



## QUESTION:

What do you call a cyclist who's always at the back on the up hills?





## ANSWER:

The "Fat Lad At The Back"



## QUESTION:

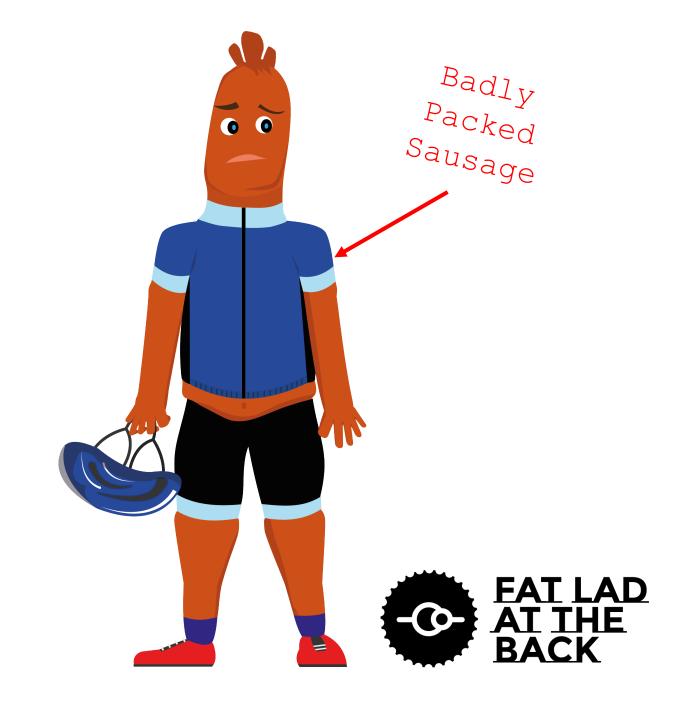
What do you do when you can't find any cycle wear to fit you?

### ANSWER:

Set up a cycle wear business and name it after yourself

"I had other nicknames but we couldn't put any of those on a jersey"

Ríchard Bye Co Founder/Original Fat Lad





What Did We Want FLAB To Be?

- A community
- A place to belong / a tribe
- To be for everyone
- To bring the fun back into cycling
- A peoples brand not just a product
- Give support / a place to ask stupid questions
- To empower



"In celebration of those of us who are fighting (our flab) for a fitter body, who have struggled up never ending hills, dropped off the back of the pack, been overtaken by those twice their age and half their size, felt dejected, deflated and forlorn...

you are no longer alone, you are one of us, you are a fat lad at the back.
Join us and be proud.

We have carefully designed this garment to flatter all shapes and sizes so you'll look and feel good.

Cut to a realistic fit, we suggest that you wear a size which is close fitting enough to skim the skin, thus allowing the fabric to do its job, but not so tight as to give you the appearance of a shrink wrapped chicken."

## How Did We Do It?

- Plain language
- Friendly
- Funny
- Non-elitist
- You can be weak
- Down to earth
- Call to action
- Real people
- Unapologetic
- Edgy
- Kit that fits



"My heart sinks when I hear people say 'you're not fat enough to be a Fat Lad' - this isn't a size exclusive brand. If you truly share our ethos of sport for all, then you're a FLAB"

- Richard Bye

WEIRE SEXY
AND WE KNOW IT!



**EDOESN'T MATTER** 

IFITIS 10 MILE

AN HOUR O

"It's not about being thin OR fat - it's about recognising that we're all on our own journeys and coming together to promote cycling and a healthier way of life for everyone, whatever their size"

> – Rici Co Found

ITIS NOT
HOW FAST
YOU GO
OR HOW FAR
YOU GO
ITIS THAT
YOU GO!



THIS IS A BADGE OF HONOUR
A SYMBOL OF BELONGING
A WAY OF LIFE
A STATE OF MIND
RECOGNITION OF THE MEN WE ARE
AND THE PIE WE EAT
WE ARE NO LONGER ALONE
ARE THE FAT LADS AT THE BACK
DIN US AND BE PROUD

shall eat cake

THIS IS NOT JUST A JERSEY







Cater

EITHER WEARING IT,

RIDING IT OR LATE IT





# What's Stopping People?

- Feeling like a prat
- Not being good enough
- Not having anything to wear
- Not knowing what you're doing
- People being *mean* □ ↓□





# Nigel Smith

We could find and mug the as\*\*\*\*e I met this morning with the 6k bike and all the gear who told me I was a disgrace to the sport because I have an entry level road bike and I'm fat and slow. He had nice wheels

33 minutes ago · Like · Reply · 😓 2



When You Put On A Fat Lad Jersey You Instantly Get 45,000 Friends



# What Is Community?

- Not A Soap Box
- Forum  $\square$
- Movement
- Meeting place
- Belonging□
- Inclusivity [
- Positivity□ □
- Sharing
- Confidence
- Empowering
- Inspiring♥□
- Journey  $\square$   $\square$   $\square$   $\square$

SKINNEY











9 hrs • 🕥

What you see here is someone in a FLAB jersey, a recent gift from my husband. I'm cycling quite a bit these days, having started pedalling around 5 years ago.

