



A bicycle repairman crouches in front of a bicycle, its front wheel bent out of shape, pondering how to fix it, in Varanasi, India, in Jan 2013.

PHOTO: PAUL COOPER, TAIPEI TIMES

一名腳踏車修理工蹲在極度變形的腳踏車前輪前苦思著如何修理，二〇一三年一月攝於印度的瓦拉納西。
照片：台北時報記者古德謙攝

A boy waits as a repairman pumps up the tires of his tricycle in Varanasi, India, in Jan 2013.

PHOTO: PAUL COOPER, TAIPEI TIMES

一名男孩等待著一名修理工忙著為他的三輪車打氣，二〇一三年一月攝於印度的瓦拉納西。
照片：台北時報記者古德謙攝



Bicycle repair

修理鐵馬

Immediately parallel to the River Ganges within the city of Varanasi is a stretch of road lined with buildings of final grandeur and disrepair, a mine of material for street photography. I walked down this street on several occasions during a trip to India in 2013, looking out for interesting scenes to evolve. These two photos I got on the penultimate day of the trip.

Bicycles, motorbikes, rickshaws, motorized tuk-tuks and motor cars create much of the visual and sonic landscape of the street, as do the various hawkers, sellers and repairmen lining it. And this is what I love about India: life lived on the street. I love the scene of the bicycle repairman, squatting in front of a front wheel twisted almost upon itself, seemingly being asked the impossible and yet still pondering it.

Perhaps he's just trying to work out how to remove the bent wheel.

Then there's the boy waiting for another repairman, busy pumping up the flat front tire of his tricycle, so he can be on his way. The tricycle is actually a rear-loading carrier trike, fitted with a slatted platform, of a type commonly seen in India. Perhaps he uses the trike for his work, transporting goods around the city.

(PAUL COOPER, TAIPEI TIMES)



在印度的瓦拉納西，沿著恆河有條街道，街上滿是破舊失修的建築，散發一種頹廢之美，恰巧提供了豐富的街道攝影題材。在二〇一三年，我旅遊至印度，幾次走過這條街，尋覓著有趣的攝影場景，而在旅途的倒數第二天，我拍下了這兩張照片。

腳踏車、摩托車、人力車、電動三輪車、汽車構成了這條街道上最主要的視覺與聽覺元素，當然還有站在各種車子旁吆喝的小販、商人、修理工。生活在街道上的人們是印度深深吸引我之處。我喜愛腳踏車修理工蹲在極度變形的腳踏車前輪前，彷彿受到刁難，卻仍苦思著如何解決的樣子。我不知道他在想什麼，或許他只是思考著要如何把變形的輪胎取下。

街上另一名修理工忙著為一名孩子的三輪車打氣，孩子等待著，車輪充好氣他才能再次上路。那是一輛載貨用的三輪車，後方拖著一個石板平台，在印度很常見。或許男孩的工作是用三輪車在城市載貨。
(台北時報編譯涂宇安譯)