



# NEWSLETTER



November 2016

## **Editor's Bit**

After a challenging year, I would like to start with a brief apology for the delay with this October newsletter. Sorry!

Most of us are finishing off the season now and I hope it has been a full and fun year out on the rides. The last three months have seen Lancashire riders having success here in the UK and further afield. Well done to all, it is great to see the group growing, winning and enjoying their membership. We can look forward to congratulating these riders and owners in person at the Lancashire Presentation Evening, early next year. A quick reminder that the date and theme has been set as 'The Masked Ball' on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January at Ribby Hall. More details can be found on the website and later in this newsletter.

Reading the ride reports organisers have kindly sent in this year, I would just like to touch on one point that has been raised. Having been on the Royalties ride recently, I was shocked to see how many riders chose a beautifully mown verge to have a canter or gallop along. Please respect the areas we have the opportunity to ride in; if we do not, we may not be welcomed again. If someone has mown a verge outside their property, although it is not their land, we should still be polite and courteous and avoid riding on this area.

One last reminder, ride cards need to be in to Sue Taylor Green by 30<sup>th</sup> November. Make sure you have completed your 'helpers' information.

Susy x

## **From the Chair**

Hi All,

First of all my apologies for this newsletter reaching you slightly later than planned - so sorry about that! However, I know that most of you have been keeping up to date on social media etc. so I am sure that most of our contents are already fairly well publicised, but there will hopefully be some pieces in this issue which will update those who don't have access to those sites.

Well as I write this the end of the season is fast approaching. There are only two competitive weekends left as Red Dragon is currently underway with The Royalties next weekend. Unfortunately, I don't think that many of our members have ventured into deepest Wales to Dragon this year - shame as it's a fantastic ride and I personally have really missed not going this time. I am sure that plenty of Lancs Group members will be off to Lincolnshire next week though, so good luck to everyone going there as you finish off your competitive rides for 2016. Again at the time of writing, I am pleased to report that two of our members have ventured over to France this weekend to compete in the FEI 3\* 160km Madine Ride, those being Linda Cowperthwaite and Rachel Atkinson. I believe the going is particularly tough being very slippery. Stop press has it that although Linda retired sound not far from the end, Rachel has finished and I believe has taken fifth place so congratulations are definitely in order there. Well done Team Atkinson!! More details elsewhere in this newsletter.

Similarly congratulations are in order for many other of our members. At the Inter-regional competition at this year's Lindum Ride, our Northwest Team amazingly took first place. A wonderful achievement which was certainly contributed to by several Lancs members - again more on this elsewhere in this issue. Also a couple of Lancs group were selected to go to Ireland to the St Patrick's Coast Ride for the Home International event. England was quite successful being placed second to Scotland, our Lancashire riders being junior Lily Gibbons who has done extremely well in this her first full endurance season, along with Kath Wilson who has finally had chance to compete in her own first season after crewing her children for the last few years.

I am sure you are all aware of more of Team Atkinson's successes being those of Young Rider Kate, especially that of achieving the Young Rider National Championship. There are countless other successes of our members this season and unfortunately I can't mention them all here, but well done everyone. Please don't forget to send in your ride reports of these successes so we can report them in the next edition.

Whilst the competitive rides are just finishing, there are still several Pleasure Rides coming up. Notably the Formby Ride next weekend followed by a couple more Lancs rides i.e. The Croal Ride and the UWBA Halloween ride - obviously quite a few taking place in other EGB groups as well over the next few weeks. I am pleased to report that all of our Lancs Rides have been really well supported this year with entries coming in early, and several have been oversubscribed needing cancellation waiting lists to be introduced. So remember to keep organised and get entries in early.

On a similar note at this time of year, I should remind everyone to get organised as far as Kilometrage Cards are concerned. Remember to

make sure that all your successfully completed rides are signed for by the ride organiser, complete all the questions on the front and back of the card and send it to me (address on the back of the cards) by 30<sup>th</sup> November 2016. Another reminder is to make sure you have filled in the top of the inside of the card and have actually helped in at least one ride this year!!! Correct completion of your card(s) ensures you are considered for this year's trophies and you should be in the ribbons at this year's presentation night.

