



c y c l e G E N E V A

Raising funds for the Welsh Centre for Maxillo-Facial Surgery

Date released: 24/07/06

For immediate use

## **A cycleGENEVA update - finalised route and timetable announced:**

South Wales teacher's epic bike ride in aid of Morriston Hospital, Swansea.

The exact route for the **cycleGENEVA** project has now been finalised. All monies raised by **cycleGENEVA** will go towards the purchase of a £42,000 3D digital scanner for use within the Welsh Centre for Maxillo-Facial Surgery at Morriston Hospital, Swansea.

### **Route Details**

#### **Leg 1, August 2 – Milford Haven to Cardiff**

**Start: 9am** - Milford Marina – Outside the Dockside Gallery

**Stop: 1pm** - Morriston Hospital, Maxillo-Facial Department (meeting with hospital representatives)

**Arrive: 5pm** - National Centre for Product Design and Development Research (PDR) at the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff (meeting with PDR representatives)

#### **Leg 2, August 3 – Cardiff to Marlborough**

**Start: 9am** – PDR, UWIC Campus

**Arrive: 5pm** - Marlborough

#### **Leg 3, August 4 – Marlborough to Reigate**

**Start: 9am** - Marlborough

**Arrive: 5pm** – Reigate Priory School (met by parents, children and staff)

Leg 4, August 6 – Reigate to Calais

Leg 5, August 7 – Calais to Cambrai

Leg 6, August 8 – Cambrai to Charleville Mezieres

Leg 7, August 10 – Charleville Mezieres to Chalons en Champagne

Leg 8, August 11 – Chalons en Champagne to Chaumont

Leg 9, August 12 – Chaumont to Dijon

Leg 10, August 14 – Dijon to Lons-le-Saunier

Leg 11, August 15 – Lons-le-Saunier to Geneva

Leg 12, August 16 – Ascent of Alpe D'Huez

We would like to raise awareness of the trip again and bring it back to the public's attention. We would also like to encourage people to come along and support us at our start and finish points, as well as along the route.

We would like to say a big thank you to all of those who have made donations so far but would like to encourage those who haven't done so yet to please visit the website ([www.cyclegeneva.co.uk](http://www.cyclegeneva.co.uk)) where they can make a secure donation via Paypal or alternatively send a cheque made payable to cycleGENEVA to the following address:

cycleGENEVA  
PO Box 433  
Cardiff  
CF11 1EF

**Notes to editor:**

- Initial press release sent out on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2006
- Gavin Rees, 29, who is originally from Milford Haven and now living in Cardiff, will undertake the cycleGENEVA challenge ([www.cycleGENEVA.co.uk](http://www.cycleGENEVA.co.uk)) with his friend Duncan Edwards, 34, from Reigate, Surrey, who was also injured in the same accident.
- They will set off from Milford Haven in West Wales, cycling to Alpe D'Huez in France, via Geneva, to celebrate Gavin's recovery and in thanks for the support and ongoing care he has received from Morryston Hospital's Maxillofacial Unit.
- In February 2003, Gavin and Duncan were among a party of teachers from Reigate Priory School in Surrey reconnoitring the French resort of Les Gets, in the Portes du Soleil region, for a school ski trip.
- Due to post-traumatic amnesia, Gavin and Duncan's recollections of what happened are unclear, but from information pieced together from eye witness accounts, it appears they collided while traversing a ski run near Avoriaz in the French Alps.
- At the Hopitaux Universitaire (University Hospital) of Geneva, Gavin underwent a 19-hour operation performed by head of Maxillofacial Surgery Professor Michel Richter and his team. Principal amongst his injuries were major and multiple fractures of the cranium, frontal bone, nose, orbits, ethmoid bones, mid-face and anterior skull base, together with damage to his brain and leg.
- Gavin's head injuries were so extensive that 130 screws and around 21 plates were used during his surgery – **the highest number used in surgery in Europe.**
- Anyone wishing to donate to the cycleGENEVA fund, which will go directly to the Maxillofacial Unit at Morryston Hospital, can visit a special website set up by Gavin at [www.cycleGENEVA.co.uk](http://www.cycleGENEVA.co.uk) for further details and progress updates.
- A month after the accident, Gavin was deemed fit enough to be transferred back to Wales, where he was put under the expert care of Mr. Adrian Sugar, consultant cleft and maxillofacial surgeon at Morryston Hospital and honorary senior clinical lecturer at the Swansea Medical School.
- "Mr. Sugar and his team at Morryston worked closely with the Medical Applications team at the National Centre for Product Design and Development Research at the University of Wales Institute, Cardiff (UWIC), using cutting-edge 3D scanning in the planning of my surgery. The follow-up surgery and aftercare I received from the hospital was exceptional and, I believe, instrumental in my recovery," said Gavin.

**For further information, including images and route details,  
contact Gavin Rees on 07757 986020 or 029 2047 3043**

**(End)**