



### Timahoe Ride 14<sup>th</sup> June 2015

In a change from our luck with weather from earlier in the year, the day of our BBQ Ride was bright and sunny and everything you would hope for when planning to cook outside. This was a big relief to Organiser Evelyn and our cooking crew for the day Yvonne and Colette.

First to arrive and head out on course was Debra on her horse Pippa, Debra took on the 20.5km course and was delighted how Pippa went as she is used to travelling with a companion. Next out were Jane on Henley and Eileen on Billie, this foursome set out at a cracking pace and quickly completed the course enjoying the fine weather.

The two Ann's were next to head out to enjoy the fine weather with their mounts, the veterans Jasmine and Gales Hill Simmie, accompanying them at this venue was Madison on her pony Bobby. All three took a nice relaxing pace around the course enjoying the fabulous views on offer.

Some familiar faces arrived next with Ray Shore and Deirdre Gleeson on Pegasus and Arya, these beautiful Irish Draughts competed in Stradbally earlier in the year in the IDHBA Day and are anxious to prepare for the Team and Individual Classes that Endurance Ireland will be holding in Larkfield in September.

Kenna on her fabulous Pilgrim joined us again bringing Jane on Joe, both riders enjoying the sunshine of the day as they made their way around the course.

George and Laura came along to enjoy the day on their mounts Spirit and Joe, these ladies are certainly no strangers to the Sport having started last year at the Nationals competing in the non-member class. From there they were hooked, both enjoyed the beautiful weather and then joined us at the BBQ.

A number of the Gales Hill horses were out on the day, with Terri bringing her mare DVS Wanda out to escort a number of newer riders to the Sport. Shauna Knowles headed on Gales Hill Boffin who is no stranger to Endurance. Shauna's Mom Sandra acted as photographer for the club again on Sunday taking fantastic shots out on course showing the true beauty of this area. Melanie Byrne was riding Boston Rose another Gales Hill Stable mate with Mike Cuddihy on his favourite Gales Hill Sabre. Bringing up the ride from his favourite position at the back

was Gales Hill Drummer with his favourite rider Margaret King. These riders all undertook the 25km before enjoying the BBQ.

Pat Cooney and his daughter Niamh were one of the many family groups out for the day, they have come to a couple of Endurance Ireland rides and are anxious to start competing in the near future. They were joined also by Patrick Byrne who is fast becoming hooked to the sport of Endurance Riding. These riders easily completed the 25km before coming in for some well-earned BBQ.

Our second family group travelled over from Clare for the day, Eamon and his daughter Roisin travelled up for the day. Eamon was on his usual mount the fine Irish Draught gelding Francie with Roisin riding the aptly named Peppy. Both riders easily completed the course and had a quick bite to eat before starting the journey home.

Sam Linton brought her fantastic Irish Draught gelding Cecil for the day, Cecil and Sam recently completed their first 80km ride so the gently trail ride on Sunday was easily taken in his stride. Sam accompanied newcomer to the sport, Eithne on her green horse Liskmor Edy, Eithne was delighted her mount who has really settled into trail riding.

Jill arrived with her mare Tami, Jill has ridden with us at many events over the years and it was wonderful to see her with this lovely mare out and enjoying the summer sunshine. Susan on Ben and Ann-Marie on Indy also headed out on the course enjoying the scenic views from the top of Fossey Mountain.

It was a really family affair for Siobhan and Bobbie Ovington who were joined on course by sister Pippa and Aunt Loreto. Siobhan was on her newer mare Fancy Pants with Bobbie riding her firm favourite Hannah. Pippa brought out Sika with Loreto on the fully recovered Oscar. This is one of the real benefits of the sport of Endurance Riding where three generations of a family can often be found riding together.

We finished up the day outside Bergin's Pub in the middle of Timahoe Village with the BBQ ably manned by Colette and Yvonne, Eilish Byrne kindly made up salads to accompany the burgers and sausages. We would like to say a huge thank you to these three ladies for the food which really made the day and to Bergin's Pub who are so generous with their facilities.

Endurance Ireland would also like to thank Coillte for the kind use of forestry, without the co-operation of Coillte these fun days would not be possible. We really appreciate their help in allowing us to use these great facilities.

Endurance Ireland would also like to wish bon voyage and best of luck to Jamie Aughey who was course marker and helper to the Organiser on the day, we wish Jamie all the best in Australia and hope he comes back to visit us in the future.

