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CTC, Parklands, Railton Road, Guildford, GU2 9JX
Tel: 0844 736 8450
Fax: 0844 736 8454
Email: cycling@ctc.org.uk
Website: ctc.org.uk

CTC Patron:
Her Majesty the Queen
President: Jon Snow
CTC Council Chair:
David Cox
Chief Executive:
Kevin Mayne
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Cycle Magazine
Editor: Dan Joyce
email: editor@ctc.org.uk
Designers:
Simon Goddard and Gemma Hancock
Advertising:
Richard Stillman
tel: 020 7657 1837
email: richard.stillman@tenalps.com

Creative Director:
James Houston
Publisher:
James Pembroke
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{ F R O M }

THE EDITOR



DON'T travel unless your journey is strictly necessary. That's what they tell us in winter, those people on the telly, standing in the falling snow in front of a line of stationary cars or against a backdrop grounded 'planes.

It's an elastic definition, isn't it? Is it *necessary* to get on your bike and ride for an hour or several and arrive back where you started? In winter? Of course! Cycling isn't something you can put to one side like a cancelled squash match.

Winter sometimes offers Hobson's choice: go out anyway and run the gauntlet of new potholes and black ice; or sit inside, restless, while your desire to be out on the bike paces up and down inside you like a polar bear in a zoo. Time to invest in some studded tyres? Buy them early if you want them, because Schwalbe, Continental and Santa Claus may run short. And buy fat ones. The roads are holed enough now, and the frost cracking has yet to start (more on this on p46).

The one upside to being inside is that, like a hungry man dreaming of food, you start to think more about being on your bike. What rides didn't you do this year that you want to do in 2012? Now is the time to unfold the maps or click around on the internet for ideas, and to pencil in dates to fulfil them.

Do take the time to fill in the survey with this issue of Cycle, too. We need to know what you want from your magazine. There are five Altura Night Vision jackets to win – just the thing for winter darkness.

D A N J O Y C E



MEMBERSHIP
Get five years CTC membership for the price of four. Details on p72

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Left: Joe Sheffer. Below left: Mike Dodd