

# Bird's eye view



winter 2009  
edition

The return of Old Fart - yes the fartster is back! It seems such a long time ago that we waved goodbye to old fart as he went on undercover manoeuvres in France. What had happened to him? Was he alive or dead? (well a man of his age with so much noxious combustible gases you can never be too sure!). Our leader decided it was time to find lost comrades - he thought long and hard over who to send on this tricky undercover assignment - he needed someone to blend into the surrounds perfectly- luckily he had the right man for this challenging mission -with Binbag Bob in command of his expert platoon undercover as his annual Booze cruise this mission could never fail! This brave band of bashers



faced treacherous seas (that is once someone had gone back for bobs passport that he left in ex mouth!), gale force winds and torrential rain to find their lost friend with only alcohol to keep the sickness away! Once in foreign lands Old Fart was located in a bar near the ferry port looking tanned and well. He reports that his undercover work is going well in France, he has infiltrated a cycling group his base and at present is trying to introduce the bash philosophy of drinkers with a cycling problem. He says it will be a slow process and may take him many years to complete his mission!.

Blind Bashers - It appears that the bashers are slowly going blind - it cant possibly be a lack of intellect can or could it.... ? On a number of occasions it has been reported that bashers have religiously turned up for either the Thursday or Sunday ride raring to go, bike in tip top condition only to find there is no one at the start pub...Why? Because they have gone to the wrong venue despite it being clearly written on the bash rides list.....should all bashers have glasses because obviously something is ruining their eyesight...can it be BEER? Or should they have gone to spec savers like Lord Stretch?



## **Bashers that are crashers:**

***ER Doc in "Pork and Ride" disaster*** "Swine Flew" on Tuesday when Dandy collided with a pig in Corsica. True folks...I don't want to "Boar" you with the details, but the top doc on his marathon cycle ride around the mountainous island was well and truly "Stitched Up" by the collision with the "Road Hog" as reported by a local "Ham Radio" enthusiast. It takes more than a pig to stop Dandy though, and after a brief visit to the local hospital where he was found to be fit to continue, he was heard to say "sow far..sow good!!!! An insider at the hospital sent me this x-ray of dandy taken immediately after the crash showing no obvious injury!



***Fallen Women hits postie on his blind side...***its true, fallen women whilst having a totally wonderful ride into Brixham on the most beautiful day unfortunately hit a blind postman delivering mail..this could only happen in Devon!

He had just recovered from illness on his first delivery for ages walked onto the road with his blind eye towards the oncoming traffic not seeing Fallen women cycling happily towards then into him! Both ended up in a heap on the floor..no serious injuries to either bar a few cuts and bruises!

***Extreme head banging*** - Head banger Steve Broxy took head banging to a new level whilst off roading on Exmoor- whilst riding down a rocky drop off (why would you want to?)

he took quite a tumble landing on his head sustaining a broken neck - good news is he now has a halo brace on and is hopeful to make a full recover - he is seen here modelling the latest head protect for head banging off road cycling!!! -

***Malaga madness*** - Faggots (another crazy head banger) came second best to another awesome jump landing on his shoulder sustaining a broken clavicle



**Anna and Lees big Canadian adventure** - Having spent all year planning for this (well actually Tony had we just turned up at Exeter airport on the planned day!) we flew to Toronto with bikes and panniers packed for my first “road cycling tour” - and what a place to start with. We spent the next 7 days cycling mainly along the Water front trail- a trail which navigated around the edge of lake Ontario (which looked more like a sea to me-it had waves and you couldn't see the other side!) following the St Lawrence Seaway to Montreal with the assistance of pre-plotted sat-navs. The views were amazing, the weather was brilliant - dry, sunny with lightish winds. We averaged between 60



