

# T A K E a S E A T!

It wasn't until I saw an episode of the celebrated 'Long Way Down' (where Charlie Boorman and Ewan McGregor charge around Africa in search of tarmac on 2 BMW motorbikes), that I realised what a challenge my little brother has set himself. For those who haven't already been held at gunpoint to look at his website, or who haven't already lent their support to his venture, Dominic departed last year on a tandem, on his own to cycle the 20,000 mile journey from the top of Alaska down to the southernmost tip of South America. He is making a film with a camera mounted on his handlebars, picking up, meeting and working with lots of people on the way, from farmers to schoolchildren.

Whilst Dominic has never suggested his voluntary quest is anything but a hugely exciting adventure, indeed the 'trip of a lifetime', he unlike the aforementioned duo does not have a couple of 4x4 support vehicles and catering crew driving in convoy. Some of the photos on his website show some of the road conditions he has experienced (varying from glaciers to rubble paths). So whilst he is still 9000 miles away from his destination, with Christmas approaching (he left a year and a half ago, so we're hoping this is his last Christmas on the road!), we wanted to again hold an Open Studio, to raise a few more pence of support for the brilliant charity he is raising money for, Hope and Homes for Children, through donating a percentage from all sales.

The last Open Studio in December 2006 raised over £200 so thanks to everyone who came. Over the last year we have managed to raise almost £800 for charity through the sale of work, including the donating of work to the recent Christian Aid Art Auction in aid of Climate Change relief work in developing countries. This may not be a huge sum, but we are doing our best, and I would love to try and top last year's amount, so if you have time, please do come along. There are some new works on show, with up to 40% off the gallery retail price, and 15% going to charity. Otherwise, just come for a drink, and do feel free to take a look at Dominic's website, enjoy a mad cyclist's vision of a beautiful continent, or drop him a line to say hello. Thank you for reading and have a very Happy Christmas.

[www.takeaseat.org](http://www.takeaseat.org)  
[www.hopeandhomes.org](http://www.hopeandhomes.org)