THORN

Issue 21 WINTER 2013-14

St John Street Cycles - Thorn Cycles Ltd.
91- 93 St John Street - Bridgwater, Somerset, UK. TA6 5HX
Open Monday to Friday 08.30 to 17.00 closed bank holidays.
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I sincerely hope that you enjoy reading the Overview Brochure and that it will help you to identify which THORN will best suit you. I also hope that you will realise that the attention to detail, in our brochures, is indicative of the attention to detail that has been incorporated into our Bikes' design and development... which has been a labour of love, firmly based upon first hand cycling experience!

*These are **not** "blue sky" concept bikes, aimed, by a committee of accountants, at a poorly market-researched demographic, where 90% of design time is concerned with decals and paint colour. Neither do we allocate 50% of the cost to be spent on advertisements, which contain precious little, apart from: pictures of beautiful bronzed people, with gleaming polar white smiles, a few clever buzz words and the "artistic" use of blank space!*

Perhaps you have dreams of exploring your locality, country, continent, or indeed, planet by bicycle? Perhaps you wish to simply avoid using a car so much? Perhaps you want to get fitter? One of our bikes will enable you to fulfil your dreams.We can supply the perfect machine, designed to perform superbly over a lifetime, with the lowest risk of mechanical failure.
Andy Blance Dec 2013

*When decididing which Thorn would best suit you and your pocket, it is important to decide how much you plan to carry. Many cyclists carry more weight than they realise, whilst others overestimate the weight they carry. I suggest actually weighing your bags! I give the weights that the bikes are happy to **carry** and still perform perfectly and I give the weights that the bikes will **"cope"** with, if occasionally required to do so . (Perhaps:- an extra big shop? A short camping trip? Dropping camping kit off at base camp? Or sufficient water to cross a desert?) You will be much happier and also much more efficient, if choose a bike which will carry what you require! Beware, many touring bikes will not carry as much you'd think; most only just cope with moderate loads, no matter how exotic their name sounds!*

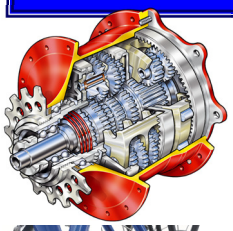
All Thorn frames are made from the highest quality steel and are guaranteed for life!

Thorn
Rohloff-equipped, 26" wheel touring bikes.

Very few people are familiar with the operation and feel of Rohloff hub gears, therefore we give you a **100 day money back warranty,** which gives you plenty of time to be satisfied that "the hub" is for you.

MONEY BACK 100 DAY PLEDGE

"Buy a THORN Rohloff equipped bike with complete confidence. Ride it for **100 days** and, if you are not **totally delighted**, return it to us, either in person or safely packaged in a Thorn bike box. I will promptly refund the purchase price of the bike, including any or all of the items from the bike build menu, but not including pedals or accessories. **How is that for confidence in the quality and performance of our product?"** *Robin Thorn*



"It might look complicated but of course I know exactly how it works...you just turn the shifter and you are in the gear you need!" Andy Blance 2008

"In short, the Rohloff Speedhub is German engineering at its absolute finest...the internals are so overbuilt, that nobody yet knows its service life... ...and it continues to get better ————as it gets older!"
(Extract from "living with a Rohloff hub" by Andy Blance)

All of our **Rohloff-specific** frames use an eccentric bottom bracket to tension the chain, whilst using our own unique stainless steel, socketed, Rohloff-specific vertical dropouts, which we know beyond doubt, to be the most reliable rear ends for touring.

We have a "fleet" of Rohloff equipped bikes *that* **you may test ride.**

Thorn Raven Sport Tour

available in **4 colours** *and* **11 different sizes**
5 sizes with long top tubes and 6 with short top tubes!



***From only* £2169 whilst stocks last**

The Raven Sport Tour is more than simply a lighter weight version of the Raven Tour; the geometry of the frame and our exclusive Reynolds 853 conical tube set, provides a livelier ride, with quicker steering, characteristics which will appeal to many experienced hard riding cyclists. The RST has tighter clearances; 1.75" are the widest tyres that can be used with 'guards. The lighter weight tubes also reduce the load that can be carried on the RST, we say that it will "cope" with an all up load of 30Kg but it is much happier to carry 15Kg. (Which, for most B+B touring holidays, is more than enough!)