That obviously leads me to that event .... Which will take place on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2107 at Ribby Hall Kirkham. Save the date in your diary as it really is one not to be missed. Full details of menu choices and ticket booking will be in the next edition due to arrive with you in December.

One more notice which I need to bring to your attention is the Lancs Group AGM. Whilst we have in the last few years held this event in November, we have moved it for this year to March both to avoid clashes with the National AGM and to be able to include some speakers and presentations to the event. Again full details in the next newsletter and I will also send all of you details individually nearer the time.

Well I have rambled on again long enough so will finish there. I hope you all have the info you need here, and also that you enjoy the remains of the season; I look forward to seeing you at the presentation evening. Have fun out there!

Sue Taylor-Green  
Lancs Group Chairman

## **Young Rider Information**

### **Junior and Young Riders AGM - For all Junior and Young Rider EGB members**

That time of the year has come around again and it is not long until the 2016 EGB AGM and awards dinner. This year, it is being held on the 19th November at the Daventry Court Hotel. As usual, we will be having a Junior and Young Rider meeting whilst the main AGM takes place, more details will follow so keep an eye on our Facebook page. We will meet at 12pm in the hotel lobby ready to head to our meeting room. If you arrive late and want to join us, just ask at the hotel reception which room the Young Riders meeting is in.

### **A message to EGB Young Riders and Juniors from the Chairman of Rand Endurance, South Africa.**

Rand endurance is hosting the Sanesa National Schools Championships on the 30 September 2017.

If there are any interested parties, we would like to hear from you. On the 14 May 2016 we hosted a ride at the venue where the event will take place, comments and photos can be found on the Facebook page 'Rand Endurance'. Interested and suitably qualified parties should contact John Robertson, Chair of International:

[johnrobertson@endurancegb.co.uk](mailto:johnrobertson@endurancegb.co.uk)

## Lancashire Merchandise



Happy Horse Equestrian Printing and Embroidery are supplying a range of merchandise items for Lancashire members to purchase. Wear your logo with pride and support Lancashire EGB! To make it easy to represent the Lancashire Group there are three options. You can buy all new kit embroidered with our Lancashire logo or stitch your own by purchasing a ready made patch, or just send your kit off to have the logo, horse, rider and team name embroidered on by the Happy Horse Team. To see the full range of merchandise available and prices for the three services, please visit the Lancashire Group website or contact Linda Cowperthwaite.

Here are just a few examples of what we have on offer:

Navy Shires Fitted Gilet with embroidered logo: £37.50

'Lancashire Red' Pull String Hoodie with embroidered logo: £19.00

Black Fleece Rug with silver binding and 2 x embroidered logos: £35.00

## Ride Reports



### **Wardle Bridleways 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ride Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

Once again a big thank you to Sarah Bamber, Nicky Clark and their helpers for the very well organised Wardle Bridleways Pleasure Ride, wonderfully marked a great fun day with yummy refreshments afterwards.

### **Dolphinholme Ride: Lancashire Group Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2016**

The Monday before the ride we were notified by the venue that unless the weather improved the ride would have to be cancelled due to ground conditions. So Janet and I spent the evening advising people by text, EGB website and Facebook that it was likely the ride would not

happen. Then late Wednesday evening we were told the ride could go ahead after all though with some changes to the anticipated route. Friday saw Janet and I walking the lanes, fells and bridleways around the area marking routes ready for Saturday's event and having last minute chats with the landowners whose land we were crossing before heading off to the Apple Store for a pretty late lunch. We were more than a little worried that the weather would break again and force the dreaded cancellation.

On Saturday the weather was fantastic. Although the route had to be altered because of ground conditions and was boggy in some parts, the majority of the 49 riders seemed to really enjoy the day, especially the views across Morecambe Bay from above Fell End. Most of our riders were non-EGB members and they seemed to enjoy themselves tremendously, let's hope they enjoyed it so much that they want to do it again and again. We would like to say thanks to all the riders who went carefully along the bridleway at Lane Head. As we discovered on Friday this actually passed through someone's front garden, must remember that for next time. A few riders did seem to get lost here and there but everyone ultimately got back safe and sound to the venue. Perhaps we should've put more markers out but we assumed that because the route incorporated designated bridleways and was marked as such on the OS map and on posts it was obvious where the route lay. Obviously a case of assume nothing.

