

Important announcement about the 8th June 2017

We're celebrating two great velo milestones this June - **200 years since the first cycle ride** and 5 wonderful years of the **Edinburgh Festival of Cycling**. Celebrating cycling in all its forms, this year's festival has a great line-up of events, including Cycling Weekly's **Dr Hutch** (aka Michael Hutchinson) talking about his new book **Re:Cyclists - 200 Years on Two Wheels** and **Lena Wångren** on **The Freedom Machine** and its role in female emancipation.

Flex your mind and enter our **literature competition** (poem/short story), and/or put your hat into the ring for the opportunity to **win a cargo bike for a year**, as a Brand Ambassador for **Urban Arrow**. The Edinburgh Festival of Cycling, Britain's most diverse cycling festival, has been named as **one of Europe's Top Ten cycling festivals** by **Active Traveller Magazine!**

For Those Wanting Tales of Adventure:

Rebecca Lowe will be telling us about her journey through the Middle East, as a woman alone, and the reception she got. **Ed Shoote** will give an illustrated talk about his rides across the roof of the world in Tibet, and other places. **Ness Knight** will take us on a journey across the sands of the world's oldest desert in Namibia and along the Skeleton Coast, a place the locals say was 'the land God made in anger'. We will also be asking: What does '**exploring by bike**' mean, with **Laura & Tim Moss**, in collaboration with the Royal Scottish Geographical Society. And we'll use **Bicycle Seismographs** to explore the rough and the smooth on the streets of Edinburgh. Two hundred years on from the first bike ride, we also have **Kajsa Tylen** talking about her staggering ride, breaking Billie Fleming's distance record for most miles cycled by a woman in one year.

For Those Inspired To Ride

There are lots of opportunities to saddle up, whether it be for an **epic adventure ride**, a **Big Meander** across the city, a short pootle **visiting bookshops to celebrate cycle writing**, explore Edinburgh's fabulous cycle routes with the **Belles on Bikes**, we have it all. Join the **Original Edinburgh Night Ride**, a magical mystery tour through a mid-summer's night, or the **Ride to the Sun**.

For All The Family and All Abilities

The **Bike Curious Family workshop** aims again to help families find ways to ride together, and there are **All Ability cycling events**, including a ride to the beach, and hear the tale of **Ken Reid**, who is blind and rode from Edinburgh to London via Belfast, Dublin and Cardiff on a tandem. Or have some fun at the brand new **SKELF bike park**.

For the full programme, including many more talks, films, workshops and rides, see <https://edfoc.org.uk/>

Ends.

Note To Editors:

Images

Accompanying image: Festival Director Kim Harding with replica of the Kirkpatrick Macmillan bicycle on load Drumlairig Castle. Kirkpatrick Macmillan was a Scottish blacksmith. He is generally credited with inventing the pedal driven bicycle. Macmillan was born 205 years ago this

year. <https://www.dropbox.com/s/zwg1lawqfkdbk4v/Programme%20Launch%20-%20Edinburgh>

[%20Festival%20of%20Cycling%202017%20-%20SKELF%2C%20Edinburgh-6812.jpg?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/zwg1lawqfkdbk4v/Programme%20Launch%20-%20Edinburgh)

Other images are available through EdFoC on the following link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/dcufoyvbosfxvk6/AADFyeHoYPjwfS-DCsQy12QVa?dl=0>

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Programme

An electronic copy of the programme is available on the following link:

<http://www.edfoc.org.uk/calendar-of-events/>

Enquiries

All enquiries should be directed to festival director Kim Harding:

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Social Media

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The official hashtag for the event is #edfoc2017

Interviews

Interviews can be arranged with speakers and event organisers. All enquiries through Kim Harding.