

# Derbyshire Group of Endurance Great Britain

## NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2008



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**NEXT COMMITTEE  
MEETING WILL BE  
WEDNESDAY  
4 FEBRUARY.  
THIS WILL BE A RIDES  
MEETING TO PLAN OUR  
SOCIAL RIDES FOR 2009.  
USUAL VENUE, THE  
ROYAL OAK PUB,  
STARTING 8PM - ALL  
WELCOME**

### FROM THE CHAIR

Hi everyone, it's great to be back as your chairman/woman/person again and I am really looking forward to helping the Derbyshire Group reach even greater heights in the next few years. Thanks to Jackie who has done a sterling job over the last three years - I really can't believe it's that long since I last held office.

Well, it's the end of the season, and endurance horses all over the country are looking forward to spending peaceful winter nights in their stables, catching up with their favourite programmes like Hollyoats, Greywatch and Strictly Come Prancing.

It's a good time for their human partners to reflect on the trials, tribulations and successes of the past year before starting to make plans for 2009 such as how to convince the bank manager that you now need another loan to cover your diesel costs!

I hope as many of you as possible are going to attend the National AGM at Kegworth on 29th November - it seems a good opportunity with it being so close for once. If you are booking for the evening meal, just write "Derbyshire" on your form and they will put us all on the same table(s).

You will find entry forms for Santa's Ride, our ever-popular New Year Ride, and a ticket application for the Derbyshire Presentation Evening, all enclosed with this newsletter. We have managed to get a special rate for Juniors, 13 and under, for the meal this year so hope you will take full advantage of this and bring the whole family!!

Hope to see you all there

*Flick*

## ED'S NOTE

Hi everyone! Well, that's Rashiek's first season over, and thankfully no lames so I'm considering it quite a good one! I'm looking forward to the presentation evening, hopefully we'll all get a few awards! We've got a few Christmas rides lined up for my sisters. Hope you all have a great Christmas and New Year!

*Bethan xxx*

## BRENDA FAILS VITAL TEST!!

We are sad to report that our very able and enthusiastic trophy secretary, Brenda Hallworth, unfortunately failed the telepathy test set by our Derbyshire Members.

When faced with the task of working out trophy placings without receiving your mileage cards, I am afraid that she had to admit that she was unable to do it with any degree of accuracy. "I feel I have let the group down," said Brenda from her farmhouse kitchen. "The only solution I can think of is for people to help me in the only way they can and actually send me their completed cards. I think that I might then be able to do work out the placings."

Please could you help Brenda and send in your mileage cards ASAP.

PS - they should have been in by 5 November - see back of card (if you've still got it) for details - *Flick*

## 2008 DERBYSHIRE GROUP AWARDS EVENING

This will be held at the Waterloo Pub at Taddington on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January.

Tickets cost £14 adults and £7 children 13 and under. Ticket application form enclosed with this newsletter or can be downloaded from the website.

There will be a fantastic prize for the holder of the winning dinner ticket, a Derbyshire EGB sweatshirt in a colour of your choice, with your horse's name embroidered on the back.

The raffle that we hold on the night goes quite a long way towards funding the cost of the presentation evening rosettes and awards, so please bring along a raffle prize if you can.

## NEW TROPHY FOR TOP ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Sarah Emery has kindly donated a trophy to the group in memory of her lovely and successful horse, Honest Leigh Ginger who unfortunately died, in his prime, earlier this year.

This lovely trophy will be awarded to the top associate member of 2008 so get your mileage cards sent in and you could be the first person to get your name engraved on it.

## LONGDENDALE CHARITY RIDE REPORT

It was dry when I loaded Del, but started to rain during the journey. As I approached Longdendale low cloud hung surreal in the valley, but by the time we arrived at the venue the sun was out and it was dry. Rachel had managed to arrange extra parking space, which was good.

I set off in my long mac, fully expecting heavy showers as were forecast - I was so hot!

