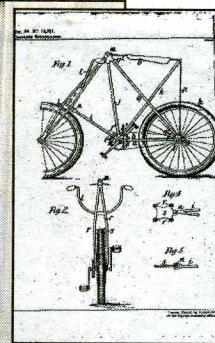




Charlotte and Robbie Wolters, from the Netherlands, outside Mikael Pedersen's house in Dursley QZGD2142



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The 1893
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Homage to bike pioneer

A GROUP of cyclists have ridden from Dover to Dursley on Pedersen bicycles to commemorate the 120th anniversary of their invention.

Fourteen riders from Germany, Holland and Austria arrived in Dursley last Thursday, after cycling through southern England.

Mikael Pedersen's bicycles were first made in Dursley in 1893 and were produced in the town for a further 20 years.

Their tour of Dursley began at Lister Shearing Ltd, which came into being 105 years ago using skills of workers formerly employed in making the two and three speed cycle gears invented by Pedersen.

Engineers at RA Lister and Co Ltd went on to make Pedersen's bicycles until the start of the First World War. Makers in England, Denmark and Germany are now once again producing Pedersen frames

Pictures by Andrew Barton

reporters@gazetteseries.co.uk

by modern techniques.

The cyclists then stopped by other key places associated with the Danish inventor, including Raglan House, where he lived, his cycle factory in Water Street and the grave of his daughter in St Mark's churchyard.

They visited the site in Dursley cemetery where Pedersen's bones were reinterred in 1995 having been brought from Denmark.

In the afternoon the riders attended a reception in Dursley Town Hall given by mayor Cllr Jane Ball, each receiving certificates of welcome and a mug.

On Saturday the group cycled along the canal towpath to Gloucester to visit the town's Folk Museum, which has a collection of original Pedersen cycles.

After tracing Pedersen's roots around Gloucestershire, the cyclists returned home by coach.

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