

2026 Brecon Beacons Devil - Sunday 16th August

Pre-Event Information

Thank you for entering the Drover Cycles Brecon Beacons Devil Sportive!

Please take some time to read this briefing, which we have prepared to help ensure a safe, enjoyable day for all on Sunday. The event is non-competitive, it is NOT a race. It is run under standard highway conditions so all riders must abide by the rules of the road at all times.

Route

Please **use the gpx files supplied with this briefing** as these supersede any previously supplied routes. The gpx files can also be found on the [Drover Cycles website](https://www.drovercycles.co.uk).

The route will be clearly marked with bright pink arrows on a black background (all routes). Route splits will be clearly marked with signs before the split, at the split and confirmation of which route you are on after the split. Feed stations will be clearly signed and warning triangles will be in place to make you aware of any particular hazards

In response to advice from Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service, we have taken the decision to exclude The Tumble from this year's LONG ROUTE. A road closure remains in place between Blaenavon and Llangynidr due to the Llangynidr Reservoir moorland wildfire and air quality and visibility are both affected by the smoke. We hope you understand the decision is made in the interests of safety and to allow the rescue services to carry out their vital work. Please do not attempt to ride this section.



We strongly recommend that you also carry the route with you either electronically or in paper map format. A4 paper maps showing an overview of the route will be available at registration.

Event HQ & Parking

The start/finish point for the sportive is: **Drover Cycles, Forest Road, Hay on Wye, HR3 5EH**

Drover Cycles has a free car park with space for c.50 vehicles. Please respect local residents by using official car parks (2 mins from venue, see map) rather than parking on the surrounding streets. You can book a space in the car parks in advance using the Paybyphone app (www.paybyphone.co.uk)

The nearest car parks are:

Oxford Road **810598** & Motte & Bailey **810599**

There are toilets & changing facilities on site.



Pre Ride

Please ensure that your bike is in good working order before embarking on the ride. Track pumps, lube and basic tools will also be available at Event HQ for any last-minute adjustments.

Please wear appropriate clothing for the time of year and the conditions on the day. Sun protection and adequate hydration are a must!

Wearing a cycle helmet is mandatory for all riders. Lights, particularly a rear red light, are strongly recommended.

Plentiful food and drink will be on offer at feed stations (see below) but it's essential that you carry enough fluid and fuel to keep you going between stops. We recommend carrying cash / card for emergencies.

Registration

Once you have parked, please make your way to registration. **Please do not arrive before 7.30am as the gates will be closed and the registration desk will not be open.** On arrival you are welcome to tuck in to complimentary hot and cold drinks and breakfast goodies. Our café will also be open if you need a barista coffee or something more substantial to kick-start your day!

At registration you will be given a rider number. Please attach this to your bike so that it can be seen from directly in front of the bike.

Registration and departure times will be strictly adhered to and these are as follows:

Registration opens at 7.30am and you may depart from 8.00am - 8.30am.

Feed Stations

	Distance from start point		
	SHORT	MEDIUM	LONG
Llangynidr Village Hall Cwm Crawnnon Rd, Crickhowell, NP8 1LS	44km	44km	44km
Neudd Goffa Rhys Prichard Memorial Hall 4 Waterloo St, Llandovery SA20 0DS	N/A	N/A	106km
Aberedw Village Hall Aberedw, LD2 3UN	N/A	96km	152km

All feed stations will have a selection of sweet and savoury food and energy products. Track pumps, lube, basic tools will also be available at the feed stations.

Vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options will be available but please let us know **in advance** if you have special dietary requirements so that we can make sure food is put aside for you.

Medical Support/ Cover

Experienced first aiders will be available during the event to attend to any riders in need of first aid and to call for emergency medical support if required. If you are feeling unwell or injure yourself, or if you are concerned about another rider, please call 01497 822419. In the event of a medical emergency, call 999. If you decide not to finish the ride / not to return to HQ please call 01497 822419 or send an SMS or WhatsApp to 07501 495868 to let us know.

