

# Llysfasi Hill Climb and Freewheel Competitions

## 28th September 2019

The weather forecast was grim, and the morning started rather grey and windy; in spite of this many of the riders opted to ride out to the start, with some leaving their best climbing legs on the road on the way out. In the end there was even some sunshine and only a few minutes of very light rain during the event. Booking in was at **Llysfasi** as usual, and £8.03 was raised in parking donations towards the **British Heart Foundation** the College's chosen charity for this year.

Nine riders entered the Hill Climb and looking at the entrants it was immediately apparent that it would be a competition between the two Bens for first place. **Ben Hughes** put in a great climb and won the event for the fourth time in 5 minutes 55 seconds: **Ben Larwood** was second in 7 minutes 10 seconds - his first time competing in the **C&NW CTC** event for several years. **Steve Larwood** was 3<sup>rd</sup> and first Veteran in 9 minutes 43 seconds - his hilly ride over into the wind with **Ben** taking its toll on his usual climbing speed. **Lowri Evans** was 4<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> Lady Veteran in 9 minutes 44 seconds, with **Paul Mills** 5<sup>th</sup> after he had a poor start with trouble clipping in. It was great to see **Terry Davies** riding to 6<sup>th</sup> place as he continues to recover after a hip replacement following a crash earlier in the year. **Dave Statham** was the 1<sup>st</sup> Mega Vet showing the flag for the **C&NW CTC** over eighties, with **Sue Booth** the first non-Vet lady and **Dave Matthews** the first Super Vet.

**Mike Cross** organised the timing at the top of the hill whilst **Glennys Hammond** photographed the rides as they toiled up the hill. As usual the rest of the afternoon was accompanied by the sounds of occasional gentle coughing as the riders were reminded of their efforts.

Ten riders competed in the freewheel: those who did the hill climb plus freewheel specialist **Roy Bunnell**. Once again **Dave Statham** dominated the event with a clear win, followed by **Roy Bunnell** on his immaculate **Mercian**. **Paul Mills** was 3<sup>rd</sup> followed by **Steve Larwood** and **Dave Matthews**. The non-vets appeared to have their own competition all finishing within about 18" of each other; **Ben Larwood**, **Sue Booth** (1<sup>st</sup> Lady) and **Ben Hughes**. As usual **Lowri Evans** and **Terry Davies** showed a remarkable reluctance to pass the pub and ended up at the rear of the field.

As the **Three Pigeons Inn** was unable to provide food this year due to a kitchen fire in the summer, riders went to the **White Horse in Llanfair DC** for a meal and the calculation of results. **Mike Cross** presented the prizes and **Glennys Hammond** took more photographs. Huge thanks to all who took part in the event, everyone who helped on the day, **Pete Dilworth** for putting up the warning signs in advance of the event, **Llysfasi College** for parking and booking-in venue and the **White Horse** Inn for the presentation and the meal.

**Lowri Evans, Organiser**