

## CONGRATULATIONS! CAERNARFON BYPASS VOLUNTEER GROUP

At the Cycling UK Big Bike Celebration held in Birmingham on 7th October, the Caernarfon Bypass Volunteer Group was awarded Cycling UK's highest honour for outstanding service to cycling. The Group won the 'Best Campaign' category and also won the Arthur Moss Medallion for the 'Best Volunteer' award, a great achievement! The Group gave evidence at the Caernarfon Bypass Public Inquiry where they found close allies in Sustrans Cymru, the British Horse Society, The Ramblers Association, and the charity Antur Waenfawr which employs adapted cycles in client training. On the grounds of safety and continuity, each group stressed the need for a bridge or underpass at the Goat roundabout, Llanwnda. The team found evidence of neglect by Welsh government of its statutory obligations to retain or enhance provision for walking and cycling under its widely acclaimed Active Travel legislation as the bypass impacts on National Cycle Route 8 at several locations. The Welsh government's decision on the bypass and the 'Goat' is yet to be released.

Three members of the Volunteer Group team were present to receive the Arthur Moss Trophy from Welna Bowden, a Cycling UK Trustee. They were John Mather (Colwyn Bay), Chris Crompton (Anglesey) and Roy Spilsbury (Penmaenmawr). Former world champion cyclist Chris Boardman, now Cycling Commissioner for Greater Manchester, also attended the conference.

Local Cyclists Rights Representative Roy Spilsbury is quoted:

*"Welsh government's decision on the Goat roundabout in particular will provide a marker as to how serious it is about delivering upon its own Active Travel legislation. For this to happen it will require a shift in public attitudes to local travel on foot and by bicycle; the signs are cautiously hopeful. But most importantly there needs to be a seismic change in the culture of local government from the parish pump to the leadership of Elected Members and their professional Heads of Departments. Too often Active Travel is delegated to staff members low in status within government, who in turn are excluded from the key decision-making process. Whilst outstanding provision for cycling does exist around North Wales, there are some dreadful examples of cycling being marginalised, with little or no regard for the comfort or indeed safety of those travelling under their own steam. This is a source of much frustration by voluntary agencies."*



Information from Roy Spilsbury - with thanks



# Bypass inquiry team win top honour

AT A GENERAL meeting in Birmingham at the weekend, CyclingUK awarded its highest honour for outstanding service to the campaign team that gave evidence at the Caernarfon Bypass Public Inquiry.

With the bypass impacting on National Cycle Route 8 at several locations, the team found evidence of neglect by Welsh government of its statutory obligations to retain or enhance provision for walking and cycling under its acclaimed Active Travel legislation.

Three members of the team were present to receive the Moss Trophy from CyclingUK Trustee Welna Bowden – John Mather (Colwyn Bay), Chris Crompton (Anglesey) and Roy Spilsbury (Penmaenmawr).

Ex-world champion cyclist Chris Boardman, now Cycling Commissioner for Greater Manchester, also attended.

At the Inquiry, the team found close allies in Sustrans Cymru,



● Team members John Mather (Colwyn Bay), Chris Crompton (Anglesey) and Roy Spilsbury (Penmaenmawr) were presented with the Moss Trophy from CyclingUK Trustee Welna Bowden

the British Horse Society, The Ramblers Association, and the charity Antur Waenfawr, which employs adapted cycles in client training. On the grounds of safety and continuity, each group stressed the need for a bridge or underpass at the Goat roundabout, Llanwnda. The Welsh Government's decision is yet to be released.

Local Cyclists Rights Representative Roy Spilsbury said: "Welsh government's

decision on the Goat roundabout, in particular, will provide a marker as to how serious it is about delivering upon its own Active Travel legislation.

"For this to happen, it will require a shift in public attitudes to local travel on foot and by bicycle; the signs are cautiously hopeful. But there needs to be a seismic change in the culture of local government from the parish pump to the leadership of Elected Members."

**Press Release: Caernarfon & Denbighshire Herald.**

