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**Pump Stories** 

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# Mark Roth and Sally Walters Bicycling through England

By Keith Larson

Mark Roth, along with Sally Walters is a noted freelance writer and author of bicycle touring books. Cycle tourists to England received tips in their 1976 book on trip planning, points of interest, necessary bicycle accessories including pumps, and roadside repairs.

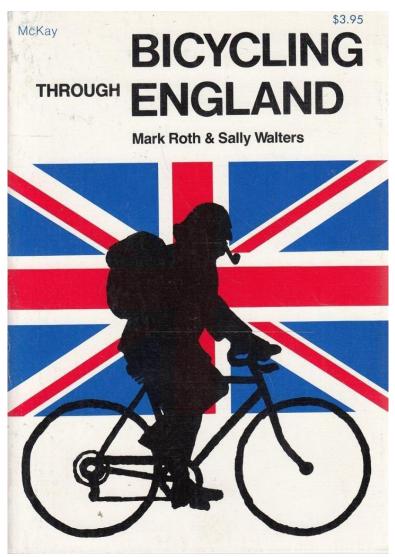


Photo Credit: Roth, Mark and Walters, Sally. *Bicycling through England*. New York: Henry Z. Walck, Inc. 1976.

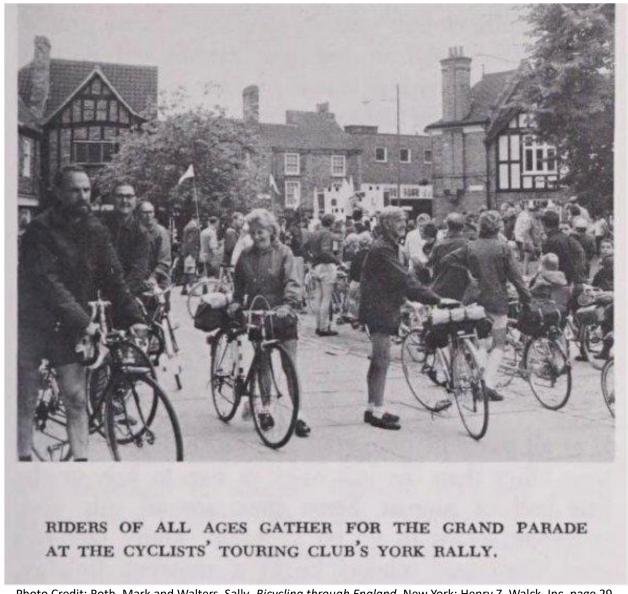


Photo Credit: Roth, Mark and Walters, Sally. Bicycling through England. New York: Henry Z. Walck, Inc. page 29.

#### TIRES AND PUMPS

"A good pump is an absolute necessity. You cannot fill your tires at gas stations. Your tires will get only as much air in them as you and your pump can force there. Many pumps will not get high-pressure tires sufficiently hard. Some pumps that use a flexible connector to attach to the tube's valve will not be satisfactory—though the Bluemels usually works well. The best pumps have a head with a rubber gasket which fits directly over the valve and has to be knocked off; it doesn't screw on. Once you get the knack of using it, a pump of this type, such as the Silca, will deliver as much pressure as you want. It costs about \$8 in England and comes in various lengths to match your bike's seat-tube length, so no extra hardware is needed to carry it." [page 20]



Photo Credit: Roth, Mark and Walters, Sally. Bicycling through England. New York: Henry Z. Walck, Inc. page 50.

#### **TIRE CARE**

"A simple but important step in preventing problems from developing is to keep tires properly inflated. This is especially important with the extra weight a tourist carries. Less expensive air pumps with a rubber and cloth connector between pump and tube valve must be used vigorously. Pressure must be built up by rapid, hard pumping. If you do this and check that the connector is tight, they perform adequately. Better pumps, such as the **Silca**, are designed with a head that fits directly over the tube's valve stem. An airtight fit is insured by a rubber gasket inside the head." [page 97]

### **REFERENCE**

This bicycle book and other bicycle touring works by the authors are available for purchase and can also be viewed at the *Internet Archive Open Library* 

https://openlibrary.org/authors/OL400784A/Mark\_Roth