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# cycle



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**SMIDSY: SORRY, MATE, I DIDN'T SEE YOU. VISIT [WWW.STOP-SMIDSY.ORG.UK](http://WWW.STOP-SMIDSY.ORG.UK)**





## FROM THE EDITOR

The rain is coming down in stair-roads on a November morning. Water is gushing from roadside grids. Car drivers commuting to work have their lights on. So do I - LEDs flashing just in case no one's seen the bright red race-cape. I'm soaking wet within a mile and don't mind. I'm cycling again! If you want to enjoy cycling in bad weather, then an enforced absence works wonders.

I even forgive the driver who seems to speed up in order to send a sheet of water spraying all down my right side. It's only water, isn't it? We're not made of sugar.

Out in the lanes there's little traffic, and what there is is patient. Coming back into town roughly one driver in 20 either doesn't see me or doesn't care. Nearing a pinch point I can hear the sudden growl of brakes and changing gears. I check back, eyeball the driver, and move slightly out: he's not squeezing through here. The engine revs fall away. Once past the pedestrian refuge he accelerates by me, close enough that I could touch the car.

I gesture with the elbow he nearly hit. But he's gone. It's just another near miss. Even if I'd caught him I can predict his lie: 'Sorry, mate, I didn't see you.'

Dan Joyce



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Photos: Steve Behr/Stockfile, Colin Langdon, Tony Farnely

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