person in the place.

That, of course, I found is not exactly true for there really are a lot of friends out there!

So here we are and let me say, this column of mine isn't just about angst or simply trying to solve problems, nor to go looking for someone to blame . . this column is about You, it is about your friends, about all those people who hope to find some answers. It's about ways to have dialogue with someone who just happens to be on your wavelength, those seeking someone, somewhere who may have some answers!

I'm Grace, I hope we'll become real friends.

here's where I am: graceoakfield@icloud.com

It was dinner for an old friend, a meet up orchestrated in all innocence after way too long not networking. Dare I say I was a little excited to rekindle a friendship that had always been easy, comfortable, even though sometimes brutally honest and challenging.

You've been there right? Preparing dinner, knowing this is a way to ease you into conversation and connections. Yes, it helps that you happened to stumble upon a favoured vegetarian recipe, yet wonder how you ever knew that meat had become outlawed in her diet? The smooth mellow pungent Red was a hit and revived thoughts of similar evenings, long past.

So, what can possibly go wrong? With smiles and laughter came the innocent question ... "*well, how are you doing?*" which opened the door to a level of intimacy usually shared only with a closest few. After all, the "how are you question" is usually greeted with "*great, fine, good*" with possibly a little lie or two hidden in the reply!

I wonder how often do we actually tell the emotional truth? Perhaps that's a skill we should all master? It's another conversation for later? Yet the blatant honesty of what came next was so matter of fact. "*I had a scan and they noticed a nodule, after a dozen years the illness is back. I have no idea what happens next!*"

Do you chew, swallow or spit the mouthful of stroganoff? You know immediately you must engage, searching for the words of care, concern, encouragement and hope that will hide your fear and a disbelief I wonder why do we do that? Why do we want to hide our truthful reaction? This time I settled on a hug and whispered, "*that's rubbish news, how are you dealing with it?*"

For now, an end to her story is yet to unfold, but that it all happened helps introduce me and tell of the subject close to my heart: Wellness. It really is something not talked about enough by far. And It's not just physical health we are talking about here with wellness - what about emotional wellness? We are all aware of what we've been taught over our lifetime on how to keep well; "An apple a day" it used to be, now we talk about diet, exercise and sleep!

Let's ponder: did anyone prepare you on how to deal with the precious things in life when we lose them? Health, friends, parents, a lover, the cat, that great job? I bet you've had more first aid training than gaining any helpful information from anyone, something to promote your emotional health and wellbeing after your being hit like that.

When it comes to talking about wellness, I'd point to four things to cherish: Mind, Heart, Health and Soul. My name is Grace, ok, this is the first time we have met but I hope you'll find it easy to join me on a journey of discovery and enlightenment. We'll explore some of the things that help people like us do much more than simply survive, let's us find our best and "*welless*" selves. That is something we can do together, one step at a time, letting science and nature take us way down the path that's worth following. Remember, we live in a world where happiness and health are prime time topics. with my fondest wishes, *Grace*

they say you'll want to return there pretty soon!



The European Commission chose "Well-being Tourism" during their selection of European Destinations of Excellence, they call that Eden. In an European family of around one hundred and forty destinations of excellence eight are Slovenian representatives: Podcetrtek, Koper, Brda, Laško, Idrija, Kolpa, Solcavsko and the Savinja Valley. With Eden the biggest European platform for promoting sustainable and responsible tourism, the Slovenian Tourist Board collaborates on this project mainly in line with the orientation of supporting destinations and products focusing on sustainable development.

Of the two finalists in this year's selection, an expert panel chaired by Professor Janez Bogataj were impressed by the destination of Podcetrtek which has a range of tourist products and services based on the authentic, high-quality and local services of three municipalities. This is all innovatively packaged into a wellness experience, with Podcetrtek becoming the eighth holder of the Eden title. "With such destinations the development of sustainable tourism is a key focus,

with some destinations particularly recognised for their sustainable development efforts by highlighting smaller, but no less beautiful, places. This contributes to flow diversification, and then communicating authentic and unique five-star experiences in our country" says Professor Janez Bogataj.

