

## Endurance Ireland

### Kilsheelan Ride Report 2012

May 27<sup>th</sup> saw Endurance Ireland arrive in Kilsheelan, Co. Tipperary on what was one of the hottest days of the year so far. We were delighted to be able to hold our event in the beautiful setting of Gurteen Castle Estate which is nestled between Kilsheelan forest and the river Suir. A very big "thank you" to the Wilkinson family, who once again welcomed us down to Tipperary and their home.

Our endurance judge on the day was Emer Lennon who alongside Ben Croke took on the role of time-keeper, taking entries, vet writing and setting up the vetting area etc while Yvonne Croke was out on course marking the loops for riders.

Nine TR riders made their way to Kilsheelan including Terri Moore and Evelyn, Terri riding her seasoned horse Jehol's Song and Evelyn riding their young horse Saber who recently attained his novice grading with us. Both riders took on the full 30km under a very hot sun !

Also from Terri's yard was Margaret and Kirri King. Margaret brought Terri's horse Drummer while Kirri rode Terri's pony Bob. Both riders took on the 18.6km and arrived back happy with both horses.

Eamon Conway and Paddy Kelly made their way all the way from Tulla in Co. Clare to Kilsheelan and took on the 18.6km as the temperatures were at its highest when they were going out. Both riders took into consideration the distance they had travelled in the lorry etc before deciding on the mileage out on course.

Another surprise rider to ride out, but all in a good way was Anne Kinsella. Anne has spent a lot of time on the ground this year organising and marking courses so it was great to see her out with her favourite mount Tara.

New faces to Endurance Ireland were Caroline Birmingham on her horse Foley and her daughter Merissa on her lovely coloured pony Tontow. Caroline and Merissa both took on the 18.6km TR course with no problems, riding the course as they found it and riding the heat. Both of their horses came back looking very happy and it looked like the hills took very little puff out of them.

Emily Miller and her mare Thababy Shorook (Penny) were the only CR combination of the day taking on 47.6km, starting out with a heart rate of 36bpm. Emily took into consideration the heat on the day and did a steady 13kph around the course. Emily was very well looked after on the day by new crew members International cricketers Amy Keanely and Steven Moreton who took to crewing without a problem. As we all know good crew is had to come by and hopefully we will see Amy and Steven out again with Emily.

All in all everyone was very happy with the way the course rode and with the exception of the high temperatures all horse and riders went home very pleased with themselves.