



# Wales' first female mountain bike festival

## Wind farm funding helps launch Sisters of Send

An award of £16,000 from the Pen y Cymoedd Wind Farm Community Fund helped Emma Hawkins, Jessica Strange and Ally Campbell launch Wales' first female mountain bike festival in the Afan Valley.

More than 200 female riders attended the two day event, which the team hope will now become an annual event.

Emma Hawkins, event co-founder said:

*"Mountain biking is predominately a male dominated sport, which can put women off from 'having a go'. The festival is designed to be a place where women can receive coaching advice and support from female experts and have a go at the sport or try out new trails without being intimidated by more confident male riders. We couldn't believe the success of last year's event, but it just proved to us that there is a thirst for it. Thanks to The Fund, we are on our way to creating the foundations for a pivotal event in the mountain biking calendar and making a name for the Afan Valley across the UK."*