



Milton Keynes  
International  
Festival 2018

**20 - 29 July**

[www.ifmiltonkeynes.org](http://www.ifmiltonkeynes.org)

## **BICYCLE BELL-ERO**

**Composed by Craig McLeish**

Sunday 22 July, from 2pm

Starts and finishes at The Milton Keynes Rose, Campbell Park MK9 4AJ

### **INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS**

Thank-you for your interest being part of Bicycle Bell-ero, a brand-new project for IF: Milton Keynes International Festival 2018, supported by Milton Keynes' Pedalling Culture Initiative.

This is a unique project that makes cycling into a musical experience for riders and audience. The project welcomes beginners, families, individual cyclists, regular casual cyclists, cycle commuters, cycle clubs, active hobby cyclists and sports cyclists.

The performance of Bicycle Bell-ero will take place on Sunday 22 July from 2pm around Campbell Park and The Milton Keynes Rose.

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|-----------------------|---|------------------------------|
| • Festival:           | <a href="http://ifmiltonkeynes.org/home.html">http://ifmiltonkeynes.org/home.html</a> | @IFMKfest #IFMKfest          |
| • Craig McLeish       | <a href="https://www.craigmcleish.com/home">https://www.craigmcleish.com/home</a>     | @Craig_McLeish1              |
| • Pedalling Culture:  | <a href="http://www.pedallingculture.com/">http://www.pedallingculture.com/</a>       | @CultureMK #pedallingculture |
| • Milton Keynes Rose: | <a href="https://miltonkeynesrose.org.uk/">https://miltonkeynesrose.org.uk/</a>       | @TheRoseMK                   |

### **ABOUT THE EVENT**

Bicycle Bell-ero will be a leisure cycle ride - not a strenuous ride - although there will be routes of different lengths and some might be a little harder than others.

Bicycle Bell-ero has 2 parts:

1. Riding around in small groups ringing musical bicycle bells
2. Gathering to perform a short piece of specially composed music at the Milton Keynes Rose

In both parts, you will be using a tuned bicycle bell made from a re-purposed instrument.

#### **Part 1:**

Riders will be in small groups and as they journey on the paths and Redways in and around Campbell Park, they will ring their cycle bells as they pass selected points. The order is not critical, and groups will be able to change the order and create new tunes or musical effects.

Anybody within earshot will hear something they don't normally hear in that environment, and the riders will have therefore changed the 'soundscape' of that location.

## **Part 2:**

After riding for up to an hour, cyclists will converge on The Milton Keynes Rose to give the first very first performance of a unique piece of music specially created for tuned bicycle bells. The new piece has been created by Milton Keynes-based composer (and keen cyclist!) Craig McLeish, who will also run the rehearsal/workshops and lead the performance on the day.

### **Don't worry if you are not a musician!**

- People with musical skills are welcome, but you do not need to be an expert musician to be part of Bicycle Bell-ero.
- If you have a sense of rhythm and timing, can pick up and remember tunes (and can come to the workshop/rehearsals) you should be able to play Bicycle Bell-ero
- The bells are very easy to play with just the flick of a thumb.

Bells that are tuned to the same note are all the same colour and we would like riders to wear their 'bell colour' or accessorise using that colour on the performance day.

### **Don't worry if you are not Bradley Wiggins or Victoria Pendleton!**

No minimum level of experience is required to take part, though we will ask about your cycling abilities so that we can match riders to groups and appropriate routes.

### **Workshop and Rehearsals**

Two sessions will take place in central Milton Keynes - location to be confirmed

- Wednesday 18 July, 7pm - 8.30 pm
- Thursday 19 July, 7pm - 8.30 pm

### **The Ride and Performance on Sunday 22 July**

Schedule:

- 12.30pm: Meet at Campbell Park for bell fitting and a final practice, assemble at The Milton Keynes Rose, confirm route, set off for ride.
- 3.00pm: Converge on The Milton Keynes Rose
- 3.00pm: Ride into The Milton Keynes Rose
- 3.05pm: Perform Bicycle Bell-ero
- 3.15pm: Finish and ride out of The Milton Keynes Rose

