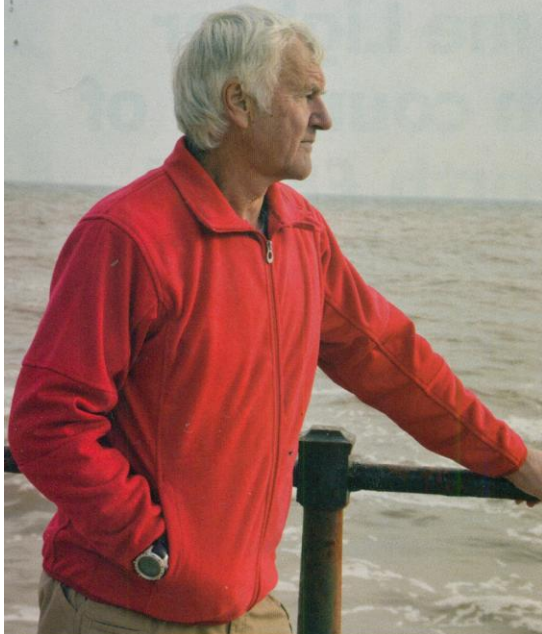


RESULT OSAKA SOFT SHELL JACKET



A nice to wear jacket this. Elasticated panels to allow for a close but not interfering fit. Ideal for a casual walk out on a day which is chill, or for a trip to the pub when it will be a cold walk home with the chance of a shower. This vibrant red is also a good colour for personal visibility on the evening walk home.

Soon after you put on this jacket you get a warm cosy feel so although quite a thin jacket the materials are doing their work. A good UK summer jacket for sure.

Above: The Result Osaka jacket is well suited to such a day as this - chill sea breeze but not lashing down though it can deal with some rain if needs be

4: A picture of boxes and tubes of these products does not really do them justice, but this is what you are looking for when you go to buy some - note they also come in sachets if small amounts are required.



GEHWOL FOOT AND HAND CARE PRODUCTS

I do not profess to be an expert on things medical but I do know when a product works, and especially so in the case of the Gehwol Med; a salve for cracked skin. For some years, I have suffered quite badly from cracks on both my thumbs (I'm biting my tongue, Ed.), which I put down to previous injuries; something which in cold and wet weather, and dependent on the work I am doing, always come back to haunt me as painful splits. Not uncommon, and if you get them you will fully understand just how painful and inconvenient these are.

For years I have tried a wide selection of common, and not so common, products to try to overcome this problem - with marginal effect. So when Keeble Care asked if I would like to try the Gehwol products and I noticed the Med salve, the challenge was on! Great timing as it was cold and wet, I was working out in it, and my hands were suffering. A classic time for me to have cracked skin

... and I did. In a couple of days the problem was solved and I have not had an issue since. Say no more. This stuff really works!

I have also been using Gehwol's Foot Cream, and again have noticed an improvement in the condition of the skin on my feet. After a long day on your feet, try the Refreshing Balm. Joy! Especially if you put socks back on to extend the effect.

All these products come in both tubes and sachets, the latter being ideal if you are just out for a short time and need to reduce what you carry. By the time you read this, I will probably be trekking the Tour de Mont Blanc and there will definitely be some Gehwol in my kit.

As well as working well, you need very little of these products for each application so a tube goes a long way, which is a bonus. If you regularly read this column you will, for sure, from time to time give your feet and hands a hard time. So my advice is to give them a treat. They deserve it.



KELTY IGNITE SLEEPING BAG

Kelty have a wide range of sleeping bags including this down-based model. Down is a filling you have to be aware of in case it gets wet, but this one has a machine-washable fill ... with care.

I was at a slight disadvantage when first field testing this bag as I took it out on Dartmoor in February, when it was really quite cold, and it is a Regular size not Large so I did not fit it so well. It is also rated at 20/25F and outside it was a bit colder than that, so all in all it was not totally fair to say I was on margins of comfort. It is also quite a bulky bag for its capability but it does not have a compression bag, only a stuff sack, so is not perfect for back-packing.

5: In the supplied stuff sack the Kelty Ignite is quite large making it possibly not ideal if hiking

6: If used in the right conditions this is a well featured down filled bag

7: On a cold February night on Dartmoor I was at the limits of comfort in this 20/25F rated bag



This said, the Ignite is a nice bag with good neck baffle and good zip and so it does the job nicely in the right conditions.