

Velo Teifi Cycling Club

Tour of France 2009

The Chairman's Diary (Le journal intime du Chairman)

Thursday 23rd July 2009

Day 7. Annecy. Did anyone else see a Llama?

Weather: Hot

Individual Time Trial day. The Tour boys were racing as well.

We park 12 miles from Annecy and are greeted with a car park surrounded by zebras, camels and other strange beasts. Another day in France...





Other wildlife was spotted also...









The evil Howard Alter-ego, Lucky How, was also spotted in Annecy. Fortunately he didn't get time to practice his pixie powers...



The Pixie-like Purveyor of Punctures – Lucky How.

We join the superb cycle track to Annecy and Time Trial to Annecy.









A short stop half way along as we wait for Jav-lar. Why Dylan waited 5 miles to remind Jav-lar he'd forgotten his helmet at the last stop is beyond us. Quite funny though.



Where did I put my helmet?

Dylan and Jav-lar set off for the *centre ville* and the chance to lick Lance's bike. The Baron sets off in search of food; a couple folk follow him.

Andrew and I rest a while by the lake.

It's gorgeous. Beautiful. Spectacular. It's... oh no. He's not. He is. Put some clothes on man...

Too late, he's in...



We watch the Time Trial in awe. Contador's flying. Lance is trying. The Schlek's are determined. Cadel's still barking...





The ride back to the Team Buses was fast and furious; the lack of any hills or inclines of any description spurred Team VT to dizzying velocities. So dizzying we experience our first *chutes*. The Baron is bleeding and Janice has skimmed asphalt also. Time to stop and boost sugar levels then.

In keeping with our constant efforts to immerse ourselves in France, her people, culture and cuisine we dine out again tonight; Vietnamese restaurants are more common than you'd imagine.