

IRISH LONG DISTANCE RIDING ASSOCIATION

ULSTER BRANCH

Concluding Rides

As another season moves towards its conclusion, two more Pleasure Rides have been arranged. John Gilpin (Tel 07860664756) is organising the Gosford Forest Park Ride on the **1st November 2009**. This will again take the form of a Fancy Dress Ride, with the usual prizes for best dressed adult and child. The following week is the final ride on **8th November 2009** at the National Trust property at Castleward, Co. Down. Gail Potter is the organiser, and can be contacted on 9127 0813. Please make an effort to attend at these events to support the hard work of the organisers in setting up, marking, dealing with entries on the day, and de-marking the rides.

Annual General Meetings

The Ulster Annual General Meeting and Prize Giving will be held at 7.30 pm on **Friday 13th November 2009** at the home of Adele and Hugh Greer, at Woodville House, Woodville Avenue, Lough Road, Lurgan. A very big thank you to Adele and Hugh for letting us use their facilities. For directions, enter the website – www.maps.google.co.uk, and then enter the postcode BT66 6LY clicking 'Search Maps'. This should provide a suitable map. Leave the M1 at Junction 10 (Lurgan) and drive along Lough Road (A76) in the direction of Lurgan. After one mile, turn left into Woodville Avenue, and Woodville House is at the end, through the large gates.

The Association's Annual General Meeting, Dinner Dance and Prize Giving will be held on **Saturday 21st November 2009**. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS A CHANGE OF DATE.** The venue is the same as last year, City North Hotel,

Drogheda. The hotel is situated on the M1 motorway, adjacent to the Junction 7 (Julianstown, Drogheda South, Laytown). It is immediately south of the Toll. The business meeting will take place at 3 pm, with the dinner, followed by the award ceremony, at 7.30 pm (Timings to be confirmed). This year the directors are asking members to dress in formal wear (Suits & Dresses, Black Tie Optional). Rosettes to be presented to the Best Dressed Male, Female and Teenager. The meal is a Christmas menu and will cost €35 per person. This must be pre-booked with Kirsten Conly (07957439569).

Trophies and Awards

In connection with both meetings, members who wish to apply for Trophies and Awards, must have their applications in to Kirsten by Wednesday, 21st October 2009.

Home Internationals/Celtic Challenge – Ludlow, July 2009

Ulster riders made a major contribution to the victorious Irish teams in both the Home International and Celtic Challenge competition, not to mention the Best Turned Out prize for the wonderfully presented Ultimate Pride. After very heavy rain during the first day of competition, the riders competed well over a rather technical course. With the weather improving on the final day, all but one combination from the Irish teams completed, giving them unassailable leads in both competitions. The successful Ulster combinations were –

Robyn Catterall/Ellanora 100 mile ER (2 day) – 2nd place

Helen McFarland/Just C'mall 50 mile ER/25 mile CTR (2 day) – 1st place

Allison Sloan/Madison 50 mile CTR (2 day)

Hannah Catterall/Holly's Dream Flight 50 mile CTR (2 day)

Kate Russell/Ultime Pride 25 mile CTR

Jenni Cunningham/Breeze 25 mile CTR

Red Dragon – Builth Wells, October 2009

Congratulations to the Ulster riders who travelled to Wales for this final major ride of the EGB endurance calendar, at the superb venue on the Royal Welsh Showgrounds. Results –

Helen McFarland/J St Jake 100 mile ER (2 day) – 2nd place

Robyn Catterall/Ellanora 50 mile ER – 5th place

Jenni Cunningham/Breeze 50 mile CTR (2 day) – Best Novice Award

Kate Russell/Spike 50 mile CTR (2 day)

Allison Sloan/Madison 25 mile CTR

Hannah Catterall/Rinka 50 mile CTR (2 day)

Many thanks to John and Maggie Gilpin who travelled to help out at both rides, and to John Anderson for his assistance at Ludlow

Check out the new website – www.enduranceridingireland.com