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# Cycling<sup>®</sup>

## WEEKLY

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# Cavendish

## The inside story



**Lucy Garner  
interview**

Track  
Nationals  
**Sir Chris  
on track  
for 2012**

**TOP FITNESS** Your  
off-season training  
**PLUS TECH:** Coolest  
helmets you can buy



Blue's lightweight option

## Blue Competition Cycles Axino

BLUE has been producing bikes for nearly 10 years, but has been below the UK's radar. Initially set up to provide affordable time trial frames, it's gradually established a full and varied range of bikes with the aim of bringing performance framesets to the masses.

Pitched as Blue's lightweight climbing bike, the full carbon Axino frameset weighs 995g, so is definitely in the right ballpark. The



One-piece chainstay and BB30 construction

one-piece chainstay and BB30 construction is a selling point for Blue, and the single structure does make sound engineering sense. We did notice a significant flare in the chainstay, which might create issues for 'heel in' riders or those with a larger shoe size.

For £1,699.99 this is at the upper end of the price points for similar other brand framesets. But more-cost effective is the SRAM Red equipped bike for £4,999.99. Available now in six different sizes, ranging from XS to XL.

Contact: [www.rideblue.com](http://www.rideblue.com)



## San Marco's new Concor

EXCITING developments from Italian saddle legend San Marco, whose multi-Tour-winning Concor perch has had a complete overhaul.

The all-new Concor models feature a comfort-tuned carbon fibre reinforced hull and Microfeel cover. The range-topping Carbon FX with its 160g weight will retail at £134.99, while the titanium-railed Xsilite (190g) will set you back £99.99. Meanwhile, for more budget-conscious buyers, there is a new entry-level model — the Spid. Costing just £49.99 you get Ti rails, Microfeel cover, Biofoam padding and a genuine 'Made in Italy' sticker. All models should be in shops from mid-September.

Contact: [www.madison.co.uk](http://www.madison.co.uk)

## Islabikes for adults

A NEW development for the Ludlow-based firm is the Beinn 29 — the first Islabikes adult machine. Priced at £399.99, this multi-tasking hybrid comes fitted Tektro V-brakes and a SRAM drivetrain.

Although initially designed for parents who simply want to join their children on some early pedal-powered forays, the Beinn 29 offers a huge amount of potential. Rack and disc brake mounts can be found front and rear, and the adjustable dropout means it's also compatible with fixed or hub gears. We've slung our leg over one and have to say it really is a surprisingly impressive machine.

Contact: [www.islabikes.co.uk](http://www.islabikes.co.uk)



Islabikes: not just for kids

## Tech shorts

IF you're down with this social networking malarkey, the chances are you are a bit of a Facebook junkie. So get your next hit from **Zyro Cycling Accessories**, feeding us with updates from Cateye, Powerbar and Prologo (among others) we 'like'.

Talking of hits — the **Chain Reaction** website has been getting a few. So many in fact that it's just been named the UK's most visited sports-cycling website from January to June 2011.

A new Evo frame platform takes **Focus's** top seller, the Cayo, up a notch for 2012. High modulus carbon and redesigned back end are weight-saving highlights, plus some neat touches like a seamlessly integrated fork and fully internal cabling too.

Having teamed up with F1 carbon experts **McLaren** to create layup schedules for its top-end Venge and SL4 bikes, **Specialized** sat back and watched the successes roll in this year. So much so, the partnership looks set to continue for the foreseeable future.

**Condor's** gone back to its roots, but is steel still real? They believe so. The Super Acciaio frame was developed with help from Rapha-Condor-Sharp pro riders, using lightweight, triple butted, drawn steel tubing, while featuring more modern accents like tapered head tube and BB30. Frame, fork, headset costs £1,199.99.

If it's an app, it's tech, right? Well we reckon so — the **Dutch cycling federation** is testing a smart phone app to allow its riders to complete their 'whereabouts' info. With a bar mount, they could literally do it as they train — now that is smart thinking.