The ride was lovely. I did the 15 mile route (although there was a 13 mile no traffic route or a 5 mile lead rein as well), this took me along the Longdendale trail with fantastic views over the reservoir to the right and the hills covered in purple heather on the left. Although the recent heavy rain had left its mark, you could easily imagine the long canter along the drier conditions along the endless grassy track (as we did last year!)

We passed through a sleepy village and around the Bottoms Reservoir. The view of the waterfalls was stunning and the noise deafening! The route continued alongside the

## LUDLOW - INTER-REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS - PICTURE GALLERY

Just a few photos of some of the Derbyshire members who helped the North West team win first place this year.



Bethan Reeves and Rashiek getting a welcome drink from Pat Guerin, joint chef d'equipe.



Molly Corcoran and Pilheath Royal Paddy on their way to gaining the North West team extra points as a junior rider.

Valehouse Reservoir and over a bridge between the Torside and Rhodeswood reservoirs. We then continued on past the venue and towards the old railway station tunnel. At the marker we turned around to come back. I'd ridden alone until this point when I caught up with Sue Frusher and her husband Jim. Sue told me they had read some interesting information about the old station which had closed in the late 1950's. We had a good chat about our 'old' horses, Del's 25 and Ben's 26, both looking well. We compared notes and found that over the years we had ridden very similarly, competing successfully mostly at shorter distances at the maximum time allowed, until Del was 21 and Ben 18. Now both horses enjoy regular pleasure and social rides.

We were soon back at the venue having had a lovely ride. It was still dry when we left for home.

It's a shame that some people believed the weather forecast and decided against turning out - they missed a treat! Many thanks to Rachel, Mike and all the helpers.

*Jackie and Del*

## SHIPLEY PARK RIDE 26 OCTOBER

Thanks again to Carol Curtis for organising this lovely ride. Good weather, great organisation and tasty refreshments - I can't believe that this is the first time I have ever done this ride - what have I been missing!!

All the lead rein riders had a fantastic time with a special competition and great prizes for all those who took part - maybe the national champion of the future was among them - who knows?

It was especially nice to see Nicola Humphries and her horse Barnaby Truffles, out for the first time following an injury to Truffles earlier in the year which was eventually diagnosed as a broken leg!! Nicola nursed him devotedly for days, weeks and months and, amazingly, Truffles is now back competing again.

*Flick*

## LUDLOW PICTURE GALLERY

Right: Ann Harrison and Nettie giving Ginger Spice a last washdown before the final vetting. Grade 1 was the vet's verdict



Left: Kay Counter warms up Cheeky Charlie before the 80k ER. This was also a YR selection ride and Kay went on to compete in Spain with the YR team, which finished in fourth place a really great achievement and we all send Kay, and Mum Carol, our congratulations.

## CHARITY RIDES

Please note that due to technical problems the Welbeck SE Charity Ride on 28<sup>th</sup> September and the Doddington Hall Charity Ride on 12<sup>th</sup> October were omitted from the September Newsletter, (but were on the website and e-mailed out) anyone who attended the rides can count the mileage for trophy points. Please let Brenda know ASAP if not included on your card.

All future Charity Rides must be advertised in the Derbyshire Newsletter for mileage to count for group awards. If any members are aware of rides, please let committee know well in advance.

## CARSINGTON WATER RIDE REPORT

After a year of trials and tribulations, missing many rides I had entered and others I hadn't, I finally managed to get to the last ride of the year close enough to me to get to - in fact the closest of all - for our first ever experience of the 'new' sport of endurance riding.

Consequently I felt we were probably fit enough - at least, my horse was - but was still apprehensive about the heart rate check. I had learnt about heart rates from the Endurance GB site, and had been keeping a check on it myself; however I also knew we would be going faster than we had before over the distance, and thought she'd probably be more excited than usual. Also Eva had a slight windgall on her front leg which I was worried might flare up and cause us to take it easy.

