

## AUDAX Rides – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2011

We were blessed with excellent weather - sun and blue skies. Quite a stiff south-east wind affected the riders returning from Pensarn over the moors and back down the A5 - but that's just part of the game. All riders enjoyed their day out and we had good feedback about the route, cafes and general organisation. Mike Cross, Chester and North Wales CTC President, visited the control at Pensarn to meet some of the riders.

### 'The Clwydian' 212k; 3500m ascent

-12 riders completed this grueling course in times from 09:45 hours to 12:35 hours. Two riders from C&NW CTC completed the ride; Joe Jord and Geoff Mason. We used the Royal Oak pub in Corwen as a finishing control for the first time; they proved very accommodating and laid on sandwiches especially for the returning riders.



At the start of the 212km ride

'Open Road'

At the 'Control' point



**'The Clwyd Gate' 138k; 2250m ascent** - 25 riders completed this ride in times from 07:35 hours to 09:40 hours; 7 riders from C&NW CTC completed the ride.

**'The Bala Mini-Bash' 60k; approx 1000m ascent** (provisional figures). We had a good mix of experienced and new riders for the first edition of this introductory event, including a sizeable contingent of 'Fabulous Ladies' and a junior rider, Jake Gaskell. 28 riders, including 11 from C&NW CTC, completed the course in times from 02:40 hours to 04:47 hours.

Thanks to Vicky Payne for her assistance on the day and allowing the organiser space to ride the 60k.

### **Events planned for 2012**

Next year the 'Clwydian 212k' and 'Clwyd Gate 138k' are moving to a new slot during the Welsh Festival of Cycling (based at Ruthin Rugby Club in 2012) on Sunday 29 July 2012. The route will be slightly modified with a new start point, to allow for heavier July traffic in Prestatyn and on the A5. There will also be a new introductory ride 'The Clwyd Vale' 65km. Vicky Payne will be a new organizer, with David Matthews as the official AUDAX UK mentor.



'The Bala Mini Bash' 60k will remain at Corwen and take place on Saturday 20th October 2012. There is also to be 'The Brenig Bach' 100k; 2000m ascent (an old Graham Mills' route), which takes a fabulous route out through Cwm Penanner returning over the Brenig Lakes. Additionally there will be a brand new hilly 200k which goes out to the Dollgellau area, including the mountain road to the Trawsfynydd area.

**David Matthews**