### **Important Information**

- The minimum age of participants is 12 years
- Children under 16 must ride with a parent or responsible adult carer
- Younger children can be involved if in a suitable tag-along
- It is possible to ride with friends or family, as long as your group is not too large as there will be set riding groups
- Each rider will need to register separately
- Your commitment is to attend the workshop/rehearsal sessions and the performance day
- A brightly coloured bell will be fitted to your bicycle handlebars - this will be removed after the project
- Approximately 7cm of clear handlebar space will be needed to attach the bell next to the brake bracket/grip - that is the position where a bell would normally be and where you can comfortably reach with your thumb.

- There will be a mix of bells that can be attached either to the left or right side of the handlebars to accommodate left or right-handed people.
- If we need to remove your existing bike bell on the day it can be safely stored.

### **The Rider's Responsibilities**

Please ensure the following:

- That you have a level of fitness that enables you to undertake the ride
- Appropriate cycling safety gear - helmet, sun protection and a bottle of water
- That your bike is roadworthy and fit for purpose
- Understand that you will be riding on public paths and cycleways, and will need to cycle safely and with due regard for your own safety, and that of other cyclists and pedestrians

### **Travelling to Milton Keynes**

- We hope of course that people will be cycling to the event, but if you are transporting your bike to Campbell park by car please follow the Festival's parking advice at <http://www.ifmiltonkeynes.org/parking-amp-getting-around.html>
- The Milton Keynes Rose is located in Campbell Park MK9 4AJ. Campbell Park lies at the far east end of centre:mk shopping centre and is linked to the shopping centre and the theatre district by footbridges. From the H6 Child's Way use Overgate to the park's south side. From the H5 Portway use Overgate to the park's north side.

## **REGISTER TO TAKE PART IN BCYCLE BELL-ERO!**

- To register to take part as a rider/performer, you can go via the Festival website here: <http://ifmiltonkeynes.org/festival-programme/2018/07/22/bicycle-bell-ero-composed-by-craig-mcleish.html>
- Or go direct to the online Registration Form: <https://form.jotformeu.com/81764696884377>

*Bicycle Bell-ero at IF: Milton Keynes International Festival 2018 is supported by Pedalling Culture, a Cultural Destinations Fund programme funded by Arts Council England.*

*Read more here: <http://www.pedallingculture.com/>*

**We hope you enjoy being part of Bicycle Bell-ero! Thank you for taking part.**

## **ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL: BRIEF OVERVIEW**

**Creating unique and memorable experiences, the Festival is designed to encourage people to see a different side to Milton Keynes.**

**When:** Friday 20 - Sunday 29 July  
10 Amazing Days

**What's on:** A feast of stand-up comedy, live music, circus shows, outdoor and large-scale events, free and family activities

**Where:** Across Milton Keynes and the City Centre, including Fred Roche Gardens, city centre streets, MK Theatre, The Milton Keynes Rose and two main city hubs:

**Festival Central in Campbell Park, MK9 4AD**

Hosts comedy, music and cabaret in the exotic 'Spiegeltent' venue, free and family events, and an acoustic music stage, plus bars and food

**Circus Hub in Middleton Hall, centre:mk, MK9 3EP**

A specially built venue for international circus shows (no animals!) across the 10 days

People of all ages travel from around the UK and internationally, as well as from across the region, to join the residents of Milton Keynes in experiencing the Festival's programme of events.

The Festival is already one of the UK's major landmark events, with an audience reach of 500,000.

**[www.ifmiltonkeynes.org](http://www.ifmiltonkeynes.org)**

## **SOCIAL MEDIA INFORMATION**

**Website:** [www.ifmiltonkeynes.org](http://www.ifmiltonkeynes.org) <http://ifmiltonkeynes.org/home.html>

**Virtual Brochure:** <http://ifmiltonkeynes.org/festival-news/sneak-preview-the-2018-brochure.html>

**Social Media:** @IFMKfest

**Hashtag:** #IFMKfest

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/IFMKfest](http://www.facebook.com/IFMKfest)

**Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/IFMKfest>

**Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/ifmkfest/>

**ENDS**