



BALLYHALE 02/09/12

The day dawned bright and sunny for everyone who made it as far as Ballyhale to revisit the grassy tracks and wonderful scenery. Well done to Peter and Andrea O'Carroll for finding such a super venue with great tracks and a huge thanks must go to the Dempsey family for hosting us at their farm. The 16km loop is great training distance with a shorter 8km available for our junior strides riders. The crewing is static at the venue with water available and excellent parking.

First to arrive were Evelyn Moore and Anne Kinsella. Evelyn was riding one of her favourite mounts and a familiar face Gales Hill Boffin. Evelyn undertook at 48km CR at a nice 13.3kph which was good going on a very hot and sunny day.

Anne brought her firm favourite Gales Hill Tara and went out to do a 32km CR. This was Anne's first CR this season having spent much of her time on the ground this year. The pair completed the course in a respectable 11.3kph.

Emer Lennon brought her Endurance veteran Frenchie out for the day. Despite a rocky journey down to the venue Emer arrived in time to do a nice paced 40km CR. They completed the course at 11.7kph, Emer taking it easy due to the hot day.

Breda Heary and Rosemary Ryan brought Bailey and Zara down for the day. Breda and Rosemary are getting ready for our National Championships and undertook at training vetting to see how their horses feel about being vetted. Breda and Rosemary went round the 16km course and returned in with both Bailey and Zara sailing through their vet check.

One of our youngest junior members Willow O'Carroll completed her Mini Strides today on Flicka. Willow is our first rider to complete Strides and we looking forward to see her continue on to do much more with Endurance Ireland in the future. Congratulations to Willow.

Thanks so much to Andrea and Peter O'Carroll for organising a fantastic day out in Ballyhale and the Dempsey's for hosting us. We hope to return there again next year.