



Your letters

To round off our 50th anniversary year, we're devoting this page to comments on our October issue and our special supplement

A birthday gift

Congratulations on your 50th. My husband gave me a year's subscription to *Which?* for my birthday in October 1957, and I've taken it ever since, except when we didn't have a 'permanent' address, being in the Royal Air Force. It has certainly changed with the years, but always for the better.

One regret I have is that I didn't save some of those early issues, but one can't save everything when

moving; I'm now in my 27th home.

Many thanks for hours of interesting reading and helping me decide what to buy over the years.

JENNY KNIGHTS, NEWTON ABBOTT

The wrong runner

In the 1950s one of the 'interval fillers' on BBC TV was a film of Roger Bannister breaking the four-minute mile. As a boy I remember it well. However, he didn't do it in 1957, as you state in the 'In brief' column on p9 of your *50 Years of Which?* supplement, but on 6 May 1954 – three years before your founding. You may be confusing him with Derek Ibbotson, who famously set a new world mile record in July 1957.

MIKE FARMER, CHELTENHAM

Spare wheel saviour

Your 'Repair or spare?' query (p76) reminds me of the time my car struck a short steel angle from a lorry, which shredded my tyre and broke the alloy wheel rim. Luckily, I

had as standard a space-saver spare wheel. It looked ridiculous but it got me to my dealer, who immediately ordered replacements. Clearly, a puncture repair kit would have been laughable in such circumstances.

I've made sure ever since that every car I buy has a spare wheel.

JAMES POLLOCK, AYR

Nine months overdue

Yesterday morning, the postman delivered an unexpected issue of *Which?* – unexpected because it came only a week or two after I received your 50th anniversary October issue. Even more unexpectedly, the accompanying letter began 'Welcome to the New Year and your January issue of *Which?*'. And so it proved to be – arriving about nine months late, yet still pristine and immaculate in its plastic wrapper. Is this a record? By a pleasing coincidence, the cover story was headed 'A second-class postal service?!'

BOB CHAMBERS, BRISTOL



Slug pellets



Marion: slug pellets can harm

I was enjoying your colourful October issue but stopped in my tracks when I read your piece about slugs (p11). Pellets can be a potential killer for animals that feed on slugs or snails, like hedgehogs and birds. Rather than pellets, try traps or crushed egg shells.

MARION SARTON, WISBECH

GARDENING WHICH? SAYS

Views differ on how much of a risk pellets pose. If you do use them, spread them very thinly. As well as the alternatives above, copper tape and rings offer a chemical-free way of protecting plants or, for biological control, try products containing nematodes.

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'Your letters' is your chance to have your say on something in *Which?*. Email or write to the address below. If your letter is printed, you can choose a free *Which?* book as a thank you. We reserve the right to edit letters or use only an extract.

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Next month in *Which?*

Tradesmen

From plumbers to electricians, we reveal the trades you can trust

Premium vs budget

What are the differences between premium, standard and budget food?

Product reliability

Which white good brands you should buy, and which you should avoid

Going wireless

How to get rid of cluttering cables and free up your PC's power

Cashback deals

Are mobile phone money-back deals too good to be true?

Bread

We test the levels of salt in freshly baked loaves from supermarkets

Coming soon ✓ Dental insurance ✓ Microwaves ✓ High-street shops: your views ✓ Pushchairs ✓ Security software ✓ Green products

On test

Washing machines

We look at models aimed at matching your lifestyle

Detergents

Best Buy washing liquids: can they best the powders?

Ink cartridges

Are branded cartridges better than generic?

Plus

✓ Toasters
✓ Kettles

Out on
20 Dec