- 70 miles per day on flat straight quiet roads (getting excited when we saw a bend or felt a slight incline) hitting an average speed of 15-20 mph. With John and Tony (CTC members) leading setting a chilled out pace (Lee was band from racing!) we plodded along stopping at points of interest, regular coffee and cake stops finally at the end of each day arriving at the planned town to find motel accommodation. We had a planned sight seeing day in Montreal before getting the train back to Toronto. Once

there the next day we set off to cycle to Niagara Falls- arriving in early evening at the falls I stood looking at them in amazement- the amount and speed of the water going over is just breathtaking. The next day myself and Lee armed with our obligatory plastic coats got soaked looking under the tunnels and taking a trip on the maid of the mist boat, a day to remember for ever ending in the evening with the falls illuminated in changing coloured lights. The other guys spent the day cycling to Lake Erie and back. We took the “wine” route back to Toronto leading onto the water front trail again allowing us to sample the sweet desert “Ice” wine. The last day was spent in Toronto we went 447 metres up the CN Tower (sadly it was covered by cloud!) but I did jumped up and down on the glass floor 342 metres up. With our trip finished, looking back on my first pannier tour it was a brilliant fun way to see and experience new places. The water front trail was easily navigated and well sign posted...with flight costs starting from £300 from Exeter this is a trip I would recommend this trip to any bashers.



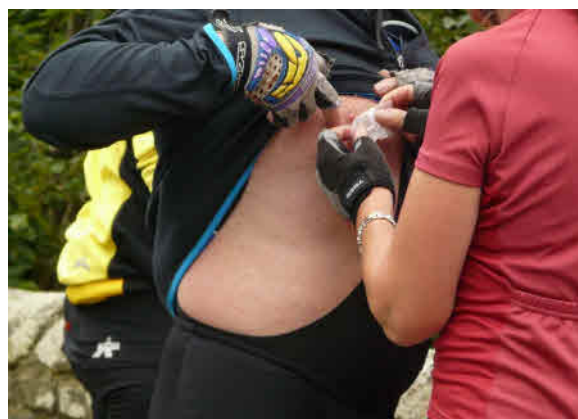
V2's Portuguese Dilemma - would you leave your expensive back wheel in a bike shop called '*stress off bikes*' based in Portugal owned by a man call *cheeko* and expect to ever see it again?

The answer in V2's case is yes he would happily leave his back wheel in the shop for a spoke repair - did he ever see it again? - yes through the closed shop window for the next 2 days before they left to go home minus an expensive back wheel! Where is it now? - still in the shop in Portugal!!

V2 and shinpads spent 3 weeks touring Spain and Portugal looking for some serious head banging downhill riding (V2 that is shinpads wanted sun, sea and sangria!) - did he get any?- No - he finally found a shop called '*stress off bikes*' with a trust worthy guy called *cheeko*. Cheeko promised "he take V2 up for good riding Friday" - being Monday V2 persuaded Shinpad's to slum it on a Portuguese beach for the rest of the week in the scorching heat returning on Friday to find Cheeko "Too busy to take V2 riding but tomorrow we go at 3pm". V2 very exited about the prospect of "awesome downhill's" notice a slightly bent spoke in his back wheel, thinking how nice, hard working and trustworthy Cheeko was he thought it would be nice to pass him some business so he left the wheel in the shop to be fixed. At 3pm the next day V2 & Shinpads arrived baody armoured to the hilt at the shop psyched up for the "awesome downhill's" - The shop was in darkness and locked up, they waited and waited finally giving up and retiring back to their beach "prison" waving good by to V2's wheel which was clearing on view in the shop window!. The next day they arrived to find the shop still shut! Time finally run out, their holiday ended so sadly they waved good by to V2's valuable wheel still in the window shop and made their way back to the ferry port. The wheel to this day is still in Cheeko's shop window!!!! The moral of the story V2..never trust a man called Cheeko who owns a shop called Stress Off Bikes!!!!



Millionaires tour - make your own story up to go with these pictures!!!



