**Dumfries Cycling Club**

Summer ‘Faux Dax’: 29th June 2024

A long summer ride over a 200km route from Burns’ Statue, Dumfries to Hawick and back via Newcastleton and Langholm. This can be ridden as a DIY audax (mandatory route), or simply as a longer-than-normal club run.

Route description:

**PART ONE** – **START** From Dumfries we head out to Millhousebridge in the standard way via Locharbriggs and Amisfield. After crossing the A74(M) we head to Eskdalemuir on the B723. Passing Samye Ling on the A709 the route then heads in the direction of Selkirk. STOP OPTION ONE: 69km Honey Cottage Caravan Park: Beehive Café.

**PART TWO** – From Beehive Café continue on the B709 then take the right towards Roberton (B711) and a gentle climb to Alemoor Reservoir then a descent to the A7 into Hawick. Turn right into Beaconsfield Terrace before you get to Hawick town centre. Passing the end of the Howegate there is an option to stop for a snack or supplies. STOP OPTION TWO: 96km Harrow & Son, Home Bakery.

**PART THREE** – From Hawick it’s onto the Liddesdale road all the way down to Newcastleton. This traverses high moorland but with some interesting features before descending into Newcastleton. STOP OPTION THREE: 128km The Olive Tree, Newcastleton.

**PART FOUR** – From Newcastleton it’s a climb over Tinnis Hill to Langholm. This is a long climb followed by a fast descent, a short climb then another fast descent into Langholm. Watch out for the sheep and ensure your brakes are in good order! STOP OPTION FOUR: 145km Pelosi’s Corner Café, Langholm.

**PART FIVE** – From Langholm the route follows the B7068 towards Lockerbie, turning off towards Waterbeck and following the B725 through Middlebie, Ecclefechan and Dalton. The familiar route back to Bankend now from Dalton through Carrutherstown, Clarencefield and Bankend before tackling Bankend Hill. Official end point is the SHELL Fuel Station, St. Michaels St. **ARRIVEE 202km**.

GPX File of the route:

Ride as an Audax:

Any member wishing to ride this as a DIY audax can do so by applying for a virtual brevet here: https://www.audax.uk/choose-a-ride/do-it-yourself-diy-events/

Those opting to ride the route as an audax will ride separately from those not doing so. The average speed for the audax group will be slower than standard club ride speeds.

Ride as a club run:

Those riding the route as a club run the speeds can be decided on the day. And separate groups can be arranged, dependent on numbers. Decisions about this are important – be confident you can maintain the chosen average speed over the distance. Decisions about whether it is a ‘no-drop’ ride can also be decided on the day dependent on numbers. Bear in mind the route is 202km with 7300 ft of climbing.