The panel said "Podcetrtek is a typical example of the so-called microscale tourism industry, which is strongly connected to Terme Olimia. The applicants' presentation before the expert panel also included the Municipality of Kozje, which is related to the biosphere area and the Kozjansko Apple Festival. Podcetrtek also offers some traditional products and locations, such as the Amon homestead, the deer farm, the chocolate shop, pharmacy and monastery in Olimje. The place pays particular attention to sustainable development, and given the golden Slovenia Green label as part of the Green Scheme of Slovenian Tourism. The Eden 2019 award ceremony is on September 6.



ENVIRONMENTAL ZONES

badge up or pay up!

There is a Euro Standard covering big swathes of Europe's environmental zones where driving the wrong vehicle will cost you more than an arm and a leg. Vehicles must be registered, otherwise, a fine of between 150 and 350 euros may be imposed, depending on the type and frequency of the infringement. There is a Green-Zones portal, though, one that can save your bacon as it identifies the European environmental zones where infringements will be most severely punished. Think of this as being the most expensive of any road travelling toll!

Austria and Great Britain are ranked in the middle, with fines up to 2,000 euros imposed in cases of violation of the rules, graded according to EURO standard, the type and weight of the vehicle. Denmark is ranked 1st and therefore leader in the amount of fines. Since 2008, certain vehicle types must meet at least EURO 4 standard or EURO 3 standard with an approved particulate filter (retrofitted) before they can enter the environmental zones in Copenhagen, Aalborg and other cities. The fine for driving into a Danish environmental zone without the required environmental badge can amount to as much as 2,700 euros for a truck driver and his freight forwarding company. And a vehicle may be seized until that fine is paid.

Closer to the UK, and a country where some ferries disembark, is Belgium. Ranked 10th and 9th among the environmental zones with the highest fines, the Low-Emission-Zones - aka pocket busters! - are located in Antwerp and Brussels. However, there is an escape lane on this steeply inclined pocket buster: The Berlin-based company Green-Zones provides information about permanent and temporary weather-dependent environmental zones in Europe and other European countries through its portals green-zones.eu, umweltplakette.de, crit-air.fr and blaue-plakette.de. There is also the free Green-Zones app and the professional app (Fleet-App), where tourists and especially commercial users such as transport operating companies find obtain reliable information in real time about the current environmental zones. The required badges and registrations are also available from Green-Zones.



a new hill-walking service

so, less of those call-outs please

Around Yr Wyddfa, which is the Welsh calling for Snowdon, there's an innovative project from the BMC and other partners providing simple, clear information to help hill walkers and mountain users make theirs a good mountain day in this part of Wales even far better.

Part of the AdventureSmart project, it is giving simple, clear to understand information, for planning the day and, hopefully, will also reduce some unnecessary call outs of Mountain Rescue services. Over half a million walkers each year make Snowdon, by far, the busiest mountain in the UK. And it is too often those ill-prepared or inexperienced first time hill-walkers who simply underestimate the impact which weather can have on plans.

The BMC already makes available live Winter Weather Conditions Information for winter climbers, something also done for other climber destinations. With funding from the BMC Access & Conservation Trust, support from Visit Wales, the Snowdonia National Park and the Natural Resources Wales group, means the public now has access to live weather and conditions information, all of it available directly from the summit of Yr Wyddfa.

amongst nibbling sheep
and grazing cattle
you see dragons!

a brew in King Arthur Country

Dinas Mawddy is right at
the heart of it all
with it's own Red Lion too



From an eastwards facing Essex coastline it takes a few bicycling days to reach Snowdonia and the salt water beaches facing into the south and west. This is a gem of a place where our beingThere is greeted with a freshness and friendliness I first met a long way back on a bike. Since then I've been to the mountains, journeyed a green countryside sometimes wafted by mysterious mists, in the south hedges grow but then further to the north I've noticed how man has divided pastures and heath, arraying stone to wall intake fields and mark out special places where wool and hide clad beasts live. Amongst the sheep and the grazing cattle there are dragons! Hordes of them all over - fluttering proudly even when facing the lightest zephyr, bringing colour with the recognisable meaning of a land having true grit.

