



# Down The Road

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## **WINTER MUSINGS**

Have you ever stopped to think what a joy cycling is? Sometimes we are so full of the problems that we forget the benefits. I know punctures, rain, inconsiderate car drivers, bad road surfaces & equipment failure can cause frustration & annoyance, but what about those days in early spring when the sun is gaining warmth, and you can leave the windproof jacket/ waterproofs at home? The days when you go out & smell the bluebells, a newly mown lawn or the wonderful surprise when passing a garden with some highly scented shrub. What of the colour? Blues, reds, greens, yellows & whites. The sky, the poppy field, new foliage, bursting blossom, & the oil seed rape. The birds & their songs. I've seen woodpeckers, a startlingly blue kingfisher, Jays and Magpies. Around the coast the lapwings, oyster catchers, herons and a snow-white egret. Swans are either grazing in the fields at Marshside or swimming on the sea off Seasalter. The

pleasure experienced, when you ride up a steep hill and find a spectacular view at the top. You can stop and pick out the landmarks or just absorb the beauty of nature. Most of these pleasures go totally unnoticed by the average car user, cocooned in a metal air conditioned box, having only one goal, to get from A-B as fast as possible and back again. We have chosen to take up such a fulfilling sport and all this besides the healthy aspect of cycling - Didn't we do well.

## **REVUE OF EVENTS**

The AGM was well attended at the Griffins Head. Officers remained the same except Dave Delmain and Colin Weaver were voted in as Treasurer and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President respectively. Cups were awarded to Dave Digweed & Mary Cairns for most rides completed, Colin Weaver won the Dennis Brunwin Trophy for finishing 8<sup>th</sup> in the National DATC Comp. Much of the meeting was taken up with discussion regarding CTC requirement of registered ride leaders and the

insurance implications. The Christmas lunch was held at the same venue and once again it was a highly sociable event enjoyed by all. The Fête de Cloiture was in St Omer, an excellent 'do' & EK won the team event for 2003.

**ODD ADS** \_\_\_\_\_ Seen on a label for gloves: Freeze-kill differential layer construction, break wind where it counts. patent pending!

