

U
GEAR
WHAT'S THAT
NEW THING?



**CRANKK
CLOTHING**

The latest in a string of urban brands to emerge from Central Europe, Crankk launched at the start of this year. But to look at their huge opening collection and its coherent casual style, you'd think they had been going for years.

Crankk are from Warsaw in Poland, the creation of two friends, Adam, who owns a motorcycling clothing business, and Marek, a passionate cyclist who says he was inspired by his frustration at being unable to find casual style cycling clothing for his own regular riding around the city.

Rather than outsource far afield, Crankk prefer to use small textile factories in Poland where all the pieces are handmade in eco-friendly cotton.

The Muur short (€109) is a great example of what they do. It looks smart-casual but has 2% Lycra in the fabric for easy riding and it comes with a removable chamotis insert for longer rides. There are six colours. The chino and jeans (both €119) feature the same stretch and pad. The Hoodie (€119) simply has a reflective print. There's a full women's range, too. You can order from their website for delivery worldwide. www.crankk.eu





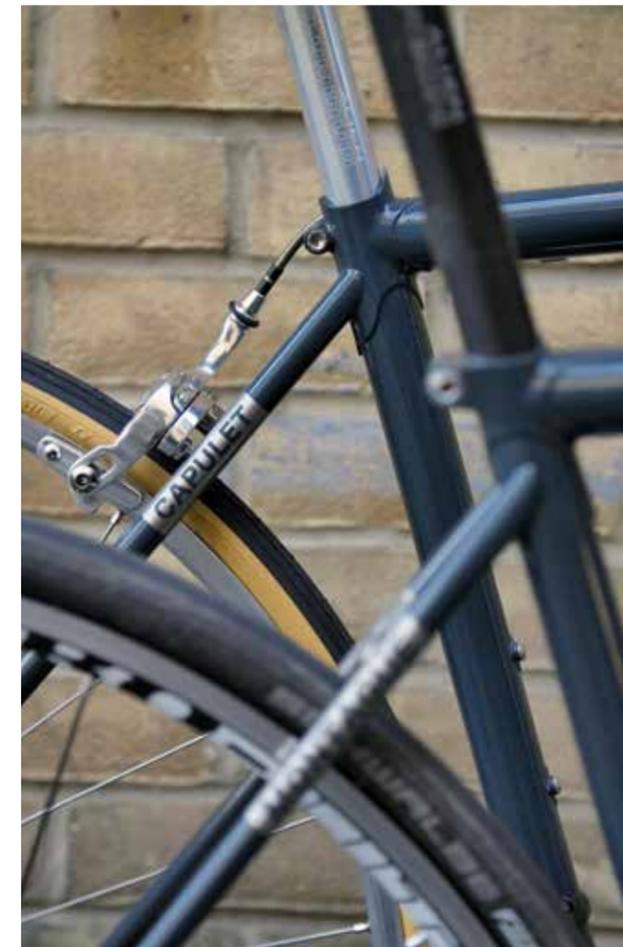
Photography: Ben Green

MOSS BIKES SHAKESPEARE

For a frame builder, commissions like this one cannot come around very often. The stylish couple pictured are Jimmi and Emily. They contacted AJ at Moss Bikes with the idea of creating his'n'hers bespoke builds.

But they weren't to be matching. Identical bikes differing only in their geometry would be less of a challenge. Jimmi wanted a quick road bike, Emily an upright urban cruiser. And so the Shakespeare project was born and the bikes were named Montague and Capulet, a boy and a girl from opposite sides of urban cycling.

Jimmi's road bike runs an Enve carbon fork, Shimano Ultegra groupset and Pro-Lite wheels, and looks ready to race, though the SPD pedals reveal the urban leaning. But of the pair, it's likely to be Emily's town bike that surprises the most with its verve, seeing as it weighs under 10kg and is fitted with a carbon Columbus fork and fast rolling 25mm tyres. A great idea, beautifully executed. www.mossbikes.co.uk