What you also see is a badge of honour: this jersey is a gift from my husband to celebrate coming off my meds following a complete mental breakdown in 2015. I've recovered from a time when I wanted to remove myself entirely from my my husband, parents, siblings, friel It's no small coincidence that cyclir been hugely important in building i back together. It's now my most va

So I wear this jersey with pride. It's cycling communities like my local club, like Breeze women's rides, like all the

tool in that mental health toolkit.

#### **Forum**

Monday at 10:18 · 🕥

Folks, I just want you to know that this is by far the nicest and most friendly group I've seen on Facebook. There's none of your normal jibes and jeers, but lots of encouraging and supportive comments to whatever achievements the members post here. You are a true example that people are not always arseholes.

Donny's post

It's an honour to be a member of this group. Thank you.









View more comments...

lan Dermondy

I have received so much encouragement and support from this group and it's members it's outsta





Nick's post



#### Nick Mot ► Fat Lad At The Back Cycle Wear Community Forum

Yesterday at 08:01 · 🕟

1 year to the day I took up cycling on my birthday. What a difference cycling has had on my life fit& healthy now . I'm now a lad down from a spare tyre lol . Had some great support from our flab forum. Keep peddling everyone





#### **Azhar Qadir**

This is such an awesome group of peoplr. Tha ks for helping me out. It was as Adam Keenan said. Thr holes inside thr rim werent fully coverred by rim tape. Took it back to bike shop and thry put a new rim tape on and bee oit for a ride and no loss of air. So far so good. Thanks again to all for ebing so helpful



# Suzanne Blyth ► Fat Lad At The Back Cycle Wear Community Forum

21 June 2017 · Chichester · 🕥

This page is epic - so many like-minded and supportive folks. Today I have ridden to the start point for a Breeze ride that I normally drive to. It'll add 10 miles to my ride. I look like a beetroot and I'm sopping wet with sweat but it feels great





Diane Martin ► Fat Lad At The Back Cycle Wear Community Forum

15 June 2017 ⋅ Prestonpans ⋅ 🚱



Would just like to say what a fantastic, friendly and supportive group this is. Loving reading all the posts. I used to cycle all the time but had a bad crash on a group ride a couple of years ago, totally shattered my confidence but have slowly been trying to get back on the road this past few weeks. I'm very slow but getting there







**OO** 35



- Engagement
- Stories / Advocates
- Acceptance
- Influence
- Sales
- The Big Fat Bike Ride
- Flab Social Rides
- Café Connection

How Do We Measure Our Success?



# Not Everyone Gets It!



"I've a friend that really likes your stuff, but I'll be blowed if I'm buying her anything with that catty comment on it.

The logo's fine so does everything you do have that nasty phrase on it?"

- Not a customer

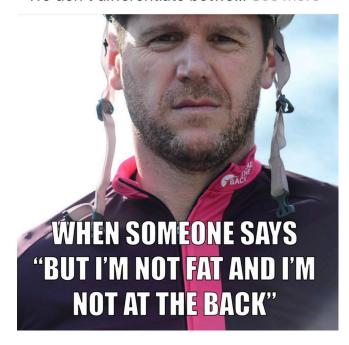


#### Page

Settings

Some folk tell us they can't wear our clobber because they're not fat and they're not at the back. Sadly, we don't make a jersey with pillock on the back

You don't have to be fat to wear our gear! We don't differentiate betwe... See more



If only I had a penny for every time someone said "he's too thin to be a fat lad ..."

Lynn Bye Co Founder



We Make Cycle Wear In All Sizes Because People Of All Sizes Cycle



# How Do YOU Get People To Participate?



- Get Under Their Skin Understand their barriers
- Give Them A Reason Make it worth it
- Make It Inclusive You can be weak
- Make It Friendly And Fun
- Don't Judge Non elitist
- Support Them
- Ask Them Listen to them
- Mean It Don't just talk the talk, walk the walk
- Don't Underestimate They know when you're blagging
- Don't Be Beige Risk being great
- Invest This isn't a quick fix
- Stick To It If it's the right message it will succeed
- Defend It You might ruffle some feathers, you might offend
- Give Them Ownership Belonging

