

# Gower Cycling Festival (18-25 August 2018) – Programme

To be read in conjunction with the route map which shows the rides. There is car parking near all the start/finish points, located as follows. [C] = Café; [T] = Public toilet.

Blackpill Lido, Swansea SA3 5AS (GR 619906) [C,T]  
Dunvant Rugby Football Club (RFC), Killay SA2 7RU (GR 593932) [T]  
Kingsbridge (by old Urban Cyclery) SA4 4HJ (GR 593977)  
Waterfront Museum, SA1 3RD (GR 658927) [C,T]

**Note.** This programme is updated as necessary.  
Last update: 24 Feb. 2018.

Note: The rides with [ ] after the title are free for those *joining just those rides*.

The initials CTC and U3A identify them as CTC and U3A rides respectively.

<sup>F</sup> Family ride suitable for children with some road experience. Routes are mostly but not entirely on cycle paths.

The colours indicate the relative difficulty of the rides, ie **gentle**, **moderate** or (relatively) **challenging**.

We aim to get back by 5.00pm, but sometimes, usually to let you enjoy yourself the more, we are bit later.

## Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> August

**Festival Launch** 13.30 Blackpill Lido. To be launched by Jayne Cornelius of Swansea University..

### 1 **Beach and ice cream** <sup>F</sup>

14.30 Blackpill Lido

Round Swansea Bay to the Trafalgar Bridge Tawe river crossing, enjoy an ice-cream on the way and try out one of the new Santander hire bikes .

7 miles: flat; leader: Nick Guy.

### 2 **A Taste of Gower**

14.30 Blackpill Lido

Up the Clyne Valley, then west to Ilston where we visit its 12th Century Church, refreshments at the Heritage Centre and back round Mumbles head, .

20 miles: some hills; leader: David Naylor.

### 3 **Kilvey Hill/City Heights**

14.30 Blackpill Lido

Climb the Swansea 'Alps'; enjoy spectacular views of Swansea and (if clear) across the sea to Devon.

20 miles: lots of up; leader: Chris Walsh.

## Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> August

### 4 **Campus to Campus** <sup>F</sup>

10.00 Dunvant RFC

An easy ride first visiting the Singleton Campus, then east along NCR 4 and the Tennant Canal to Jersey Marine. Lunch at the Bay Campus on the way back.

20 miles: flat; leader: Colin Fielder.

### 5 **King Arthur's Stone** [CTC]

10.00 Dunvant RFC

Follow the scenic Marsh road to Llanrhidian, then via Fairyhill to Reynoldston. Lunch in the King Arthur, then up to the Stone for great views and a long freewheel.

28 miles: moderately hilly; leader: Pat Hansard

### 6 **Kidwelly** [CTC]

10.00 Dunvant RFC

Circular ride out via Pontarddulais and the spectacular country to the north of Llanelli. Lunch in Kidwelly then back along the Millenium coast path (NCR 4).

50 miles: lumpy out, flat back; leader: Ian Davies.

For the rides shown as having two start points, eg at Dunvant RFC and then at the Waterfront Museum, registration will be at either.

Rides with alternatives classified differently are shown with two colours. Eg: Ride 15 is **challenging** from Dunvant RFC but **moderate** from W'front Museum.

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## Monday 20<sup>th</sup> August

### 7 **Copperopolis** <sup>F</sup>

10.00 Dunvant RFC or 10.45 W'front Museum

A ride round the Bay and up NCR 43 to discover Swansea's industrial heritage. A guided walk will be given to discover Swansea's history when it was the copper capital of the world. Option for picnic lunch (can be purchased on route) or cafe in the area.

16/4 miles: flat; leader: Dawn Aplin.

### 8 **Llanmadoc & Pots** [U3A]

10.00 Dunvant RFC

Out by Welshmoor, Stem Bridge and Burry Green to Llanmadoc for refreshments; visit a pottery in Cheriton. Back along the Marsh Road.

25 miles: Moderately hilly; leader: David Naylor.

### 9 **Evening ride to a Folk Club**

18.30 Dunvant RFC

A ride up the Clyne Valley for music and song in the Loughor Boat Club. (Bring Lights for the return.)

9 miles: flat; leader: John Roach.

## Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> August

### 10 **Swiss Valley**

10:00 Dunvant RFC

NCR 4 to Bynea then minor roads to join NCR 47 at Felinfoel. Up and down the Swiss Valley. Lunch at N. Dock, Llanelli, Visitor Centre. Return on NCR 4

30 miles: mainly flat; leader: Nick Guy.

