

Christmas in Hong Kong for cyclist

AROUND the world solo cyclist Ken Roberts, a former Ysgol Y Preseli pupil, is preparing to celebrate Christmas with a difference – he is due to reach Hong Kong in time for the festivities, after over a year on the road.

Ken has now ridden across two continents and over 9,000 miles, after setting off from home in September 2009.

He is undertaking a four-year round-the-world solo cycle, to raise funds for the Outward Bound Trust, the UK charity that works with young people to help them develop their potential.

Now he's planning a Christmas break in Hong Kong before cycling on to Australia, New Zealand and North America in January.



Ken Roberts

"I'm hoping to rustle up some traditional fare to help celebrate, enjoy a few reminders of home, a bit of luxury, before getting back on the road," he said.

His journey so far has taken him to the heart of Central Asia and on into China, after crossing Europe, northern Turkey,

through Russian-occupied Georgia and the Caucasus.

From the arid plains of eastern Kazakhstan, through the mountains of western China and into the Gobi desert. He's had to contend with treacherous roads, temperatures in the 40s and unrelenting

gale-force winds. As well as corruption, detention by border guards and a few unsavoury bouts of illness.

"There have been some tough moments, coping with the elements and dealing with loneliness. But it's all part of the challenge, and it'll make arrival in Hong Kong for Christmas all the more satisfying," said Ken, who was at Ysgol Preseli from 1980-85.

He keeps in regular touch with the world through his blog, photos and video clips. His progress can be charted through his website www.acrosscontinents.org where there is also information about The Outward Bound Trust, for which he hopes to raise at least £45,000.