Bashers see Red - It appears that the bashers are a formidable group not to be messed with on the roads- in 2 incidents recently bashers have stood up to the reckless car driving fraternity who feel it is acceptable to shout obscenities at cyclists as they pass, cut in front of cyclists or drive so close to make us feel unsafe. I, myself having been a victim of a reckless lorry driver passing so close that he hit me, although not condoning violence say "well done" to both bashers. Having reported my incident to the police I was told nothing could be done unless I was injured or had witnesses. Recently I received an email entitled SORRY MATE I DIDN'T SEE YOU! Aka SMIDSY- this is a website - <http://www.stop-smidsy.org.uk/> that aims to address how the police, prosecutors, the courts, and the law itself could all do a better job at encouraging people to use the roads in safer and more considerate ways. Its a CTC initiative that allows you to report bad driving providing evidence for campaigners in this area and providing legal information and help. So if you cant get even with the drivers at the time lets get even with them at a later date - check it out for yourselves

Alcohol invades a CTC ride - Its true the CTC cyclists are not the tee-total angels they portray and I have picture evidence to prove that on a CTC weekend away tea/coffee is not all they drink....



## NURSE IN NIAGARA FALLS ILL WITH BEAVER FEVER!

Pedal bashing paramedic Bothways thanked quick thinking 6' 5" well hung mountie Hank Goodguy yesterday, after his 11th hour mouth to mouth resuscitation saved her from certain death after she contracted the deadly 'Em-bola Beaver' virus. "He was so tall" said breathless Bothways, "Lee was absorbed with trying to put the chain back on and didn't see me fall into a dead faint onto a bed of maple leaves, but Hank was in a valley some 200 miles away and immediately sensed something was wrong. He was on the job within minutes and the next thing I knew, he was sucking out the poison, It gathers in the lips apparently, anyway, after about an hour Hank thought I was safe and stopped sucking"

Goodguy, 32, Said " As a Mountie you are trained to react to any situation, especially when its life and death, I heard the chain come off and immediately recognised it as a KMC freestyle 68H pro-wheel. "From my photographic memory, I recalled spotting an English nurse called Anyways owning a machine with that linkage at the falls only days before. I put 36, 24 and 36 together and rushed to the scene. From that point on I was just doing my job." Partner Lee added " Anna's always been a sucker for a uniform"



HEALTH ADVICE: Whether on or off road there are damages lurking everywhere for the unsuspecting cyclist! In my case little did I know that my lovely Canadian cycle along the gorgeous banks of lake Ontario and the St Lawrence seaway would result in acquiring Giardiasis - commonly known as "beaver fever"! Why beaver fever because it is prevalently found within the beaver population - in the case of Canadian beavers they love their waterside residences with great outdoor bathroom !

My advice to all cyclists is make sure your water bottle is safe and protected - Be warned that beavers can contaminate exposed nipples whilst riding river banks



# QUIZ CORNER:

Which set of feet belong to flash?

A



B



C



Which Helmet belongs to Dandy?

A



B



C



Which Body belongs to Dodgie

A



B



C



Maths: What is the joint age of these two young birthday bashers?



+



=

?

Answers :

A

B

100 years

Science Corner - The bashers are not just to be seen as beer swilling cyclist. They are innovative creative beings always looking for ways to improve and perfect their chosen sport. This is clearly shown by the following articles written in the Scientist magazine :

Neck Protection - having realised that neck injury is a potential risk to all serious head bangers Broxy felt impelled to develop a more rigid neck protection system for extreme off road cycling. After much analysis of angles and forces he devised the halo jacket neck support system that can be worn during any extreme sporting activity. Neck stability is guaranteed due to the fact that the bolts securing the halo are screwed into the skull of the wear and the jacket is bolted to the halo. The only down side to this invention is its unsightly bulky nature however the sheepskin lining comes in 3 different colours to match cycle attire



Cycling meets body boarding - With a new found interest in both off road cycling and body boarding Lee has been working on this new invention. His concern was that the time take to change from his off road cycling body protection into his wetsuit and body boarding attire could potentially result in time delays between sports. Therefore he has been working on this idea which provided the off road rider with all the body protection required to allow extreme downhill cycling whilst also allowing them to jump off their bike on the beach heading straight to the sea to catch their first wave knowing that they will be dry and protected from the sea. .



Fashion Parade - Shinpads being a slave to fashion has designed this fashionable cycling head wear would allow bashers to in perfectly within high street fashion