### 11 **Grand Gower Circuit. Option blue.**

9.30 (Note earlier start.) Dunvant RFC

Anti-clockwise circuit: N. Gower, coffee in Llanmadoc, cross Broughton Bay, lunch in Hillend; back via Rhossili, south Gower coast and Mumbles. Early return option from Hillend. Some off-road. Possible sea swim!  
42/30 miles: undulating; leaders: David N./Chris W.

## Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August

### 12 BikeAbility<sup>F</sup>

10:30 Dunvant RFC

A gentle ride down and up the Clyne Valley for people of all abilities, featuring a variety of specialist bikes. Refreshments at the Blackpill Lido by the beach.

6 miles: flat; half day; leader: Nick Guy.

### 13 Port to Pottery<sup>F</sup> [CTC]

10.00 Dunvant RFC or 10.45 W'front Museum

An easy ride up the Swansea Valley along NCR 43 to the *Riverside Centre* near Pontardawe where a presentation about the local heritage will be given. Back along the canal. Bring a packed lunch.

33/21 miles: flat; leader: Allyson Evans.

### 14 Brynamman [CTC]

10.00 Dunvant RFC

Clockwise circuit: Pontarddulais, Ammanford, cycle path to Brynamman for lunch. Then either down to Swansea Valley (NCR 43) or a hillier option. Finally round Swansea Bay on NCR 4 and back up the Clyne Valley.

45 miles: longish hills; leaders: David Naylor and tba.

## Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August

### 15 Ystradgynlais-Crynant. Shorter option blue.

9.15 Dunvant RFC or 10.00 W'front Museum

Up the scenic Swansea Valley (NCR43) to Ystradgynlais for an early lunch before a climb over to Crynant, then a long descent homewards down the Neath Valley.

46/34 miles: flat but for one climb; leader: tba.

### 16 Glynorrwg. Shorter option blue.

9.15 Dunvant RFC or 10.00 W'front Museum

Mostly traffic free; first partly on NCR 4 to Port Talbot and then on NCR 887 up the lovely Afan Valley for lunch in the 'Refresh' (the old Cwmer station). Meet up with the Rhondda Tunnel Soc. and learn about this project.

52/40 miles; gentle climb out; leader: Ian Davies.

## Friday 24<sup>th</sup> August

### 17 Burry Port<sup>F</sup>

10.00 Dunvant RFC

An easy ride following the Millenium coast path (NCR 4) to Burry Port for lunch; back same way.

32 miles: flat; leader: Pat Hansard.

### 18 Ride/walk. Green if just walk.<sup>F</sup>

10.00 Dunvant RFC/12.00 Southgate

Cycle to Southgate via Lunnon and meet walkers in Three Cliffs Café for lunch, then circular walk across Three Cliffs bay. Cycle back over Fairwood Common.

14/5 miles: short, steep hills; leader: David Naylor.

### Social (evening)

### 19 19.00 Dunvant RFC

Festival social with buffet.

## Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> August

### 20 Bont and Wildfowl<sup>F</sup> [CTC]

10.00 Dunvant RFC or 10.30 Kingsbridge

Cycle path & B4296 to Pontarddulais. Shorter (family) option to return from there via a park. The longer ride crosses the Loughor, then via Llangennech to the Wildfowl Centre for coffee and back on NCR 4.

22/10 miles: one climb; leaders: David N. & Nick Guy.

### 21 Aberavon. Shorter option green.<sup>F</sup>

10.00 Dunvant RFC or 10.45 W'front Museum

Along coast mainly on NCR 4, across Briton Ferry bridge, then a circuit through Aberavon and Port Talbot. Return by a slightly different route.

35/23 miles: flat; leader: Pat Hansard.

### 22 Estuary wide ride Shorter option green.<sup>F</sup>

10.00 Dunvant RFC

To Three Crosses and then via hidden Gower lanes to a ruined chapel with big views. Options to return from Penclawdd or go round the estuary to Pwll for lunch.

15/32 miles; climb then flat; leaders: tba.

### Ride leaders phone numbers

Dawn Aplin	07919 084269	Colin Fielder	07791 277748	David Naylor	01792 233755
Ian Davies	07813 856969	Nick Guy	07551 538825	John Roach	07971 676769
Allyson Evans	07791 408184	Pat Hansard	07957 287013	Chris Walsh	07941 823729

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