



Baunreagh-Monicknew Ride 8th February 2015

With a heavy fog down over a lot of the Country on Sunday morning riders were beginning to wonder would they be able to see the tracks! They need not have feared however as the sun was high in the sky over Baunreagh, and it was a beautiful day to be out on the Mountains with stunning views and lovely blue skies. Our course markers went out on Saturday and had the course well marked so thanks to our Chairperson Yvonne Croke and Treasurer Sam Linton.

First to head out was Sabine on her horse Murphy, Sabine is a local to the area and was familiar with all of the tracks, she completed the loops in good time and enjoyed her second outing of the year.

Next on course were Madison Flaherty with Tommy Dollard on Molly's Sister and Bobbie. With such a lovely day Madison and Tommy decided to do two loops of the route clocking up an impressive 28km on the day.

Next to head out on course was our CR rider of the day Terri Moore on her mount Jehol's Song. Terri said Jehol was in great form and indeed the pair completed in the 42km at just under 14kph, passing the vet within minutes of returning to the venue. Things are looking good for the future of this pairing this year.

Our first Mother/Daughter duo to ride out on the day Susanne and Natasha O'Rourke, headed out with Apache and Bronte. Both enjoyed the scenery and easily completed the 14km loop.

Next out was our Secretary Anne on Gales Hill Scimitar accompanied by Pat Carty on Gales Hill Sabre. Both riders enjoyed the ride in the sunshine looking out over the mountains and riding through the trees, so much so that they did the loop twice clocking up 28km.

Newcomers to Endurance Ireland Sarah Wall Phelan and Harry Phelan brought their mounts out Blackjack and Zendan to do the 14km loop, both enjoyed the course and found the going easy.

Riding for the first time with Endurance Ireland was Ben Croke riding Evelyn Moore's veteran mount Gales Hill Boffin. This was Ben's first time up on Boffin and the pair got along superbly. Ben rode with Mum Yvonne who was on her favourite mount DVS Diamond and Sam Linton on the mighty draught Cecil (Ballycoolan Hero). The riders undertook the 14km in quick time enjoying the sunshine.

Our next Mother/Daughter duo Siobhan and Bobbie Ovington almost didn't make it on the day needing an emergency farrier call before leaving, however the day was saved and they arrived in time to bring Coolhenry Hanna and Coolhenry Fancy Pants out on the 14km loop.

We were blessed with volunteers for this ride, something that cannot be said too often! Kevin Croke was our veterinary judge on the day, where he vetted Jehol's Song who was undertaking a CR as well as a number of other horses whose riders wanted to monitor their performance and introduce them to the vetting procedures. Thanks to Kevin for helping us out on the day. Thanks also to Emer Lennon who acted as organiser on the day and undertook all of the paperwork at the venue. Ride Volunteers are invaluable to the club and we could not manage without their help so a massive thank you.

Thanks must go to Coillte for allowing us access to the forests.