

Media Release

December 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mix96 Tour de Vale Charity Bike Ride Event 2019 raises £56,000 to help transform the lives of disabled people through sport

WheelPower, the national Charity for wheelchair sport are delighted to announce that the Mix96 Tour de Vale Charity Bike Ride event held earlier this year has raised a grand total of £56,000. The much-needed funds will enable WheelPower to transform the lives of disabled people across the nation by providing sporting opportunities and helping them to lead active lives, which has a direct impact on positive mental and physical health.

1409 people took part in this year's 17th Mix96 Tour de Vale Charity Bike Ride on 9 June 2019 to enjoy three scenic cycle routes across Buckinghamshire, which all started and ended at Stoke Mandeville Stadium.

Jo Hall, Event Organiser comments on what a difference the funds will make for WheelPower:

'Year on year our local community supports our ride and yet again a fantastic amount of funds have been raised to continue our work of helping disabled children and adults take part in sport. A huge thank you to everyone that supports our largest fundraising event of the year!'

WheelPower gave awards to the fundraisers that had raised the most in the following categories:

Highest Individual Fundraiser:

We are delighted to announce that Ian Coxhill has been awarded the Tour de Vale trophy for the Highest Individual Fundraiser, raising a wonderful £586. Thank you Ian!

A year ago, Ian could only cycle a maximum of 10 miles. Yet at the Mix96 Tour de Vale Charity Bike Ride this year, he covered a hefty 100k (62 miles) in under 3 hours and 29 minutes.

Ian moved to Aylesbury 10 years ago. He reveals the moment he decided he wanted to take part in the Tour de Vale, 'It was after I saw all the cyclists pedalling along the countryside as I was driving past, that was the moment I realised I wanted to be part of all that'.

Ian trained on his bike from February 2019 and by June 2019 he was all set.

'It was the best sporting event I have ever done! And to think you are doing it all for such a worthwhile cause, that tops it. Also, I found that the whole experience and excellent springboard to getting fit!'

Transforming lives through sport

WheelPower, Stoke Mandeville Stadium, Guttman Road, Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire, HP21 9PP
Tel: 01296 395995 Email: info@wheelpower.org.uk www.wheelpower.org.uk

Highest Group Fundraisers:

Congratulations to the lovely Haddenham Silver Cyclists who have come out tops in the Highest Group Fundraiser awards for Tour de Vale. The team of 5 raised a brilliant £670 to transform the lives of newly paralysed adults and disabled children.

'We are so delighted that we did the Tour de Vale, we've been doing it for several years, however we're absolutely astounded that we've won the highest Group Fundraiser award! "It's fantastic, the more you raise the more you can inspire those you help to realise just how much they are capable of achieving too!", says Ingrid, one of the cyclists on the Team.

The group cycled on a mix of electric bikes and mountain bikes, completing a 25k route and a 60k route across Buckinghamshire. They all met through the Haddenham U3A and cycle once a month together after all nurturing a love of cycling in their youth.

'The toughest part was going up the hills right at the end near Ashendon, but we'd do it all over again, and we're looking forward to returning again for Tour de Vale 2020!', comments fellow cyclist Marie.

Highest Junior Fundraiser:

Congratulations to our youngest Mix96 Tour de Vale top Fundraiser this year, Mateusz, who raised £694.58. 'I am thrilled to have raised so much for such a worthwhile cause. I asked family, friends and my football team to support me', comments Mateusz.

The next sponsored Mix96 Tour de Vale Charity Bike Ride is set for Sunday 7th June 2020. Entries are open from February next year (2020).

-ENDS-

MORE INFORMATION:

Contact: Carolyn Fray

Marketing, Communications & Engagement Officer

WheelPower

Email: carolyn.fray@wheelpower.org.uk or press@wheelpower.org.uk

T: 01296 395995 W: www.wheelpower.org.uk

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Royal Patron: HRH The Prince of Wales KG, KT, GCB, OM, AK, QSO, PC, ADC

Patrons: Ade Adepitan MBE, David Barnett, Annabelle Christie, Baroness Grey-Thompson DBE, Paddy Hopkirk MBE, Roger Jelfoate CBE DL, The Countess of Westmorland

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Vice Presidents: Ann Cutcliffe OBE, Dennis Guttman FRCP, Sally Haynes MBE, Glyn Hibbert, Mark Jarrad, Rod Jones, Eva Loeffler OBE, Baroness Masham, David Skinner

Chairman: Rob Wilson Chief Executive: Martin McElhatton

Charity registration number: 265498 The British Wheelchair Sports Foundation Limited (WheelPower) registered office: as above Company registration number: 01059490

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FUNDRAISING
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Notes to Editor:

Why take part in the Mix96 Tour de Vale Charity Bike Ride?

Organised by WheelPower, the Mix96 Tour de Vale Charity Bike Ride has raised funds which have transformed the lives of thousands of disabled children and newly injured adults over the last 16 years. To raise funds please text 'WheelPower' to 70085 to give a one off donation of £5.

What does the money raised go towards?

The funds raised go towards major accessible sporting events to help improve the lives of wheelchair users through sport.

- £10 provides training for more wheelchair sports coaches and leaders
- £24 enables us to give a disabled child aged six their first ever experience of sport – at a WheelPower event where they can try six different activities
- £49 allows us to buy sports equipment which we use to get recently paralysed people active

Images:

Mix96 Tour de Vale Charity Bike Ride - Images on request

Images of Top Fundraisers:



Highest Individual TDV Fundraiser - Ian Cox

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Haddenham Silver Cyclists – Highest TDV Group Fundraisers



Mateusz – youngest top TDV fundraiser 2019

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