

In a bit extraIRISH LONG DISTANCE RIDING ASSOCIATION

– 003

If you have anything you would like to put in the newsletter either contact Kathy Conly on 02837524809 or email kkathycon@aol.com or phone Kirsten Conly on 07957439569.

CALENDAR

Forthcoming Rides

Tollymore Pleasure Ride and BBQ Co. Down Sun 26th July – Org. Kate Russell and Allison Sloan – 07825569629. Barbecues and salad are provided just bring your own meat!

Ballyboley Pleasure Ride Co. Antrim Sun 9th Aug – Org. Gail Baillie 07956846794 – This is situated off the main Ballymena and Larne road.

Time Trial – Coilog Co. Kildare Sun 16th Aug – Org. Larry O'Neill 0872800424 Details below.

Elevator Ride – Donard Co. Wicklow Sun 23rd Aug – Org. Kevin Croke 0851565188 – Details below

Florence Court Co. Fermanagh Sun 30th Aug – Ctr up to 80km & Pleasure Ride – Org. Kathy Conly 02837524809. The first three classes of the Junior Championships will be held here. Details below.

Marathon, Athy Co. Kildare Sun 6th Sept – ER, Ctr and pleasure rides – Org. Paddy Miller

Time-Trial Ride This will be held at Coilog, Co. Kildare. It will run in conjunction with the SJAI competition. It will be run as a 20 mile ride with a vet check at 10miles. Mobile crews are essential. Heart rates will be 56bpm and entries will be confined to 20 competitors so get your entries to Larry as quick as you can. All support would be grateful as this is an opportunity to show the riders and spectators of SJAI of what ILDRA is about.

Elevator Ride. ILDRA intends to run an experimental Elevator Day on 23rd Aug out of Edward Allen's in Donard. This is a new idea for ILDRA, but it has been in use with other endurance organisations. If it is a success it will be serious considered for permanent inclusion in our rules for all events.

The basic idea being that you will be credited for any successful mileage that you have completed. So if you are unfortunate enough to fail at a vetting, you will be accredited with the mileage you successfully completed. Obviously this will depend on the size of the loops.

This will apply to all levels of rider and horse, but it will not over-ride the existing ILDRA rules for those qualifying through the grading system, eg you cannot elevate from your silver final direct to Gold qualifier, but if you were unlucky enough to vet out at 64km in a silver CTR you would be accredited with the mileage at the midway vetting 40km or 32km depending on the loop size.

For those who are Gold qualified and have the ambition to go further there will be a great opportunity to go the "DISTANCE". Yes there will be a 100mile (160km) ride.

This is a golden opportunity to try to go the distance. As an introduction to higher distances the speed has been set at a very modest 10kph, from vetting to vetting, very achievable indeed. So guys you will be accredited with mileage for every successful vetting, why not give it a go. Wont it be great to enter a 160km ride and be accredited with whatever distance you successfully complete. Should you have any more questions please ring Kevin Croke who will be running the ride.

The Junior Championship This year the Open class will be held at Glenariff, Co. Antrim on Sun 13th Sept in Ulster Branch. It will be the usual 80km/50miles ER.

The Intermediate, Novice and Pre-Novice classes will be held at Florence Court Sun 30th Aug.

Intermediate Class (64km/40miles ctr) – Winner determined the rider who successfully completes riding at an optimum speed of 7mph. If more than one rider achieves this speed it will go down to heart rates on final vetting.

Novice Class (48km/30miles ctr) – Winner determined as Intermediate Class

Pre-Novice Class (10miles) – No shamrock qualification required. Winner determined the same as the previous rides.

All entries to Kathy Conly – 138 Navanfort Rd, Armagh, BT60 4PX

Travelling horses to the UK or further with Stena Line has now changed. NOTE - All horses now have to travel as freight. An account has been set up for Ildra members with reduced rates. For further information and prices contact Kathy Conly on 028(048)37524809.

This years main AGM will be held on either 21st or 28th Nov at the City North Hotel, just off the M1 near Dublin. All details of Awards, Trophies and ticket sales will be in the next newsletter.

There is only one thing left to report on and that is the result of this years Home International and Celtic Challenge Competition that was held at Ludlow Race Course, Shropshire on 18th and 19th July.

If you haven't already heard, well, both teams WON!!!! This is a first for Ireland and the proud Chef de Quip Larry O'Neill. All combinations were outstanding and the support from their crews and others who were there made the weekend a very memorable one.

Riders Carmel Quinn riding Bluebell and Aisling Byrnes riding Polly completed their first 80km ER setting the teams up for an exciting weekend. Experienced rider Helen McFarland and her horse Just C'Mall won the 120km class and Robyn Catterall on Ellanora and Thomas Roche on Jaisone successfully completed their first 160km finishing an amazing 2nd and 3rd respectively.

Our other riders (who were just as important) were Cora Roche on Beancroft Joe Hatter, Allison Sloan on Madison and Hannah Catterall who rode 80km over 2 days, Judith Hyndman on Misty, Brona Kearney on Charmer who rode 50km, Kate Russell on Ultimate Pride and Jenni Cunningham on Breeze who rode 40km.

Spirits were high from the start and despite a few heavy showers, noisy trains, and lack of showers (2 on site) the smiles just kept coming. A special thank you goes to John and Margaret Gilpin and John Anderson who accompanied the teams and we're thrown in the deep end of crewing.

Results

Home International

1st – Ireland
2nd – Scotland
3rd – Wales
4th – England

Celtic Challenge

1st - Ireland
2nd - Scotland
3rd - Wales
4th - Cornwall

Ireland also picked up an award for the Overall Top Nation and Best Turned Out in the Home International Competition.

Well done to all and to Larry a big thank you from your team riders!



Home International Team

Robyn Catterall, Brona Kearney, Cora Roche, Jenni Cunningham, Carmel Quinn and Helen McFarland with Chef D'Equipe Larry O'Neill



Celtic Challenge Team

Hannah Catterall, Alison Sloan, Kate Russell, Thomas Roche, Judith Hyndman and Aisling Byrnes with Chef D'Equipe Larry O'Neill
