

THE MAGAZINE OF CTC - THE UK'S NATIONAL CYCLISTS' ORGANISATION

DEC-JAN 2008-09 £3  
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# cycle



Founded in 1878



working together



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**Beat the cold**

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Gift ideas for cyclists & a winter fixie on test

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DECEMBER/JANUARY 2008-09



**THE VIRTUAL COMMUTE**  
Morning miles for fun



**TOURING ECUADOR**  
Cycling at 14,000 feet



**CHAMPION IDEAS**  
Cycling for all

## FROM THE EDITOR



There was a crack like a gunshot as we began another Dales climb on a club weekend. A saddle bolt had broken. Again.

However prepared you think you are, fate will sometimes bowl you a googly. The first time it happened we were in the middle of nowhere, en route to Tan Hill. A friendly farmer gave us some rusty bolts, while a small town later had, if not a bike shop, at least a mechanic with a welding torch.

Next day the repaired bolt snapped at the weld. Of course. We freewheeled back into Settle where a cycle festival was on. A guy with a sculpture made from bikes was happy for us to scavenge from it, but we couldn't find a bolt to fit. Festival organiser Stuart Holdsworth rescued us by phoning a friend, who turned up with a choice of immaculate bike parts. Our day's ride was saved.

Two weeks later we were shocked to hear that Stuart had been killed by a driver while out cycling. Stuart, we salute you. The one thing you can never pack in a toolkit, nor ever take for granted, is the most valuable of all: the kindness of strangers.

*Dan*

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**Cover picture:** cycling Santa, on the fixed-wheel bike from page 64, by Jo Burt



# CONTENTS

## Features

- 20 The virtual commute**  
From your back door to your back door
- 24 Touring at 14,000 feet**  
Exploring the mountains of Ecuador
- 32 Made in Britain**  
Profile of frame builder Chas Roberts
- 35 Trailblazing**  
Building the future of UK mountain biking
- 39 Road & trailside repair**  
Chris Juden's guide to fixing your bike
- 49 We are the Champions**  
CTC's 13 new cycling development officers
- 52 Dear Santa...**  
Cycling gifts that you'd actually want
- 55 The big chill**  
How to fight the winter cold
- 64 Fixed asset**  
Pearson Touché fixed-wheel bike on test

## Regulars

- 04 **CTC shop**
- 06 **News**
- 12 **Events news**
- 14 **Your letters**
- 26 **Holiday guide**
- 29 **Down your way**
- 56 **Cycling answers**
- 66 **Gear reviews**
- 70 **What's on**
- 71 **CTC small ads**
- 71 **Prize draw**
- 78 **CTC member benefits**
- 80 **CTC contacts**
- 82 **Travellers' tales**
- 83 **CTC Cycling Holidays**

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