

Silver Cycle Expedition



Guy Clarke with "Team Awesome" at the finish point, New Forest– Calum Murray, Felix Morris, Edan Milner, James Clarke, Dominic Travers, Josh Conran and James Hughes

Ditcham's first Silver Cycle Expedition Team has passed a gruelling Final Assessment held in the New Forest over three days in June. This final expedition was the culmination of over two year's preparation which started with two Ditcham Dads, **Christopher Williams** and **Guy Clarke**, stepping forward to train as cycle leaders by undertaking the 2-day Mountain Bike Instructors Awareness Scheme (MIAS) course followed by a First Aid Course. The leadership team was completed by **Paul Milner**, an experienced DofE Silver Trainer. We were then able to offer the opportunity to a team of 7 pupils, **Calum Murray, Joshua Conran, Edan Milner, Felix Morris, James Hughes, James Clarke** and **Dominic Travers**. The team attended a cycle maintenance course at Owens Cycles, Steep, over 4 weeks in October, followed by a series of day cycles over a variety of terrain evaluating different methods of transporting kit. The practice expedition followed the round island route on the Isle of Wight, and finally the team were assessed on an expedition which used all of the cycle paths in the New Forest. Thanks and congratulations go to the parent leaders as well as the boys on the team for persevering and being successful with this new challenge.