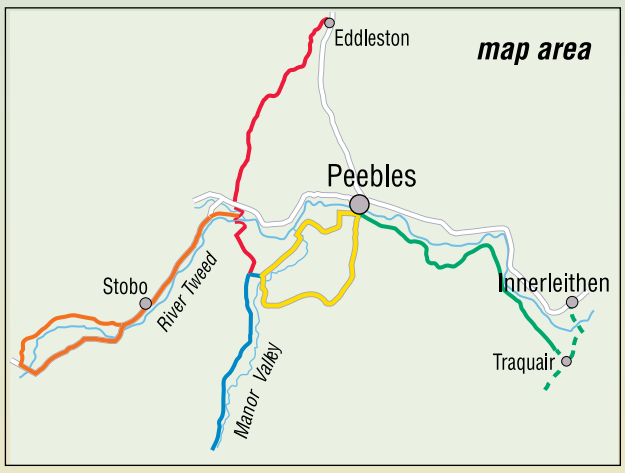
Local Cycling Trails

The starting point for the routes described in this leaflet is Kingsmeadows car park, located on the south side of the River Tweed just over the bridge from the west end of the High Street.

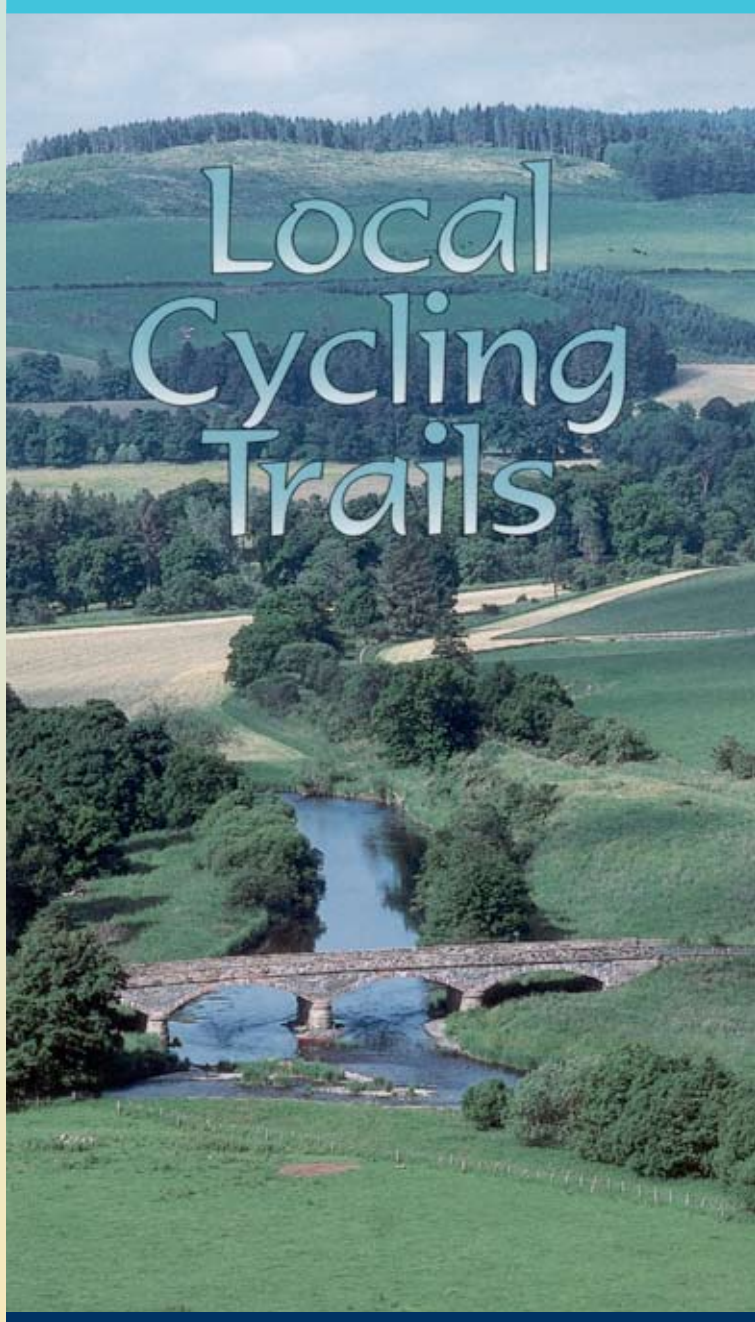
Five colour coded, signed routes using mainly quiet roads are both described and illustrated on the map overleaf - on the whole, family groups and inexperienced cyclists should be quite happy using them, although the orange route uses the B712 road, which has long straight sections in the vicinity of Stobo, where fast moving traffic may be encountered. This is probably best avoided by anyone not confident cycling in such conditions.



