

cycle

**NO 'PLANE,
NO GAIN?**

BIKES ABROAD BY
TRAIN, COACH & FERRY

SHINY & NEW

BIKE SHOW HIGHLIGHTS
& CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS



Let it Snow

Siberian cycle-camping & seasonal cycling at home



Founded in 1878



working for cycling

PLUS: ENDORFIN MTB TEST TOURING WITH IAN HIBELL MIKE BURROWS ON CRANKS

36



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FROM THE EDITOR

DAN JOYCE

On the face of it, snow isn't ideal for two-wheeled transport like a bicycle. And it isn't if you're talking about the light dusting that Planet London gets, which is just enough to make the roads slippery. Once you get a real blanketing, all but the main roads suddenly become empty. You can ride out into a winter wonderland, with only the crump of your tyres and the cough of cars that won't start to disturb it.

Will we get a white Christmas? William Hill had it at 9/2 at time of writing, although the bookies' definition is 'that one flake of snow will fall on Met Office monitoring stations over the 24-hour period of the 25th December.' One flake of snow is neither use nor ornament. It's got to be deep and crisp and even!

That won't suit everyone. Not the folks who get cut off. Not the drivers who slide off roads at 5mph into lampposts. And yet there's something childishly exciting about looking out on fallen snow: the silence; that limpid light; the promise of fun.

If you've got a mountain bike, you don't even need a sledge. You can (with care!) slide and slip around familiar trails, getting the satisfaction of leaving the first tyre tracks. It's exhilarating.

No one would want to camp in weather like that, though. Would they?

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Main photos, clockwise from top: Ben Searle, Eurobike, Rob Liwall

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CTC, Parklands, Railton Road, Guildford, GU2 9JX
Tel: 0870 873 0060 Fax: 0870 873 0064
Email: cycling@ctc.org.uk
Website: www.ctc.org.uk

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President: Jon Snow

CTC Council Chair: Jill Kieran
Director: Kevin Mayne
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Cycle Magazine
Editor: Dan Joyce tel: 01723 377521
email: editor@ctc.org.uk
Designers: Will Slater & Gemma Hancock
Advertising: Sam Clementson tel: 0207 306 0300 x127
email: ctc@mongoosemedia.com
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