

Sun shines on tourists.

Saturday's Ballymena Road Club – Scott Roof Tiles – fun cycle tour was the fourth ride in this year's series and attracted a total of 64 riders.

It was also the first day of this year's series which remained dry throughout and this meant a much more enjoyable outing for all.

The, 40 strong, touring group's ride was a testing and hilly 36 miles route which took in Larne road, Doctor's road, Kennel bridge road, Lisnahilt road, Douglas road, Glenwherry and on out the Larne road to the high point of the tour at Killalane reservoir.

Then it was down Ardymagh road to Ballynashee road and across Carnlea road to the bottom of the Colin before turning left on to Whappstown road and Lislunna road, eventually coming out on to the Parkgate road and then descending to Kells and riding back to the finish via the Liminary road.

Another £20 was donated to the charity fund which now stands at £673.

About 13 of those who have taken part so far haven't paid their "one off" entry fee of £5 and they are asked to remember to bring their donation this week, many thanks.

The "A" group on Saturday had a 56 miles ride to Loughguille, Orra, Glendun and under the viaduct to Cushendun then up the Gault's road ascent of Glenballyeamon to Parkmore, before the fast downhill run through Cargan, Martinstown and Rathkenny. The ride included 3,630 feet of climbing and was completed at 17.7 mph average speed.

The reputation of the fun tours is now spreading far beyond the Borough and on Saturday a visitor, Chris Farrell, from Perth United cycling club in Scotland completed the "A" group's ride.

This Saturday's fifth tour is the first of the bronze medal rides where anyone with full attendance will qualify for a medal. Those gaining eight rides will earn silver while eleven out of a total of thirteen will win the gold award and certificate of merit.

### **Ulster 100 miles time trial championship**

Bann Wheelers promoted the Ulster 100 Mile Time Trial Championships at Woodgreen last Sunday morning. Despite the daunting nature of the event the entry was almost double that from 2009, when the event was reintroduced after several years' absence from the calendar.

Twenty seven riders signed on at 7.00am to begin the many laps of the Woodgreen to Dunsilly and Ballee course.

Bryan McCrystal from Cuchullain emerged as the eventual overall winner with a time of 3 hours 52 minutes 01 seconds. This beats the existing record

held by Cycling Ireland President Rory Wyley, by a mere one second. The record is subject to ratification by Cycling Ireland.

The Ulster Championship was again won by veteran tester Jim McConnell, from Doagh, of the East Antrim club. He lifted both the senior and veteran gold medals and the Sportactive trophies. Jim recorded 3 hours 54 minutes 42 seconds.

Ballymena Road Club –Scott Roof Tiles- had only one entrant, Adrian Kerr, who recorded a personal best time of 4 hours 54 minutes 10 seconds. This was an excellent performance considering he was riding a more or less standard road bike without the usual low profile aerodynamic riding position.

Results (1) Bryan McCrystal (Cuchulainn) 3 hours 51 minutes 01 seconds  
(2) Jim McConnell (East Antrim) 3.54.42 (3) Jay Gault (Phoenix) 3.57.56  
(4) Finbarr Cummins (Phoenix) 4.00.57 (5) Stephen Harkens (Madigan) 4.06.16  
(6) Mel McCann (Madigan) 4.06.47  
(21) (ladies champion) Kay Hack (Bann Wheelers) 4.46.42  
(24) Adrian Kerr Ballymena Road Club Scott Roof Tiles 4.54.10

### Touring

Ballymena Road Club touring Chairman Patsy McGurk held a charity cycle ride from Portglenone to Lough Fea on Sunday when 39 cyclists took part in the fundraiser for the Downe Residential project. All the proceeds will go towards Patsy's trip to Egypt in November.

He will be taking part in the Nile cycle which will cover 335 kilometres from Mount Sinai to the valley of Kings on a mountain bike.

The fundraising campaign which is for "Buy a brick, build a home for life." aims to build a centre which will be purpose designed and built to meet the needs and demands of adults with learning difficulties.

Patsy was a bit disappointed with the small turnout but nevertheless thanked all those from BRC, Bann Valley and Carn wheelers who took part.

Patsy was also grateful to "Bike shack" for providing the lead car and to his wife Bernie for making the tea before and after the ride.

Sunday's route went from Portglenone to Maghera then Tobermore and Draperstown before the climb to the Lough. Then it was the descent to Cookstown and back via Moneymore Magherafelt Castledawson and Bellaghy. This gave the BRC riders a chance to do the ride in the opposite direction to what they normally do, everyone enjoyed the event, and the weather was good too.

### Calendar

Ballymena Road Club cyclists will hold their October monthly meeting this Monday 4<sup>th</sup> October in their Rex Bonar house club rooms from 7.15pm. Anyone with technical questions, which require an “in depth answer,” should notify the committee of their enquiry before the night of the meeting.

#### Majorca 2011

Ballymena Road Club and Michelin cyclists will again be traveling to Majorca in 2011. The seven day trip is planned for 10<sup>th</sup> until 17<sup>th</sup> April 2011 when the clubs will travel with Sportactive.

They will be based at the Estrella de Mar hotel in Alcudia. The cost is 450 euro, excluding flights. Those interested in traveling should contact Hazel Hughes (BRC) and Stuart Knowles (Michelin)

The 2010 trip turned into a two week vacation after the cyclists were stranded when flights were cancelled because of the volcanic ash cloud.

#### Best all rounders.

Ballymena Road Club cyclists are asked to notify Richard Wilson of their best time trial performances of the season so that the 2010 time trial best all rounder results can be compiled.

Seniors and veterans are asked to submit times for 10, 25 and 50 miles, juniors need a 5, 10 and 25 miles performance while for ladies it's 5 and 10 miles.

The youth section B.A.R. is based on best times for 2.5 miles and 5 miles. You may email Richard on [Wilson\\_roadclub19542002@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Wilson_roadclub19542002@yahoo.co.uk) or telephone 07808 865 688. Please include details of the date the ride took place, all performances, with the exception of the 50 miles time trial, must have been done in a club race.