We managed to get to the venue fairly early - only having to turn around once! So I was able to walk Eva around a bit first. There wasn't a great deal of information out for newcomers (none actually), but it was easy to ask and I didn't feel like a fool for not knowing. In fact as soon as they heard it was our first ride, I got an offer of company; this took me by surprise and as I didn't know how Eva would react to a strange horse, I said we'd probably be ok. As I knew the area quite well and I'd had a good look at 'google maps', I thought we'd get round ok, too.

## LUNDOW DISTRICT CAIL EDV

Below: Brett Corcoran and Aristotle Bay at the final vetting having completed 80k. Riding companions Ann Harrison and Ginger Spice in the background



Above: Bethan Reeves, accompanied by Mum, Linda, nearing the end of the 40k novice CR

Eva was a perfect star and passed the vet check with flying colours with a resting rate of 37 - only a couple of beats higher than at home. Then we got ready and I spent several extra minutes making sure I hadn't forgotten anything. Because it was such a relaxed atmosphere we weren't tied to specific times, which really helped. We set off at a relaxed pace, as I wanted to warm her up well before we got going. Unfortunately our first obstacle came when the path on Carsington had been closed and we had to go off the lovely open track with good grass verges, into a really difficult path through the woods. Most of this I assessed as having to be taken at a walk, which made it a bit difficult when others wanted to pass us who - it seemed to me - were going dangerously quickly over rocky ground.

At one point a passing rider pointed out a bandage coming loose, so I hopped off to re-do it; luckily it was near some grass and Eva was happy! Some other riders who were passing kindly waited for me so she didn't get upset as they passed, and it was quickly sorted. One of the riders and I started a conversation, and we quickly decided to try riding together for a while. She was experienced on a novice horse, and I had no experience but my horse was a lot calmer! I asked her to go at her own pace, and we would see if we could keep up.

I instantly saw that we had been taking it altogether much too easy! Eva thought so too for a while, but quickly found the other gear she needed and felt comfortable. We were able to help out through the many gates we came upon, as we have always practised being good at them. We finally made the first checkpoint a little over the time we had anticipated, although not as much as we would have, thanks to our company.

We made much better time around the middle section up on to the Pennine Way and the other trails, and my new friend was most kind in offering Eva some water at her crewing points - even though Eva, as usual, was being fussy! I wasn't concerned that she wasn't drinking, having done rides of about the same length before on our own when she hadn't offered to drink either. I was becoming a little worried, though, about the firmness of the trail due to the swelling on Eva's leg; however I kept a close 'eye' on her striding, and she exhibited no sign of weakening.

We were looking forward to the section off the trail over fields, before rejoining the trail; however we were disappointed again, as it looked like off-roaders had had their fun on the first half, making the path very difficult indeed with ruts all along it. We did manage a few short canters, in between some more gates, and then settled back into our long, loping trot back on the trail.

I knew we were getting close but was very surprised to suddenly realise I was looking at all the horse boxes just over the hedge; a 'little wiggle' as they called it and we were crossing the finishing line - just three minutes over the four hours I had been aiming for! I was very pleased but a little annoyed to have been so close to my target!

But the main thing now was to look after my wonderful trusty steed! I un-tacked her, carefully checking her legs - which seemed fine - and washing her down. I popped her sweat rug on and we walked around. I checked her pulse a couple of times and after about 20 minutes I thought we might as well bite the bullet and get on with the final check. Once again she was all fine, and her heart rate was only 45! We had done it! I was very pleased but the hearty 'well done' from one of the organisers and another from my new friend was really special. I felt really happy that I'd worked so hard to get my horse fit enough, to be able to give me such a nice ride and have no ill effects from it.

I left her eating her hay and finally had my well-earned coffee. We headed home and I made sure she was well settled for the night. I had a nice easy tomato soup dinner and a VERY long, hot soak in the bath!

The following few days I kept an eye on her further, making sure no hidden aches came out. We had a nice calm walk out around the block, stopping to eat at all our favourite spots... A very interesting development was that the swelling that I had been so concerned about had actually gone down! So now I'm planning our next 'training' ride; who knows, I might even manage to keep the speed up!

