

# The Corwen Summer Audax Rides- 13th July 2019

The weather was not quite what I ordered but not too bad by [Audax](#) standards. It was warm, not too windy and a bit drizzly. All the preparations had gone off without a hitch and I was feeling quite upbeat travelling down to [Corwen](#) in the early morning. I was still upbeat on the return some fourteen hours later.

## Barmouth Boulevard 200km

Twenty-four entrants set off in good spirits including some doing their first [Audax](#). There were three declared [Chester and North Wales members](#). One notable entrant was my [Audax Events Team](#) contact [Ian Hennessey](#) who had travelled up from [Exeter](#). He obviously enjoyed the event posting



some photos and a write up on the [Audax Facebook](#) page. There were also entrants travelling from Glasgow and Didcot and all ports in between.

I had discovered on my route recce that the café control at [Abergynolwen](#) was closed this weekend as the owner's children were playing hockey for [North Wales](#). In fact the riders have a choice of control in this village - either the café or the pub. I have noticed that the majority use the café. This year it had to be the pub. I went to see the Landlord as I felt it only fair to warn him and he was very accommodating. Only problem was I had not sampled



the food but the reviews on [Trip Advisor](#) were encouraging. Fortunately several of the cyclists commented on their return how welcome they were made to feel and how good the food was.

All twenty four finished the ride in times ranging from 9 hours 42 minutes to 12 hours 24minutes. All finished in good spirits delighted with the route and the fantastic scenery.

## Brenig Bach 100km

Thirteen entrants embarked on this epic ride into a land time forgot. Or at least that's how I feel about it when [Graham and I](#) route check . Yes I know there are wind farms but the

route goes through remote areas where you would not be surprised to encounter horse-drawn wagons, **Roman** legions or cattle drovers. Unfortunately the day we choose to ride it was a Tuesday and the only day the control café in **Pentrefoelas** is closed. We had to make do with sandwiches and coffee from the Mace shop. Still, we managed to ride up all but one section of the nine climbs identified by **Graham's** new **Garmin**.

On the day, eleven riders including two declared **Chester and North Wales members** completed the route in times ranging from 5 hours 16 minutes to 7 hours 17 minutes. The two remaining riders got as far as **Pentrefoelas** before deciding to return as the misty conditions were exacerbating a pre-existing chest infection. They hope to come back next year and complete the ride.

### **Bala Parade 60K**

There was a better turn out than in the previous few years. Eighteen riders of which four were declared **Chester and North Wales members**. Seven year old **Nia** and her nine year old brother **Gabriel** riding alongside their father were my youngest entrants to date. **Nia** had only ridden 25 miles before although her brother has previously ridden **Momma's Leafy Lanes**. I was



delighted when they all completed the ride. I am sure they slept well that night. Everyone returned in times ranging from 2 hours 24 minutes to 4 hours 37 minutes.

Thanks go out to all the controls for their kind attention and excellent service throughout the day especially **Sandra** at the **Corwen Manor Craft Centre** and **Ian** at the **Royal Oak**, **Brandon Edgely** for donating some energy bars left over from his first time organising an



**Audax** event which were quickly snapped up and last but not least my husband **Graham** without whose support I would not be organising these events.

Date for your diaries: **12<sup>th</sup> October 2019 The Corwen Autumn Audax**. Full details on the Audax website.

**Vicky Payne, Organiser**