Scottish Borders COUNCIL

The production of this publication cost 13p per unit.
Designed by Scottish Borders Council Graphic Design Section.
Printed in the Scottish Borders. Cover Photoraph by Bill Jamieson.

Peebles



The Scottish Borders
Scotland's leading short break destination®

Traquair House - 13m / 21km

Turn left out of the car park into Kingsmeadows Road (B7062) 1. A cycle lane is soon reached and this continues out to the 30mph signs on the edge of the town. The grades are generally easy along this road until the entrance to Kailzie Gardens (2 m / 3 km) is reached 2.

Here the road turns south to bypass the gardens and the next mile or so undulates with some moderate climbing. It then drops back down to Kirkburn (forest walks and cycle trails) where a long, level, tree lined section leading to Cardrona starts.

The prospect is then more open for the next easy mile before the road again enters riverside woods. It re-emerges at Old Howford for the final mile and a half to Traquair House entrance and Bear Gates ($6^1/_2$ m / $10^1/_2$ km) 3. This last section is more undulating, but still quite easy.

The trail ends here - return to Peebles by retracing the outward route.

Traquair House is well worth a visit (and not just for the tearoom!), but if it is closed, Innerleithen ($8^1/_2$ m / 14 km) offers a selection of pubs etc. serving food - continue eastwards on the B7062 to Traquair village 4, then turn left onto the B709 which is followed into Innerleithen, crossing the Tweed on the way.

Another possible short extension is to Traquair Church at Kirkhouse. Continue eastwards from the Bear Gates on the B7062, but turn right immediately after crossing Knowe Bridge onto a quiet lane leading past Traquair Mill 5 Bear right onto the B709 to Kirkhouse (8 m / 13 km).

Note: Neither of these two extensions has cycle trail signing.

Cademuir circuit - $7^1/_2$m / 12km

Turn right out of the car park into Kingsmeadows Road and then bear left into Caledonian Road 1. Turn left at the mini roundabout into Edderston Road 2 and after passing the last house on the right hand side, turn right to enter open countryside 3.

This road climbs steadily for the next half mile (with a steep section past Edderston Manor) but shortly after breasting the summit, picnic benches on the right offer the opportunity to rest and enjoy the view over Peebles to Dunsdair Heights (602m). The road now starts to drop and a prospect of the Tweed Valley opens up. The descent steepens and Old Manor Bridge, built in 1702, is soon crossed, followed by a short rise up to the Manorhead road 4.

Turn left and enter a pleasant tree lined section, rising at first and then dropping fairly gently down to Kirkton Manor (3 m / 5 km). Turn left 5 over the Manor Water (take care crossing the cattle grid just over the bridge). The river is followed for a short length but the road then climbs away from it (with only a short steep stretch) before levelling out and contouring along the southern slopes of Cademuir Hill.

A wide prospect of Stob Law and Hundleshope Heights opens out to the south, their heather clad slopes contrasting sharply with the lush wooded valley of the Tweed, which has been left behind. Continue on generally favourable grades (there's a second cattle grid along here) before re-entering the leafy outskirts of Peebles on Bonnington Road. Turn right at the bottom and then left into Springhill Road 6, which leads back down to Kingsmeadows Road - the carpark entrance is directly opposite.

This circuit can also be done clockwise, of course, but it's not sign posted in that direction and does involve a very steep climb up from Old Manor Bridge.

Manor Valley - up to $20^1/_2$m / 33km

Follow the yellow trail to Kirkton Manor, but leave it by bearing right at the next junction 5 and climb up to The Glack 1. Turn left here and follow the Manor Water as far as you want - the road undulates and it's only over the final two miles or so that there's any sustained climbing. The public road terminates below the seemingly unrelenting slopes of Dollar Law (817m) just short of Manorhead Farm ($9^1/_2$ m / $15^1/_2$ km - don't be put off by the distances given on some road signs!).

Return by the outward route to the junction near Kirkton Manor 5. Turn right to rejoin the yellow route back into Peebles.

The Meldons / Eddleston - up to $22^1/_2$m / 36km

Follow the yellow trail to Kirkton Manor, but leave it by bearing right at the next junction 5 and climb up to The Glack 1. Turn right and continue to climb for a few hundred yards. The road then levels out and the Tweed Valley comes into view again. Drop downhill past Haswellsykes Farm to the end of the public road close to the River Tweed 2.