A little while ago on the lanes heading west from that beacon of a place called Brecon, the Compass took me on a trip through Lampeter to Shawsmead Motorhome & Caravan Club site, near enough to New Quay for it to be the local beach. Aberaeron too is close, a place where painters turn houses into a patchwork of pastel coloured frontages. This is the Wales with things you can see, can feel and take to the heart - a place where I have again been, and this latest journey was worth far more than double every second it took to reach Dinas Mawddwy. You should stay longer than days, yet if only a short time is what you can afford then seek that loveliness - you will like it. And when you appreciate how people have routed their travels then nearby is Bwlch y Groes, the highest of high passes in Wales. I spend a lot of time assessing destination appeal so often the "where to stay" means finding the central point for days out, with the provision and convenience of local facilities less important.

As a switch from camping and caravanning it was the Sykes Holiday Cottages let of Kettle Cottage which called a change. Dinas Mawddwy could've been at the back of the moon for all I knew about this little town, yet it turned out to be heavenly. The pub that's Y Llew Coch to Welsh speakers did us proud - and you can "re-li-on" the food, the service and conviviality at The Red Lion for sure. Local history goes pretty deep in this ancient frontier between Gwynedd and Powys, the Afon Dyfi river once was reckoned as holy although it was also seen as a split dividing Wales. A ford the Romans used for certain is where warriors crossed or fled

to the other side when coming to do distinct harm to people they didn't like. The English name for the river is Dovey, which sounds perhaps a kind word, but for me Afon Dyfi says it right.

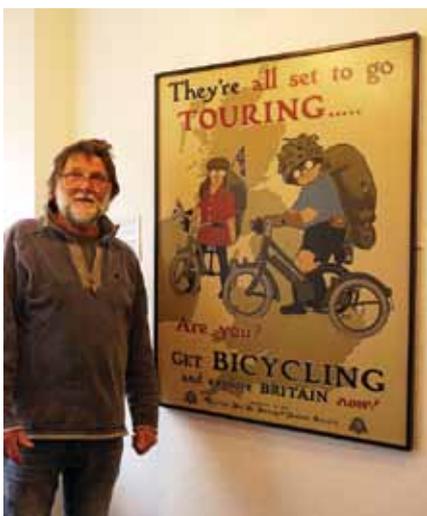
King Arthur, the Sword Stone, Meirion and the Mill, Camlan - thought to be where King Arthur fought, but not luckily or pluckily enough to avoid being mortally wounded - they are landmarks of time and the place and there you have it on the doorstep of Kettle Cottage. This village stay delivered a world of wonder and wandering for that first day of walking and drinking-in of such a touristy treat. And from here the roads led everywhere ... to a huddle on a hillside where you could look down into the cockpit of a jet skimming the terrain on a flight I'd fancy, one scripted to the finest degree of skill and pilot judgement. Other places - the ancient Parliament House in Machynlleth - say it easier as Mac or Mach where you visit the Tabernacl, on Wednesdays the market day or peer through the window of the first shop established by Laura Ashley. Away in the westerly direction is quite easily reached Dolgellau then Llanrwst and the magic of Gwtydir Castle, going to Betwys y Coed after tea under the leaf wrapped eaves of Tu Hwnt i'r Bont. It sits beside the double arch bridge, now weak single width river crossing over the River Conwy that can sometimes flood to halfway up the front door of picturesque Ivy Cottage.

Each evening it was back to the absolute comfort of Kettle Cottage, and what a find. But then Wales is that sort of welcoming patch, it's known as home to Snowdon, has slate caverns, King Arthur's Labyrinth, the National Park, and is one big holiday happiness place bordered with sand and seascape, grass and rock and mountain vistas. There are Whistling Sands, when you tread there you will hear and believe it ... there are a million other grains of delight to discover, things you can absorb that'll bring a twinkle to the eye and colour to your cheeks. It's the beingThere which does it, you know, wakening to Wales will be just right for you.

go here: www.sykescottages.co.uk <http://moma.machynlleth.org.uk>
www.gwydircastle.co.uk www.meirionmill.co.uk
www.machynlleth.net/parliament.html

sustenance time! at Aberdaron is the Big Kitchen, from year 1300 they served meals to pilgrims who would cross the sound to Bardsey Island.

The Ivy Cottage at Llanrwst brings lots of local produce to your plate - try the Tu Hwnt i'r Bont Welsh Rarebit. Worth driving miles for!



at Moma in Machynlleth was Ag Cain, a true modern day artist with a show of his work with pictures, posters and cards



Tu Hwnt i'r Bont
Tea Rooms and Gallery.



