



WORDS DAN JOYCE

# CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

What do you get the cyclist with almost everything for Christmas? **Dan Joyce** has some suggestions



**C**ycling gifts for children are easy to choose: it's a straightforward progression from balance bikes onwards, with bikes and kit regularly outgrown. It's harder with adults who have been cycling for years. Anything they desperately need they will have bought already.

The trick is to find something that they wouldn't necessarily have – or at least, not yet – but that they will appreciate and will still find

useful. I've divided gifts into four categories – touring, commuting, road cycling and mountain biking – but plenty can be used for any sort of cycling. These are further subdivided them into 'book' (who doesn't like to get a book for Christmas?) and by three rough price points.

If you're buying for a non-CTC member, it's easy: CTC gift membership is available from £16 – and it's a gift that lasts all year! See the address insert with this issue of Cycle.



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**TOURING**

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**1. BOOK  
HAROLD BRIERCLIFFE'S  
CYCLING TOURING GUIDES  
£9.99 each**

The inspiration for the Britain by Bike TV series, these 1940s reproductions are a fascinating window into cycle touring history.  
[anovabooks.com](http://anovabooks.com)

**2. AROUND £10  
VAVERT MINI COMPASS  
BELL £6.99**

Analogue route finder and pedestrian alert in one handy package. Compass accuracy is fair.  
[fisheroutdoor.co.uk](http://fisheroutdoor.co.uk)

**3. AROUND £20  
NBT2 LOCKRING  
REMOVER £17**

Remove the Shimano cassette from your bike on tour without a big spanner and chainwhip.  
[spacycles.co.uk](http://spacycles.co.uk)

**4. £50 AND UP  
SALSA WOODCHIPPER  
BAR £54.99**

A wide, shallow drop bar for off-road bikes that's ideal for a loaded tourer. 31.8mm x 42 or 46cm. [ison-distribution.com](http://ison-distribution.com)



**1. BOOK  
JUST RIDE BY GRANT  
PETERSEN £8.99**

Wry, no-nonsense bicycle and cycling guide for practical rather than performance-minded cyclists. Reviewed last issue.  
[workman.com](http://workman.com)

**2. AROUND £10  
M:PART ALLEN KEY SECURITY  
SKEWERS £11.99**

A cheap way to stop your wheels going astray when your bike is parked. Rear is 135 or 130mm.  
[madison.co.uk](http://madison.co.uk)

**3. AROUND £20  
STEMCAPTAIN BIKE  
CLOCK £16**

This little clock fits in place of an existing 1 1/8in stem cap, giving at-a-glance commuting time checks.  
[stemcaptain.co.uk](http://stemcaptain.co.uk)

**4. £50 AND UP  
ROADHAWK RIDE  
CAMERA £149.95**

Compact (32g) all-in-one helmet/handlebar camera to record your commute. Waterproof, with a 135 degree lens and 720p definition.  
[roadhawk.co.uk](http://roadhawk.co.uk)

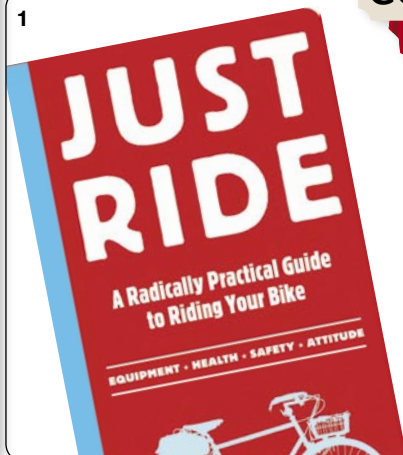


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**COMMUTING**



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**1. BOOK**  
**THE RIDER BY TIM KRABBÉ**  
**£8.99**

Krabbé takes you along for the ride on a 150km fictional bike race. The definitive road racing novel.  
[bloomsbury.com/uk](http://bloomsbury.com/uk)

**2. AROUND £10**  
**ENDURA PRO SLICK TOE COVERS** **£12.99**

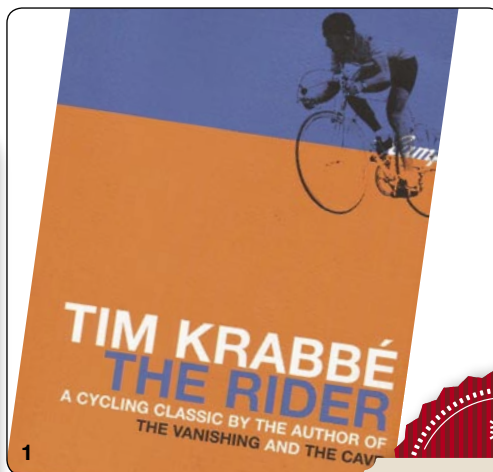
Not full overshoes, but these compact covers will help stop toes getting cold on off-season rides.  
[endura.co.uk](http://endura.co.uk)

**3. AROUND £20**  
**SEALSKINZ WATERPROOF CYCLING CAP** **£24.95**

Whether you wear it by itself or under a helmet, this waterproof cap will keep the rain off your head and out of your eyes. Sizes S-XL.  
[sealskinz.com](http://sealskinz.com)

**4. £50 AND UP**  
**GARMIN EDGE 200** **£129.99**

Given internet access, this GPS cycle computer is all a fitness cyclist needs to join the addictive world of Strava ([strava.com](http://strava.com)).  
[garmin.com/uk/](http://garmin.com/uk/)



**ROAD**

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**1. BOOK**  
**VERTEBRATE PUBLISHING'S MOUNTAIN BIKING GUIDEBOOKS** **£14.95+**

Discover new trails anywhere from Scotland to the North & South Downs. There are 15 titles so far, all well researched and presented.  
[v-publishing.co.uk](http://v-publishing.co.uk)

**2. AROUND £10**  
**TUDOR SPORTS COOLMAX LONG SOCKS** **£11.45**

Intended for use with traditional 'plusses', these knee socks are ideal with 3/4-length mountain biking baggies in chilly weather.  
[tudorsports.co.uk](http://tudorsports.co.uk)

**3. AROUND £20**  
**LEZYNE V10 MULTITOOL** **£25.99**

This 102g, 10-function tool is one of the smallest and lightest with a chain splitter.  
[upgradebikes.co.uk](http://upgradebikes.co.uk)

**4. £50 AND UP**  
**NOMAD 12V AUTO CORD PORTABLE WASHER** **£139.99**

A 14-litre, gentle power-washer that plugs into a car's lighter socket, it gets your bike clean anywhere.

[nomad-direct.co.uk](http://nomad-direct.co.uk)

**OFF-ROAD**

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