Turn left along a track then bear left onto a very narrow footpath (please dismount for this next section). Cross over the river and remount once the public road is reached. Carry straight on under a disused railway bridge to the next junction at Lyne Station 3.

Turn right and then left onto a short length of cycle path alongside the A72 4. Cross straight over the main road from the west end of the path onto the Meldons road. Continue straight ahead at the next junction and climb gradually, passing between the Black and White Meldons, to reach the summit of the road at 268m (8 m / 13 km from Peebles) 5. From here, a twisting descent leads to Eddleston village with its shop and pub 6. ($10^1/_2$ m /17 km).

Return by the outward route to the junction near Kirkton Manor 5. Turn right to rejoin the yellow route back into Peebles.

It's possible to return directly from Eddleston to Peebles, but this involves use of the A703, a busy and fast road which cannot be recommended for cycling. However, if you prefer this option, the circuit is best done anticlockwise, cycling to Eddleston via Rosetta Road, Chapelhill and the A703 (no cycle trail signing) and then following the red route back to Peebles.

Dreva and Dawyck - 26m / 42 km

Follow the yellow trail to Kirkton Manor, but leave it by bearing right at the next junction 5 and climb up to The Glack 1. Turn right and continue to climb for a few hundred yards. The road then levels out and the Tweed Valley comes into view again. Drop downhill past Haswellsykes Farm to the end of the public road close to the River Tweed 2.

Turn left along a track then bear left onto a very narrow footpath (please dismount for this next section). Cross over the river and remount once the public road is reached. Carry straight on under a disused railway bridge to the next junction at Lyne Station 1. Turn left here then left again after $^3/_4$ mile onto the B712 road 2.

Continue through Stobo and turn right 3 towards Dreva. This road runs high above the Tweed Valley and gives fine views to the Cutter Fell group of hills to the south-west and the Manor hills to the south. About $^1/_4$ mile west of Dreva Farm, bear left and drop down to the valley bottom. Pass Rachan and turn left back onto the B712 4, now heading towards Peebles.

Continue, mostly on favourable grades, through Drumelzier to reach the entrance to Dawyck Botanic Garden 5 on the right, about 2 miles further on. The garden is open from mid February to mid November and has an excellent tearoom with outdoor tables, but watch out for a particularly vicious cattle grid at the far end of the approach drive!

Returning to the B712, turn right to rejoin the outward route in a further $^1/_4$ mile. This is followed back to the junction near Kirkton Manor 5. Turn right to regain the yellow route back into Peebles.

These trails all incorporate the full yellow trail which has a steep climb out of Peebles. To reduce the amount of climbing, albeit at the expense of slightly increased distance, use the yellow trail clockwise to Kirkton Manor, following Tweed Cycleway 2 signing:

