



KINNITTY

Endurance Ireland moved to Co. Offaly on Sunday 13th of May on what turned out to be a clear but somewhat windy day as some of the riders found out.

The first rider to arrive into the beautiful settings of Kinnitty Castle was Emer Lennon with DVS Over the Ridge. With Karen Kiely on the ground as endurance judge Emer put her horse through the pre-ride vetting with no problems and was then out on course. Emer completed the 37km course , passed the vet and after a hold time headed back out on course to do the 24km trail ride so totalling 61km at an impressive 16.1kph. Emer had said after that she “Was very happy with the way Ridge travelled all day” and that “He felt happy and strong throughout”.

Terri Moore and daughter Evelyn were next out on course having gone through the vetting with Galeshill Saber and Galeshill Tara. Terri had her young horse Saber (by endurance stallion Dantean) out for the first time with Endurance Ireland alongside Evelyn on board Tara who is no stranger to endurance. Both riders came in in a comfortable speed of 13.4kph which is a nice speed on a young horse on what is a deceptive course with its pulls up the hills and drops into the forest. Karen passed both horses happily.

Last but by no means was least of our CR riders to go out on course Emily Miller on Thababy Shorook (another of Dantean’s offspring). Emily set out on course on her own to complete the 37km course at 13.8kph with her mare looking happy out on course throughout the day. On finishing the course Emily’s mare presented quickly to Karen with nice low heart rates, another pass in the mare’s log book.

There were old and new faces out to complete the trail ride course with riders coming from near and far.

The west had a strong number of riders out , the first being Sinead Day all the way from Loughrea with her super looking horse Double Tree, Sinead is well known in the western circles so we were delight to have her out with us. Sinead also brought along Ruth Jones on Eamony Deary . It was great to see the girls tack, some of it very different to endurance tack and some not so different at all.

Eamon Conway also from over the Shannon in Tulla Co. Clare arrived with his horse Francy and also brought along first time rider to endurance Paddy Kelly. Both took on the 24km course with ease and rode a lot of it alongside Emer Lennon. Another new face out was Nicola Tottenham from Tullamore, Nicola started out with Eamon and Paddy but as it was her first day opted for the slightly shorter course and finished the second half of the course on her own.

Margret and Kirri King arrived with Drummer and Bobby. Margret has been to a number of rides this year with Drummer and it was good to see Kirri out again. Breda Heary was out once again and brought along Elaine Lynch to see what endurance trail rides were all about and by all accounts Elaine enjoyed it all. Breda and Elaine rode out with Sinead and Ruth who were going out on their second loop.

One rider that hadn't been seen in quite a while was Ann Clark who is well known in the Irish endurance circles. Ann's horse Jasmine suffered a injury a while back and was back out for the first time in two years. It was great to see Jasmine looking so well.