

# Murder of London cyclist by hit-and-run 4x4

Thomas Sippel–Dau, a computer services manager and long-time London cyclist, was killed by a hit-and-run 4x4 on Cromwell Road on 11 March 2005. He was cycling from Imperial College to his home in West Kensington when he was hit from behind by a dangerously driven Range Rover, thrown off his bike and killed instantly. The driver failed to stop and escaped into Earls Court Rd. Police are still searching for the killer.

Busy roads like Cromwell Road are turned into death traps by SUVs driven by ignorant bullies.

There is ***no justification*** for large 4x4s in central London – they are fuel hogs, space hogs, CO<sub>2</sub> spewers and lethal in collisions.

Killings of innocent cyclists and pedestrians must be stopped!

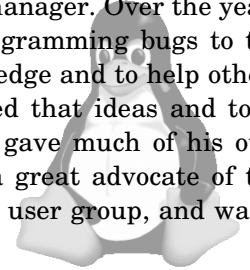
- Campaign for an SUV-free central London
- Demand more measures to reduce speeding on London roads, especially “red routes”
- Expose the real environmental and social costs of these urban terror weapons
- Campaign for higher congestion charges and taxes for SUVs





# Thomas Sippel – Dau

Thomas came to London from Germany in 1979 after training as a maths teacher. After a year in London schools, he joined the computer centre in Imperial College in 1980, where he worked first as a program advisor and more recently as the Linux and Unix systems support manager. Over the years he helped thousands of users with problems from programming bugs to the rescue of hacked computers. The drive to impart knowledge and to help others to help themselves was important for him. He believed that ideas and tools should be openly available to enable learning and he gave much of his own time to making this a reality. In this spirit, he was a great advocate of the Linux operating system, helping to found the IC Linux user group, and was a regular contributor to Linux and Unix news-groups.



Thomas was incredibly knowledgeable on all manner of topics, from history and anthropology to politics to the mechanics of bicycles and windmills, and was deeply concerned about the problems facing the future of mankind. He was looking forward to early retirement within the next year and to new adventures, which sadly will not be realised. Thomas was a witty, eccentric, and kind-hearted man and a great strength to his friends and loved ones. He will be missed terribly.

Thomas was a keen and confident cyclist who had survived some 100,000 km of London cycling before his brutal killing. He rode a Fahrrad-Manufaktur city bike (chosen for its beloved Rohloff hub gears) and had just finished building a lightweight touring bike for weekend rides.