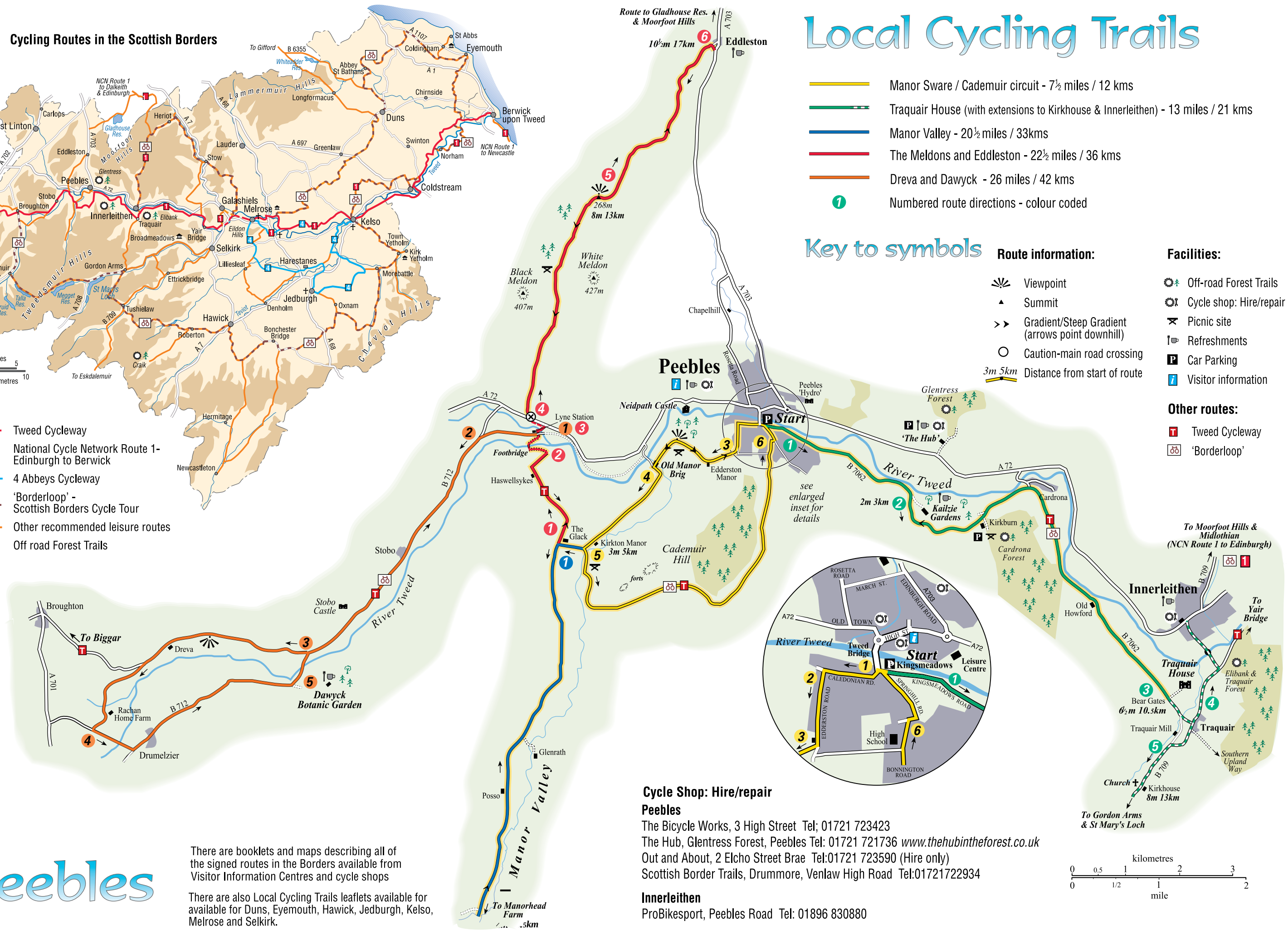
Turn right into Kingsmeadows Road, then first left into Springhill Road. About $^1/_4$ mile along, turn right into Springwood Road, then left almost immediately into Bonnington Road. The road levels out on leaving the town behind and contours around the south side of Cademuir Hill, with just one further short uphill stretch. After passing Cademuir Farm on the left, drop down to cross the Manor Water and reach a T junction near Kirkton Manor 5. Turn left to join the trails as described above.

Local Cycling Trails

- Manor Sware / Cademuir circuit - 7½ miles / 12 kms
- Traquair House (with extensions to Kirkhouse & Innerleithen) - 13 miles / 21 kms
- Manor Valley - 20½ miles / 33kms
- The Meldons and Eddleston - 22½ miles / 36 kms
- Dreva and Dawyck - 26 miles / 42 kms
- Numbered route directions - colour coded

Cycling Routes in the Scottish Borders

- Tweed Cycleway
- National Cycle Network Route 1- Edinburgh to Berwick
- 4 Abbeys Cycleway
- 'Borderloop' - Scottish Borders Cycle Tour
- Other recommended leisure routes
- Off road Forest Trails



Key to symbols

Route information:

- Viewpoint
- Summit
- Gradient/Steep Gradient (arrows point downhill)
- Caution-main road crossing
- 3m 5km Distance from start of route

Facilities:

- Off-road Forest Trails
- Cycle shop: Hire/repair
- Picnic site
- Refreshments
- Car Parking
- Visitor information

Other routes:

- Tweed Cycleway
- 'Borderloop'

Peebles

There are booklets and maps describing all of the signed routes in the Borders available from Visitor Information Centres and cycle shops

There are also Local Cycling Trails leaflets available for available for Duns, Eyemouth, Hawick, Jedburgh, Kelso, Melrose and Selkirk.

Cycle Shop: Hire/repair

Peebles

The Bicycle Works, 3 High Street Tel; 01721 723423
The Hub, Glentress Forest, Peebles Tel: 01721 721736 *www.thehubintheforest.co.uk*
Out and About, 2 Elcho Street Brae Tel:01721 723590 (Hire only)
Scottish Border Trails, Drummore, Venlaw High Road Tel:01721722934

Innerleithen

ProBikesport, Peebles Road Tel: 01896 830880