Route signage

- The route is clearly signposted with pink arrows on a black background (all routes).
- Route splits will be clearly marked with signs before the split, at the split and confirmation of which route you are on after the split.
- Feed stations will be clearly signed and warning triangles will be in place to make you aware of any particular hazards
- If you have not seen a route arrow for more than 1km and / or if you pass an unsigned turning it is likely that you are off-course. Please stop, look at the map and/or phone for assistance before you go too far!
- Sadly vandalism does sometimes happen. We would appreciate your help in reporting locations where signs have been removed or tampered with. You will find a number on the back of each sign. Send a WhatsApp to 07501 495868 if you find an issue, so we can try to rectify problems ASAP.

Mechanical Support

It is important that you check your bike is in good working order before embarking on the ride and that you carry an adequate supply of spares / a repair kit. However, should you need assistance please call 01497 822419 and we will get to you as soon as possible. We will have a broom wagon sweeping the course throughout the day but please bear in mind that it may take time for us to reach you, particularly on the long route.

During the Ride

Safety

- You are riding on open roads, be alert to the vehicles you share the road with and always follow the Highway Code.
- Please ride responsibly and don't take unnecessary risks – your actions could have serious consequences. Think about your position on the road, other road users and local residents.
- You are responsible for your own actions. Do not assume it is safe to cross a junction or continue when you see a marshal, always check it is safe to continue yourself.
- Always ride on the correct side of the road. Ride no more than two abreast and single out on narrow roads or any sections where visibility is limited.
- The route uses rural roads and lanes where you may encounter horses. Please **communicate** to make the rider aware of your presence. If approaching from behind, horses have a very large blind spot and won't see you until you're practically level with their heads. It's vital therefore to let the riders know you're there with a clear "good morning" or similar. Don't shout overly loudly but don't be too tentative either. A horse is far less likely to be spooked by the sound of your voice than by being suddenly surprised by you appearing next to them. **Slow right down** and be prepared to stop and give **plenty of space** when passing.
- Be prepared to encounter potential hazards on the route. In particular, we would draw your attention to:

- Potholes and uneven / loose road surfaces including gravel and mud;
- Cattle grids and livestock, especially on the Hay-Gospel Pass and Rhulen-Paincastle roads;
- Other road users, particularly at junctions;
- Green Man Festival at Glanusk Estate - expect extra traffic on B4558 after Crickhowell;
- Roadworks. There are no road closures but some temporary traffic lights are in operation.
- Wild fire risk. There are currently numerous wild fires ablaze across Wales. Situations can change rapidly. Please observe any diversions and road closures put in place by the fire and rescue service. Be vigilant and report any concerns immediately - call 999.

Respect

Please respect the environment and ALL other road users. Do not litter – take your rubbish with you or discard it at feed stations. **This is particularly important given the high risk of wild fires at present.** Please ride responsibly; rider behaviour is crucial in protecting the future of cycling events on the public highway.

Post Ride

Complimentary hot and cold food and drink will be on offer, along with some goodies to take home. Please ensure you collect all personal belongings from Event HQ before heading home. Feedback questionnaires will be sent out after the event and we welcome all your feedback!

Contact details

Main point of contact: 01497 822419

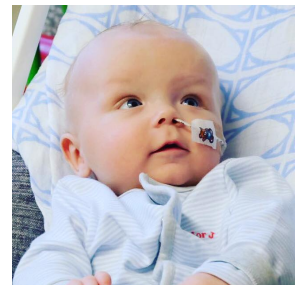
WhatsApp: 07501 495868

Secondary point of contact (please only call if both other numbers are unavailable) 07971 391507

To celebrate Toby's 10th birthday, we will donate £10 from each rider's entry fee to our charity partner, The Dear Toby Trust



Toby Hambrook-Skinner, Luke and Anna's nephew, was diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukaemia (AML) in October 2016, aged just seven weeks old. He spent the rest of his short but inspiring life at Great Ormond Street Hospital (GOSH) in London and tragically lost his fight against cancer at just seven months old. Toby's parents, Verity and Nathan, supported by their friends and family (including their extended GOSH family) are committed to finding a kinder



way to beat childhood cancer – in Toby's name. They also want to do everything they can to support paediatric oncology nurses. This is the mission of The Dear Toby Trust. To date, Toby's huge team of supporters has run marathons, scaled mountains and pedalled thousands of miles. These combined efforts have so far raised more than £1 million, an incredible sum of money in his name. Thank you for helping us keep his legacy alive.

To mark Toby's 10th birthday on Sunday, we have set up a specific JustGiving page. You can donate via:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/drover-cycles?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL