**PRESS RELEASE**

**STOW GEARS UP FOR STAGE 7 OF THE TOUR OF BRITAIN**

Stow is preparing to welcome Stage 7 of the Tour of Britain - one of the world’s premier cycle races - on 11 September, as the race traverses the Borders from Hawick to Edinburgh via the infamous Stow Hill Climb.

Among the many world famous athletes that spectators can see from the roadside are Mark Cavendish, record-equalling Tour de France stage winner; current World Champion and previous Tour of Britain winner Julian Alaphilippe; and Olympic medalists from Tokyo 2020 Ethan Hayter and Wout Van Aert,

Spectators should prepare to enjoy the cavalcade of supporting vehicles that precede the cyclists along the roadside in Stow by 12.30 on Saturday 11 September. The 194.8km stage of the competition includes a race to the top of Stow Hill to earn a crucial five points that go towards the highly-prized Skoda King of the Mountain competition.

Local residents are gearing up to mark this momentous occasion with a number of free cycling competitions and events, including a BMX pump track for children under 14 in Stow Park starting at 1.30pm.

This fringe family event will be great fun for youngsters on their bikes and will include food, coffee and teas - we recommend arriving by train but there will be additional parking on the day in the Quoiting Green.

Saturday 11th will mark the end of a week of participative cycling events for locals.