

Reviews

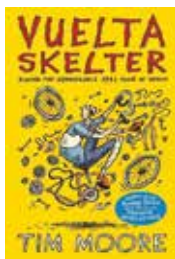
Books

TURN PAGES ABOUT TURNING PEDALS

Print queue
Cycle doesn't feature all books received. Reviewers pick the ones they think you need to know about from the Editor's shortlist. Send review copies to: *Cycle, PO Box 313, Scarborough, YO12 6WZ*



Vuelta Skelter



Details
By: Tim Moore
Publisher: Jonathan Cape
Price: £20 (hardback)
ISBN: 9781787333055

READING TIM MOORE is a joy. If you giggled at Savlon in French Revolutions and guffawed at wine cork brake pads in Gironimo!, you will belly laugh at the bedraggled, gazpacho-guzzling figure Moore cuts in *Vuelta Skelter*. As he follows a modern-day version of the route of the 1941 edition of Spain's big bike race, "the least grand grand tour", he emerges as a two-wheeled Groucho Marx and a thoughtful Simon Schama combined.

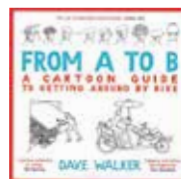
In the midst of Covid, Moore takes six weeks to pedal 4,500 broiling Spanish kilometres, retracing the tyre tracks of 1941 winner Julián Berrendero. The fact that 'Jools' – "the Giant of Masculinity" – won

that *Vuelta* after being incarcerated in a concentration camp by Franco's Nationalists for 18 months allows Moore to achieve a feat as remarkable as his cycling exploit. He interweaves his travelogue with brutal tales from Spain's murderous Civil War and an absorbing account of Berrendero's cycling career, producing a seamless piece of writing. It never lapses into poor taste, despite frequent one-liners and moments of delicious linguistic slapstick.

Now that Moore has turned his literary attention to all three grand tours, what next? Has he ever thought of riding on cobbles?

Iain Marshall

Excerpts
You can read excerpts from some of the books that *Cycle* has reviewed at cyclinguk.org/cycle-book-excerpts



Details
By: Dave Walker
Publisher: Bloomsbury
Price: £12.99 (hardback)
ISBN: 9781472976130

From A to B

WHETHER YOU ARE a new or experienced cyclist, Dave Walker's latest book provides engaging and thought-provoking cartoons. This book is for commuters, tourers, roadies and even the person who cycles to the shops every day, because as the cartoons say: "There's a bike for everyone." The cartoons look at the simplicity of cycling, the challenges facing cyclists, and how being on two wheels is for everybody. Each is funny in itself, and very relatable, but many make important points too.

Mo Halloum



Details
By: Patrick Field
Publisher: Michael O'Mara Books
Price: £9.99 (hardback)
ISBN: 9781789293302

The Cycling Revolution

THIS IS A great little book: really clever and hard to put down. It's packed with interesting stuff about all aspects of cycling. It informs you but leaves you hungry for more by giving you wonderful nuggets of information, inspiration, snippets of stories, and facts about cycling history, cycling experiences and cycling people without getting bogged down in too much detail. It's also beautifully illustrated by Harry Goldhawk with a picture every other page.

Roland Seber



Details
By: Huw Hennessy
Publisher: Bradt Guides
Price: £12.99
ISBN: 9781784778347

Cycling in Cornwall and the Scilly Isles

THIS HANDY-SIZED guidebook is packed with information and inspiration for cycling in Cornwall. The 21 routes cover the whole county and a variety of distances, abilities and types of bike, and are laid out in a way that's easy to navigate. The highlights for me are the boxouts describing the fascinating places to visit en route. The only thing missing from the routes is the amount of ascent, which is fairly crucial in Cornwall – although there is a difficulty rating.

Sophie Gordon