*Dee Brooks*

## RIDES MEETING

A meeting will be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at the Royal Oak at 8pm to discuss future ride dates for 2009. If any members have any ideas for a new route/venue or would like to organise a ride, please come along to the meeting. The committee will provide their help and support.

## DERBYSHIRE NATIONAL RIDES 2009

The dates for our three Derbyshire CR's have been approved by the National Rides Committee and are as follows:

Peak District - Saturday 9 May, Bakewell - Sunday 19 July, Carsington - Saturday 10 October.

## NEW - PLEASURE PAIRS TROPHIES FOR 2009 SEASON

Jackie has donated two new trophies for the pair of pleasure riders and horses, (competitive horses barred) with the highest amalgamated points at the end of the season. The Pair of riders/horses must be named on the trophy form at the beginning of the season.

The pair don't have to ride together, or do the same rides, but must only count mileage on the named horse.

# CARSINGTON RIDE RESULTS

## 80km Competitive Ride

### Grade 2:

Madjin Des Pins, G Hirst; Pocket, R Newall; Solitaire's Star, J Martin; Viche, R Chadwick  
Completion: Ishcol Charisse, S J France

## 67km Competitive Ride

Grade 1: Miss Molly Malone, H Shotton; Patchwork Polly, K Shotton

Grade 2: Cascade Of Flame, A J Hill

## 40km Competitive Ride

### Grade 1:

Elina Of Rushbank, E H Dawson; Foxghyll's Folly K McGhee; L T F Kalisha, S Headland

Grade 2: Déjà Vu, A Harrison; Sorhez Amir, J Strong

Grade 3: Benedic, C Shakles; Moon Magician, S Taylor-Green

Grade 4: Aesthete Asefa, J Bennett; Murtada, B Elwell; Zharif, E J Maidment

## 40km Competitive Ride (Novice)

### Grade 1:

Aa Khalman Ibn Sabur, L Else; Aberllwyds Another Rose, S Higgins; Abissinia, C Chadwick;  
Anitras Dance, M Lees; Ansbacher, J E Collins; French Jubilee, L M Helliwell; Khalduna Bint  
Kahraman, D Bacon; Midsomer Lady, K Watterson; Novah, D Gillings; Roxy, A Sole; Shah Of  
Darkness, J A Bowden; Silver Tips, Marie Kemp

Grade 2: Bizout, H Lydon; Eva's Rainbow, Davina Brooks

Grade 3: Hazann, Debbie Roe; Ruby Tuesday, A Hingley; Saracan Gold, C Else

## 20km Pleasure Ride

J West, N Szulec, R Dennett, S Waterfall, D Szabo, L Walters, S Walters, L Oxley, J  
Thornhill, T Amber, K Williams, J Dickinson, D Else, C Elliot, S Daldorph, A Brough, A Pett, Jo  
Oulton, J Oldham, M Edson, J Lloyd, C Foster-Philips, Z Hall, B Lomas

## FORTHCOMING RIDES

### DECEMBER

Sunday 7, SANTA'S RIDE - Entry form enclosed. Organiser Trish Forrester

Sunday 14, Leicester Group Fun Ride, 19 or 11km, Rutland Arms, contact Sharon Davison  
07802 317847 (eves) raymond.davison2@btinternet.com

### JANUARY

Sunday 4, Charity Ride in aid of Ellet Nursery, 15 miles, Lancaster Auction Mart.

Organiser Helen Helme, Lane Side Farm, Elle, Lancaster LA2 0QQ ☎ 01524 751075

Sunday 11, NEW YEAR RIDE - Entry form enclosed. Organiser Trish Forrester

Sunday 25 North Staffs Bridleways Association (NSBA), New Year Ride.

Contact: Jude Sockett ☎ 01270 820405

### FEBRUARY

Sunday 1, NSBA Ring Route Challenge 3, 18 miles, Kildgrove area. Contact: Jude Sockett

☎ 01270 820405

Sunday 15, NSBA Ring Route Challenge 4, 18 miles Apedale Country Park. Contact:

Jude Sockett ☎ 01270 820405. Members only

# THE COMMITTEE

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