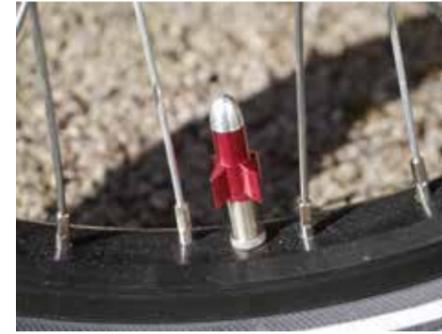
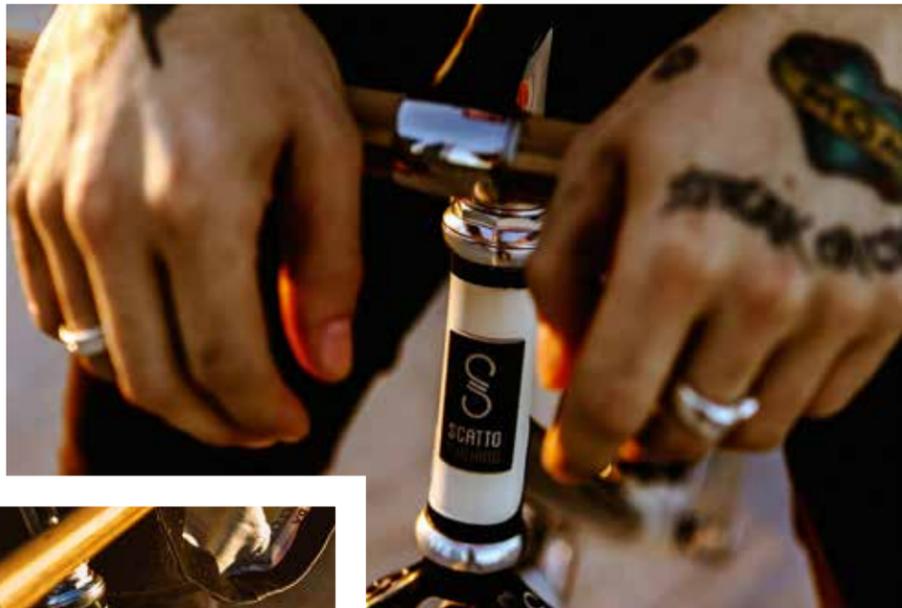
SCATTO ITALIANO FIXED BICYCLES

This is the genuine article, a true made-in-Italy bicycle of exquisite design and craftsmanship. Scatto Italiano is a young brand started by Giuseppe Gurrado and Pietro Nicola Coletta. They set out "to rediscover the craftsmanship of Italian cycling, the original concept of the real 'Made in Italy' that made Italy famous throughout the world."

Starting with Italian Columbus steel, the pair then met Vetta, a third-generation family owned frame building firm local to them in Padova. Next came a painter, also local, Veniciatura Emmeci.

The bikes and their wooden handlebars, made for Scatto Italiano by Ghisallo, are beautiful. Order a frameset or a complete build, the latter with paint schemes inspired by some of the greatest ever Italian sports cars, such as the Alfa Romeo TZ. Prices for complete bikes start at €1,590.

We strongly recommend you take a look at their fantastic website. The passion and the craft shines through. But lock away your credit card first. www.scattoitaliano.it



BOXER SATURN

Is this the most perfectly bonkers thing you've ever seen or what? If the Boxer E-Shuttle on p89 is simply too mundane for you (and that's hard to imagine), then this is the bike for you. Nothing else will come close.

The Saturn is a refined and upgraded version of Boxer's Rocket. It gets a special alloy spine frame, deep candy metallic paint, a real leather interior with reclining seats and seatbelts and a big storage locker in the nose.

The biggest change is the switch to a Go Swiss Drive rear hub motor. It's limited to 250W but is capable of much more and it has a torque sensor which means the motor engages as soon as you push a pedal, not when you reach a set cadence.

If your kids aren't satisfied by 'spaceships' made from discarded washing up liquid bottles, or if the school run is just too dull in a people carrier, this could be just the ticket. And the price? £7,500. That's before options, we should add. www.boxercycles.com





HILL & ELLIS CITY RANGE

London based luxury bike bag makers Hill & Ellis have launched their new collection, the City range, which is designed to attach to the popular Brompton C Frame folding bike.

As with the firm's other models, the City bags are handmade in Hackney, East London, from high grade satchel leather. They come with a shoulder strap and feature nickel coated brass buckles for a true luxury feel.

