

C&NW CTC/Audax Rides in the Berwyns - 1st June 2019

The start and finish of these rides was moved at short notice to **Duddon Village Hall** due to **Willington Hall Hotel**'s late inability to host this event. We thank the Hotel for hosting these rides since 2001 and are sorry that, due to circumstances not of their making, we are unable to use them as an event base again.

Thanks are due to all those who enabled us to move this event at such short notice - **AUK**, **CTC Chester and North Wales CTC**, **catering ladies** and **Duddon Village Hall**. A tricky job that worked out well in the end.

Tour of the Berwyns 210km; 2650m ascent

There were approximately 45 entries for this event, which whittled down to 26 starters on the day, including 7 riders from **Seamons CC**.



Twenty-three riders returned safely, in times varying from 9 (chapeaux! to **Ben C**) to 13 hours.

A number of riders did not wish their rides to be validated with **AUK**. Rather than record these people as DNF I am now recording them as finishing one minute inside the time limit, so we have a proper record of rides and riders.

Two riders failed to finish due to mechanical issues.

Unfortunately we had an accident near **Saighton** when a rider in a small group failed to notice a pothole. He came off sustaining cuts and bruises and a wrecked helmet. This rider was able to ride 10km safely back to **Duddon Village Hall** and drive back home.

A full report of this incident has been sent to **AUK** and **Chester & N. Wales CTC**.

There is now an increasing trend for riders to ride on **GPS** and thus miss the information controls. In spite of these controls being amended to make them as obvious as possible, we still have a real problem. I intend to take this up with **AUK**. This is not a treasure hunt; just a means of obtaining proof of passage.

On a positive note, all riders said it was a cracking route and how much they enjoyed the ride and stunning scenery - which is what really matters!



Prospect Panorama 135km; 1000m ascent

Following a flat ride through **Farndon** and **Cross Lanes**, this event takes the long climb from **Johnstown** up to the beautifully situated **Prospect Tea Rooms** above **Llangollen**, exactly as for the 200km, but then short cuts back from the **Panorama** via **Sun Trevor to Chirk**. We now have a relocated café stop here in the **Castle Bistro** following the demise of the nostalgic **Milk Bar**, haven on many rides over the last 20 years or more.

There were 19 entries for this event with 11 starters, 10 of whom returned safely .

Unfortunately there was a serious incident at the roundabout near **Chirk station** when **Terry D** went into the back of another rider, fell off and sustained a broken femur. **The Organiser** arrived on the scene within 10 minutes to find **Terry** had been moved to a bench at the side of the road - but was in a lot of pain.

John and Carol P were still in the area with their camper van - which we used to transport **Terry + bike** back to **Duddon**. **Terry** was immobile and in pain on return to **Duddon** so an ambulance was called - **Terry** was then taken to **Countess of Chester Hospital** where he was operated on Sunday afternoon and returned home Wednesday. **Terry** is now recovering well and thanks all those who assisted him after the accident.



Again a full report of this incident has been sent to **AUK** and **Chester and North Wales CTC**.

Many thanks to **John and Carol P** of **Seamons CC** and for operating the control at **Prospect café** and ferrying **Terry** back to the start. Also to **Margaret M** and **Sheila R** for dealing with the catering at very short notice.

Thanks are also due to **Brandon E** for his assistance all day whilst in the final stage of studying to become an accredited **AUK organiser**. His first event will be a 200km ride from **Nantwich** on June 29 2019, mentored by **DM**, after which he is to be a fully fledged organiser---a welcome addition to the ranks.

Putting the accidents to one side, another successful set of events in which all returning riders said how much they enjoyed the day out. It is intended to repeat these rides in 2020 from **Duddon Village Hall** again - probably on a **Saturday in mid May 2020**.

Text and Photos by DM June 2019, Event Organiser