



Bells & Bikes

On the Tour de France big ring for
Yorkshire and its churches

Rod Ismay

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for Yorkshire and its churches

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Author Rod Ismay

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THE BOOK

Rod Ismay has a passion (some would say obsession) for the Tour de France. If you think you know someone who is obsessed, think again, but fortunately Rod's issues found their natural home when his native Yorkshire became the host for the 2014 Grand Départ.

Rod also has another passion – as well as cycling he is quite keen on bell-ringing, so why not combine the two? Why not get all the bells ringing along the Tour route, why not organise countless events, countless meetings, why not drag in churches far and wide, why not involve your employer, your friends, your family, why not photo-bomb five-time Tour winner Bernard Hinault?

Rod threw himself, his King of the Mountains jersey and his endless enthusiasm head first into making this Grand Départ about as good and memorable as it could be. Rod has written with passion about Yorkshire, its people, those two stages of the world's greatest cycle race and the churches, ringing their bells all along the race route.

If you like cycling then you will love this book. If you know Yorkshire then you will read this book with pride. If you are thinking of marrying a Tour de France obsessive then you need to read this book first.

THE AUTHOR

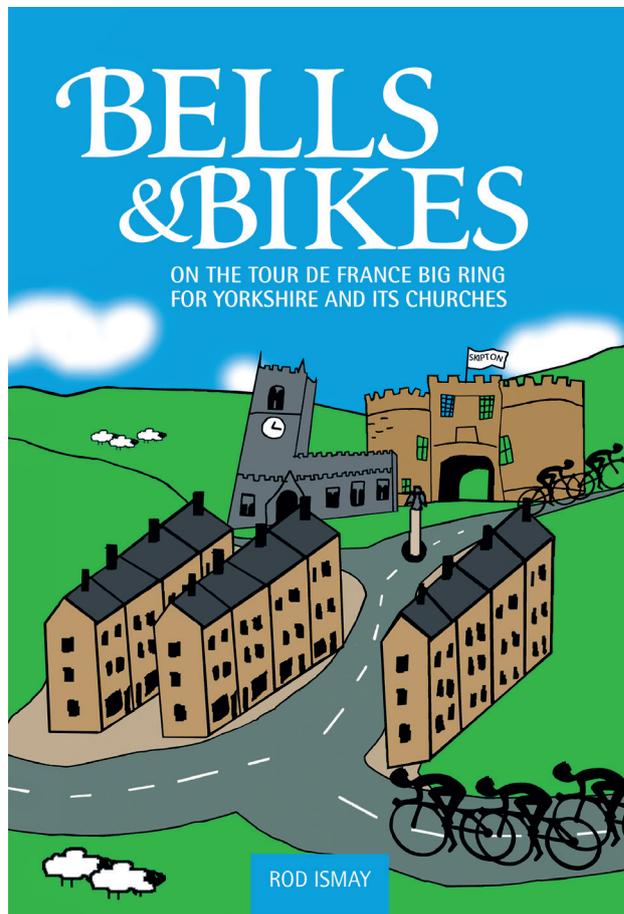
Rod Ismay indulges in the ABC of life – Accountancy, Bell-ringing and Cycling.

Organising church bells for the Tour de France was a natural culmination of years spent up towers around Bamsley, encouraging Post Office colleagues to cycle to work and persisting in regular rides up Holme Moss on a 531 steel frame touring bike loaded with unnecessary panniers.

Rod has been formally endorsed by the Post Office as one of its superheroes for Children in Need as a result of serial fundraising projects involving bikes. Rod has been Ringing Master at Hoylandswaine, Yorkshire, and Exeter St David's in Devon. He is passionate about bell-ringing as a vehicle for arts, community, church service and fun.

He passed his cycling proficiency test in around 1979 and his desk at work is easily identifiable by its collection of polka-dotted garments and cycling mugs.

Find out more about Rod at: www.bellsandbikes.com



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