The City bags are available in four colours: whiskey brown, classic dark brown, navy/tan and black/tan. The price is £195.

www.hillandellis.com



SPIN KING CHAIN GENIE

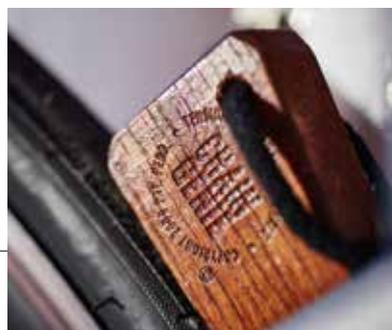
It is often said that the simplest ideas are the best and that seems to be the case here. Replacing the rear wheel on a fixed/singlespeed bike, particularly one that doesn't have chain tensioners, can be a faff of a job, one that ideally needs four hands.

The Chain Genie is a simple wedge with a central channel for the tyre. Slide it between the frame and tyre to push the wheel back and put tension on the chain while you tighten the nuts. It's brilliantly simple and it works very well. It's light enough to carry with your tools.

Spin King could have ordered hundreds of plastic wedges from the Far East. Instead, this is made in the UK from natural oak, and given a tough, attractive finish because such things simply make life more enjoyable.

The Chain Genie costs just £12.50 to UK customers and is available to order online with delivery offered worldwide.

www.spinkingclothing.bigcartel.com



BROOKS ERGON GRIPS

New from iconic brand Brooks are these Ergon GPI grips. Such a modern product may seem anathema to some fans of the trad brand but we can see the logic. Brooks are embracing new ideas and materials more all the time and if the saddles are all about comfort, why not the grips as well? And if you're going to put ergo grips on your bike then you're going to enjoy looking at them a lot more if they're as beautiful as this black and copper set. They photograph so well that we practically had to wrestle them back from our photographer else he's still be playing with them.

Under the Brooks leather - in brown, honey or black - is a rubber base to provide the shape and extra cushioning. The lock-on ends are alloy and come in satin silver or copper. The price is €89. A staggered width set is also available for use with a grip shifter.

www.brooksengland.com



HIPOK HOMIE AND DX

The new product assault continues from Hiplok with the Homie, their first stay-at-home chain. It's 1.5m long, so it can lock several bikes together, and the fabric sleeve prevents scratches to frames. When not in use, the Homie can be stored on a dedicated wall hook using the bar built into the lock. The Homie uses a 10mm hardened steel chain and gets a Sold Secure Gold rating.

Elsewhere, the DX, Hiplok's toughest ever D-lock has been launched officially and will cost £69.99, or £79.99 in DXC form with a cable to loop through your wheels and saddle. Also new is the very light, and light-equipped, FLX combination cable lock which is intended to secure your helmet to your bike at café stops. It has a flashing red light that faces traffic when it's clipped to a rear pocket. The FLX costs £29.99.

www.hiplok.com



WINGLIGHTS BY CYCL

Indicators for bicycles have been attempted many times but never, we would argue, as neatly as this. WingLights are bar-end mounted orange LEDs that flash to give other road users a visible indication that are going to turn when it's dark and a hand signal won't show up. They also allow you to keep both hands on the handlebar for longer. You simply tap the end to turn it on and again to turn it off. The WingLights come with two CR2032 batteries that are claimed to last for six months. The body is made from aluminium and the lights are said to be shockproof and weatherproof.

WingLights Mag cost £34.99 and use a bolt-in housing into which the lights are located with magnets, allowing near instant mounting and removal. A fixed mounting version costs £22.99. www.cycl.bike



HOPKINSON LOUIS BAG

This British brand launched late last year with this, their debut product, the Louis Bag. It's a multipurpose bag that's handmade from ethically sourced British leather and lined with faux suede.

The two straps can be used to attach it almost anywhere. However, rather cleverly, the Louis is sized such that it fits perfectly into a bottle cage and the straps are spaced to line up perfectly with the tabs on the back of Brooks saddles. That's smart design. A shoulder strap is also included.

The Louis comes in blue, red, tan and black, and costs £250.

www.hopkinsonengland.co.uk



PEDALDABS BY BIKEDABS

Here's a neat idea if you have one bike that has to do everything and it usually wears clipless pedals. PedalDabs clip in to your pedals in just a couple of seconds, turning them into flats. They clip off again just as fast. PedalDabs are available for Shimano SPD and SPD-SL, and Look Keo pedal systems, with prices from £20. www.bikedabs.com