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aired!

awnings
annexes, tents
- each with an
Airbeam
attitude

There was an era when the bikepacking word was spelt with a word starting with c - well, try cyclecamping. What cycling tourists do now is very much the same thing as then really although for those carrying their tent on a bicycle the problem of just where to stuff the poles no longer is an issue. Stuff air into this Airbeam with a cyclepump and *hey presto* you have it: no rattles, nor spikey bits to snag packed fabric. The world is your oyster, all coming about through the Project Hydrogen from where Vango is taking *heavy* out of the going.

People have recognised that with accolades for the product as the Outstanding Outdoor Gold Winner Award by ISPO and a week or so later becoming a finalist in the Tents Category at the Outdoor Trade Show. Vango now have what is the world's lightest and the fastest to pitch Airbeam tent, the sort of technology which has changed the caravanning and camping scene for the better.

Project Hydrogen as a project stems from the brainstorming and the hard work put into designs from a product team who continue to improve and develop innovative outdoor equipment for the user, those who go places but also wanting to do it easier. The tent is spearheading Vango's introduction of lightweight rucksacks, sleeping and camping accessories for 2020. What was evident at the Stoneleigh Tent Show goes much further than a pumped-up, one-man sleeping and living modules of Hydrogen, and what I stepped into on the Stoneleigh green - pitches sometimes wet, sometimes sunny, a little bit of draught at times, but demonstrating with Vango and AMG there is a lol and opportunity coming your way.



there is plenty of variety across a whole range of camping styles from Vango - which is probably why Robert Birrell has a smile of his face - even though this was at one of those times when it was trying not to rain . . . but then keeping you dry it what tents do . . .right!



experience counts



The first policy officer has been appointed to lead the day to day general management of the itsgreatoutthere coalition. September sees Margo de Lange working closely with a volunteer board of directors and the European Outdoor Group on projects and awareness. Joining the coalition from the European Network of Academic Sports Services (ENAS), Margo has gained the relevant experience that can be integrated into, and help build, the #itsgreatoutthere campaign. She has proven knowledge and experience in European public affairs, so her network of contacts in Brussels will be of great value in her new role.

As a new team member she comes on board in time to help the coalition benefit from partnership with the European Commission for the European Week of Sport (EWS) which runs from September 23-30. That event brings opportunity to showcase a broad range of easily accessible outdoor activities where the public may participate as part of their healthy, active lifestyles.

The ongoing programme from the coalition is to help more young people experience the joy of the outdoors for the first time, with funding and knowledge input being contributed in that direction. The coalition secretary general Andrew Denton remarks that anyone working for an organisation who would like to become involved in the group's work then they can gain early contact through info@itsgreatoutthere.com

There is funding available for #itsgreatoutthere grants and the aim is to operate with partners on projects in all areas of Europe, and especially where grants have not been previously awarded. Non-profit organisations with outdoor related projects are encouraged to visit www.itsgreatoutthere.com/grants, where they can find out the full criteria prior to an application. Many of the grants that we have awarded have been to projects where an organisation has teamed up with an EOG member companies, the latter quite often providing support in kind through the donation of products. Here is opportunity - *take it!*

elements battler

Using their SDP technology the Scottish company Keela has introduced a new IRR multi terrain camouflage (MTC) pattern that also reduces the thermal signature. The Mk4.0 Jacket is their latest generation in what is the brand's most popular outer-shell waterproof military jacket. They have taken the Mk1.0 and added some super features for the modern soldier.

It's a system designed to keep the wearer completely dry and comfortable no matter how long and how intense is the downpour. There is the additional feature of extra-large buttons for use in Arctic and extreme cold weather operational environments, so the wearer does not have to remove outer mittens and gloves to gain inner clobber access. The articulated contoured elbow pockets allow the fitting of internal joint protection, an attention to detail feature making this one of Keela's most technologically advanced military garments to date.

Based on the company's unique System Dual Protection, this bit of kit is designed to give maximum protection against the elements with a double membrane quite able to manage inner condensation that brings an improved comfort environment for the wearer no matter what Mother Nature is firing at you. *See them at Outdoor Military Show in November.*



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