

Get wired for speed

REMEMBER when the only accessories you could get for your bike was a set of streamers for your handlebars and a bell. Bike accessories have gone hi-tech with a great gadget called the Bike Computer.

No, you don't mount a key-board and mess on your handlebars and eat the rat on the way to school. A bike computer is an electronic device that gives you information about your current speed, maximum speed, distance travelled, time taken and even your heart rate.

Garmin (www.garmin.com) are a popular manufacturer of bike computers, including the Mitty 3, a feature packed device that can fit into the palm of your hand and is extremely easy to install.

A magnet is connected to your spokes and a sensor is attached to your forks to line up with the magnet. You need to put the diameter of your wheels into the computer as it uses this information to calculate speeds and distances. A mounting bracket is attached to the handlebars and the computer then clicks into this bracket.

They come in a number of fluorescent colours including blue, orange, purple and pink. For the professional bike rider, who carries about every bit of extra weight they



By **SIMON WOOLLEY**
simon@woolley.com

carry, this unit weighs in at only 26 grams. It is powered by a watch battery, which will last about three years.

An auto start/stop feature is great. I always forget to start my computer before setting off, but this device powers up itself. Dual tyre size is a handy feature that allows you to mount two sensor units to two different bikes.

For those of us on a fitness kick, trying to get to work faster or ride further than the day before, it's a real motivator.

The Mitty 3 is well priced at about £50 and is available at all leading bike shops.

■ Review product supplied by Toyworld, Townsville on Charters Towers Rd.

