

# cycle Freewheeling

A SHORT TOUR AROUND THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF CYCLING



Left: Gerald Hoban

Bob (centre) with Robin Tucker and Chris Tomkins

## You ride

### Bob Damper Lifelong volunteer

At the recent AGM of the Southampton CTC member group, Cycling UK trustee Robin Tucker presented Robert (Bob) Damper with a Gold Going the Extra Mile Lifetime Achievement award for more than 45 years of volunteering. Bob has been a member of the Southampton club in its various forms for over 50 years – and a member of Cycling UK for longer still.

He joined the committee in 1981 and took on the role of runs secretary from 1982-1984. He was club chairman from 1993 to 2013 and welfare officer between 2013 and 2016.

Bob instigated and has also run the successful Southampton CTC 100km and 200km Park to Park audax rides, which provide a valuable addition to club funds. He has also given generously of his time and expertise in leading cycle maintenance sessions for club members. He has supported and led many rides, and has a phenomenal knowledge of routes, both locally and nationally.

Robin Tucker says: "It is people like Bob who are the foundations on which Cycling UK and its member groups have been built. To hear his cycling achievements, how he has mentored people in cycling, and his talk about his London to Brighton ride on a 120-year-old veteran bike was truly inspiring. Then he says he has got more out of Cycling UK than he has put in. I know there is good evidence that volunteering is fulfilling and leads to a happier and healthier life, but this was amazing to hear first hand from such a great character!"

## THIS YEAR'S AWARDS

The winners of our Volunteer Awards 2023 will be announced in the next issue of Cycle and on our website during Volunteers' Week, which runs from 1-7 June. [cyclinguk.org/volunteer](http://cyclinguk.org/volunteer)

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## Bike tech

### EAV 2cubed

One of the highlights at the Cycle Show in April was the presence of so many e-cargo cycles – not just bikes but trikes and quads, such as the Vok ([vokbikes.com](http://vokbikes.com)) and the EAV 2cubed (pictured). Intended for urban deliveries, these four-wheelers have a boxy cargo compartment, roof and windscreen on an electrically assisted quadricycle chassis. They're not cheap (the 2cubed starts at £10,995, ex VAT) but will cost peanuts to run. [eav.solutions](http://eav.solutions)

## Really?!

### Specialized Sirrus X 5.0

Specialized's top-end Sirrus hybrid now features a 'Compliance Junction' in its carbon frame, designed to give a few millimetres of flex (which can't be adjusted for the rider's weight). It's eye catching, sure, but is it *really* better than wider, more supple tyres? Or a sprung saddle? [specialized.com](http://specialized.com)



## Classic kit

### Maxxis Minion DHF



'DH' stands for downhill but the DHF is really an all-round trail tyre, with excellent grip in dry and loose conditions and good enough performance in mud. You can leave it on your mountain bike year round and tackle any corner with confidence. It's tubeless ready and available in a huge range of sizes, from 20x2.4in to 29x3in. From £56.65, [maxxis.com/uk](http://maxxis.com/uk)

## Events

### York Rally

York Rally returns to the Knavesmire from 23-25 June. This annual gathering of club cyclists has taken place since 1945. There are led rides, a trade show, cycle displays, talks, live music, children's activities and secondhand sales. Catering and camping are available on site. Entry is free, as is parking; donations are welcome. [yorkrally.org](http://yorkrally.org)



Left: yorkrally.org