

# Reviews

# Books

CYCLING INSPIRATION WHEN YOU'RE STUCK INSIDE

## 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*



## Further Adventures in Rough Stuff



### Details

**By:** Mark Hudson  
**Publisher:** Isola Press  
**Price:** £28/£35 (softcover/hardcover)  
**ISBN:** 9780995488687

**HISTORY IS A** circle, with all things repeated in time. Pick up the second collection of the Rough Stuff-Fellowship's archives and you'll see that what's true for history also applies to cycling.

Further Adventures in Rough Stuff portrays a riot of adventurers riding drop-handlebar bikes festooned in saddlebags in places rambles would fear to tread. But for the skinnier tyres prevalent of the time and the penchant for cycling capes, you could easily mistake them for today's growing bikepacking community. This second volume from the RSF continues the tales of the oldest off-road cycling group's members, which began with 2017's first volume.

The first book stimulated a wave of interest from members, and saw further donations of slides and negatives to this Cycling UK affiliated group. RSF archivist Mark Hudson clearly put the lockdowns to good use, sifting through approximately 70,000 slides and negatives to create another finely curated work.

Across several decades, we're taken through the counties of England, Scotland and Wales in all conditions (Cycling UK and RSF members: please note the archivist's appeal for any imagery of trips in Northern Ireland that you might have lurking in your loft), as well as on some foreign adventures, including the Alps, Pyrenees, Norway, and the USA.

Interspersed among these stunning images are excerpts from the club's journal. There's an interesting and, with the benefit of hindsight, amusing, discussion from the Letters to Editors page about the future of mountain bikes, dating back to 1984.

This book is equal parts archive and inspiration, and I cannot recommend it highly enough.

**Sam Jones**



### Excerpts

You can read excerpts from some of the books that Cycle has reviewed at [cyclinguk.org/cycle-book-excerpts](https://cyclinguk.org/cycle-book-excerpts)



### Details

**By:** Kathy Rogers & Markus Stitz  
**Publisher:** Vertebrate Publishing  
**Price:** £20  
**ISBN:** 9781839810725

## Big Rides: Great Britain & Ireland

**EVEN CLOSE TO** home, you don't have to travel far to 'ride beyond the horizon'. Kathy Rogers and Markus Stitz showcase 25 of the best long-distance rides in Great Britain, Ireland, and a slice of France. With routes ranging from 100 to 1,000 miles, the book can be used as inspiration to decide which to explore further. It gives useful information such as what time of year to ride the route, where to sleep, historical facts, and everything in between.

**Jordan Matthews**



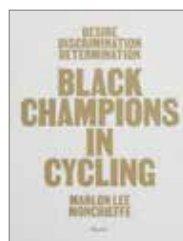
### Details

**By:** various contributors  
**Publisher:** DK Eyewitness Travel  
**Price:** £20  
**ISBN:** 9780241472279

## Ride: Cycle the World

**SEEMINGLY TRYING TO** bridge the gap between coffee table book and practical guidebook, *Ride: Cycle the World* offers 100 tantalising routes from all corners of the globe. They range from the gruelling 7,000-mile Tour d'Afrique to a gentle 16-mile pootle in central France. Realistically, I imagine most readers will stick to dreaming about which routes to add to their bucket list, rather than actually using the downloadable GPX files for each ride.

**Steve Metcalfe**



### Details

**By:** Dr Marlon Moncrieffe  
**Publisher:** Rapha/BlueTrain Publishing  
**Price:** £25  
**ISBN:** 9781912164165

## Desire, Discrimination, Determination – Black Champions in Cycling

**IN PLACES THIS** is a sobering exploration of the barriers faced by black cyclists in cycle sport throughout its history. Yet it's also a celebration of triumph over adversity, and a fantastic overview of trailblazers and talented athletes – ranging from Kittie Knox challenging racism and sexism in the 1890s, to Abdel-Kader Zaaf riding the mid-20th century Tour de France, to Nelson Vails' journey from bike messenger to track champion in the 1970s.

**Ellen Holmes**