The RST is an absolutely stunning fast touring, or fast commuting, machine.

Thorn Mercury 700c

from **£2669**







DISC OPTIONS

Available in 8 sizes and 6 finishes.

STRAIGHT or DROP BARS

The Mercury can be focused precisely into your dream bike.
(For much more detail, please see our brochure)

New Thorn Raven

From **£2169** *available in* **MATT BLACK or BLOOD RED**



10 different sizes
1 size with medium top tubes,
4 sizes with long top tubes,
4 sizes with short top tubes,
there is also a step through size!

We are very proud of the NEW RAVEN it is one of the very finest Rohloff equipped bikes on the planet; yet it also manages to be the least expensive! The NEW RAVEN makes light work of 25Kg and will carry up to 40Kg.

Currently there are several of the previous model Raven Tours undertaking the "American end to end", Alaska to Tierra del Fuego. There are also over a thousand Raven Tours delighting their owners, as they go about their day to day business, with the least possible fuss. The NEW RAVEN is wonderfully stable; city streets, tow paths, bridleways, mountain passes, desserts and continents can all be tackled in confidence.

The NEW RAVEN is designed to provide a lifetime's transport, as well as keeping the dream of that "big cycling adventure" well and truly alive!

Thorn Nomad Mk 2

From **£2269** *available in* **8 different sizes,**

MATT BLACK or **TONKA YELLOW**

5 sizes with long top tubes; 3 sizes with medium top tubes.

Size 565L



The Nomad Mk2, with its oversized tubes, is the ultimate expedition touring bike. It can carry over 30kg with only a rear carrier.
With F+R carriers it will cope with up to 67Kg. NOMADS are built for **great strength and reliability**, with all **stainless fittings**, including oversized (6mm) carrier bosses.

The Mk 2 Nomad has clearances for 2.4" tyres and is compatible with 80 to 120mm suss forks.

All frames are also available with the option of **S&S couplings**, which allow bikes to be transported easily.
Sizes up to 565L can, with some extensive disassembly, even be fitted into a 26" x 26" x 10" case, providing the steerer of the steel fork is no longer than 235mm.

All Nomad Mk2s have **rear ISO disc mount** and V brake bosses and the perfect cable routing for the **EX box Rohloff hub.**

Thorn Raven Twin

Rohloff equipped tandems

Available in 3 colours in 5 new sizes



from **£2829**
We've some original sizes left *from* **£2629**
(Please check availability

Also available with S&S couplings

Few cyclists wish to use derailleur gears again after trying Rohloff

And that goes double for tandems, being able to change gear when stationary (or whilst free-wheeling) is inexpressibly, yet delightfully useful!

The Raven Twins have perfect handling, they're built to last a lifetime and they have so many component options available that, although we've sold hundreds, we've never made two with exactly the same spec.
A custom option at a readymade price!

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You are most welcome to visit; please ring to make an appointment, we can then have one of our experts available, to give you the time you need, when you arrive.
Please note that it is not necessary to visit; we have supplied 1000's of perfect machines, all over the world, by telephone and email.
You are always welcome to 'phone or email our knowledgeable sales team.

Next time you purchase a new bike, or a friend (or colleague) asks you, as an experienced cyclist, for advice, please remember, a "proper bike" actually gets ridden!
Money is tight but probably not that tight, if you settle for second best, you'll soon need a second purchase, buying right means buying once, checkout one of our superb THORN touring bikes!
We are passionate about our bikes and about our customers' satisfaction with them!

We put a huge effort into developing our machines.
We put a huge effort into helping cyclists select the most appropriate Thorn for their requirements.
Our mechanics then put a huge effort into individually building these bikes to the highest standard.

Customers tell us that their Thorn is the "finest bike they have ever ridden"...we think so too...but it is, nevertheless, always a delight to hear it!

Nobody comes anywhere close to providing the vast range of sizes that we offer!

Thorn Derailleur-geared touring bikes.

You'll see we offer 100 day money back warranty on our Rohloff bikes, why do we only offer 14 days on our derailleur bikes?
Obviously everybody is familiar with modern derailleur gears, so we feel that a 14 day money back warranty is sufficient... ...after all it's 14 days more opportunity to "test ride" than anybody else is offering!

Unique Thorn 14 DAY money back pledge

"Buy a THORN derailleur geared bike with complete confidence. Ride it for 14 days and, and, if you are not **totally delighted**, return it to us, either in person or safely packaged in a Thorn bike box. I will promptly refund the purchase price of the bike, including any or all of the items from the bike build menu, but not including pedals or accessories. **How is that for confidence in the quality and performance of our product?"** *Robin Thorn*

700c Thorn Audax Mk3

30 speed

What you see is what you get.



Size shown above 600 (Large) with 30 Speed ULTRA WIDE RANGE GEARING

Available in **5 colours and 6 sizes**
Bikes *from* **£1349**

The Mk3 represents two decades of work, manufacturing and developing, what many people tell us are the finest frames for sporty lightweight touring, ever to have been built. Several owners of exotic racing bikes have reported that their Mk3, which was purchased for training, is practically as fast and handles better than their race bike...as well as obviously being able to carry a load! We say that, for occasional use, the Mk3 will cope with 31Kg of luggage, spread between the front and rear, including 3 cages and a small bar bag. But it is much happier to carry up to 8Kg at the rear and 3Kg at the front.
If you regularly carry more than 8kg, we strongly advise that you look at the **Club Tour.**

The Mk3 is aimed at experienced cyclists. Whilst there is plenty of clearance for "larger than average sized feet" wearing "proper" cycling shoes and system pedals (or steel toe clips) there may not be clearance between "trainers" and the mudguard.

30 speed 700c Club Tour Mk4



8 sizes
4 sizes with short top tubes
4 sizes with long top tubes
Bikes *from* **£1299**
Many spec options are available
The Club Tour Mk3 was, not only very competitively priced, many customers told us that, with the recommended upgrades, it was also,
"The finest 700c touring bike available, regardless of price!"
We say "The New Mk 4 is an even better bike"

Available in **Gunmetal Imron or R&B**

3 fork options, inc steel disc fork



Andy Blance designed the **Thorn Club Tour Mk4,** without compromise, to show how good a **700c Touring Bike** can be. You could commute to work throughout the week, complete a 200Km Audax (or CTC reliability ride) at the weekend and, if you wished, soon be ready to carry **33Kg** on the annual summer cycle camping holiday. (It will even cope with 43Kg on an occasional basis).You're **guaranteed** a high quality ride, with superb handling.
With 8 sizes available from stock, you can also be absolutely certain that you'll get the correct size frame!



30 speed

Size 560S



26" Thorn Sherpa

11 sizes From **£1299**
Choice of Drops or Straight bars

The most durable, sweetest-natured, derailleur-geared, go-anywhere touring bike, obtainable...irrespective of price!

We have been honing the design for over 15 years, yet the Sherpa could accurately be described as the ***"new traditional touring bike"***
The Sherpa can be used for day to day transport, or it can literally travel the world. The bike is very stable and it handles superbly. There is no possibility whatsoever of accidentally overlapping feet and mudguards. Whilst the bike is extremely comfortable to ride, **it can carry up to 25Kg of luggage and still handle brilliantly and it will cope with 40Kg when required.**
26" wheels are the best possible choice for heavily loaded touring.

The 26" MTB wheel has a vast variety of different tyres available and tyres for this size are obtainable in every country in the world!
Some 26" tyres are for MTB use, some are heavy duty for expedition use whilst others are very quick indeed! With the roads and lanes, that we like to cycle upon, in worse condition, than they have been in living memory, fat tyres **(which are zero-maintenance suspension)** make great sense. They make just as much sense in the pot-holed streets of today's cities!

"...I believe that enough cyclists still want a bike that is made to last. I still believe that being durable is a good thing!"
Andy Blance Sept 2012

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