Beth Eastham of JustBE photography was there on the day and took some super pictures. Please have a look at the ride photos on her website or via Facebook. Beth is also doing a write up about the ride

which will be in Lancashire Life and will include some pictures of the event.

Many thanks have to go to Helen and Kenny at Swainshead Farm, Ayurveda Northern Approach for permitting access across their land for last Saturday (please note this part of the ride was only accessible for the day). Finally, big thanks to Dolphinholme Country Ride for allowing us to use their super facilities.

Please order photos from:-

<http://photographyjustbe.co.uk/f438775667>

### **Barton Ride: Lancashire Group Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

The week before the ride was very busy with people trying to get a place on what is proving to be a very popular ride on the calendar. Maxine Braithwaite did a fantastic job of taking entries and keeping everyone up to date with what was happening via Facebook and text. This year we decided to alter the route as the last stretch back to the venue is quite a busy road and a long drag with little variation, so I spent an afternoon driving round talking to land owners with no success, hence we used Langley Lane and the bridleway past the pig shed to return to the venue this year.

The weather on the morning wasn't fantastic but at least it wasn't too windy and the rain held off. 61 riders set off from the venue Barton Equestrian Centre helped across the motorway bridges by Evelyn and Arnold when needed, to do either a 15 km or 24 km route. The

bridleway just after the duck farm had eroded very badly so I got in touch with Lancashire County Council 2 months ago to explain our predicament of sending 60 riders along a path with a large hole in it...the fantastic result was that instead of just filling it in they put in a new drain on BOTH sides of the stream and cleared away a lot of overgrowth making it much more user friendly-a big thank you to Stephen Williams for his support.

The marking proved to be spot on with only 2 riders getting slightly lost as they were discussing their Christmas dinner and went past the turning into the duck farm but then met up with Bec and Max who put them back on the route! Dave Gaskell had bought a new lens for the occasion and I am sure you will agree his photos are fabulous...look on his website: [davegaskellpictures.com](http://davegaskellpictures.com) to find yours! The last bridleway back to the venue got a bit deep and muddy but when you consider 120 horses had used it that day it held up reasonably well and was certainly a better option than using a busy-ish road. Sadly, despite a poster at the secretaries' desk and Linda the starter asking people to keep off the verges, a couple of our riders churned up a lovely grass verge in Goosnargh village and two riders went so fast past cattle in an open building that they spooked them causing some of them to fall over.... it makes me wonder what happened to the un-written rule of walking past livestock and through private yards/property? Hopefully this totally selfish behavior of members of Lancashire group will not jeopardise the running of this ride in future years. This ride report cannot be complete without a mention of our lovely Alice who baked some delicious cakes and biscuits raising almost £50 on the day for her chosen charity of the Blue Cross animal charity. Many thanks go to all our helpers on and before the day, without them giving up their time we

wouldn't be able to put a ride on at all and also to Barton equestrian for letting us take over their car park and supplying scrummy refreshments on the day. Hope to see you all again next year.

**Formby Breeze Pleasure Ride: Lancashire Group  
Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

As always, a beautiful, fun, well organised ride for the end of the year.



**Lac De Madine CER: France  
Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

'Lac De Madine' is a stunning ride set in the French farmland around Lake Madine. Lancashire riders Rachael Atkinson and Linda Cowperthwaite along with their Crews made the two-day journey out to compete in the 160km 3\* competition. On arrival we were allocated our stabling for the event and got comfortable, which with this ride being

such a 'rural' location, the home comforts we are used to were missing (porcelain toilets!) however, this all added to the fun and excitement. As did the weather! After a day of torrential rain that wasn't easing off on race day we were all worried for the terrain Linda and Rachael would be faced with. These worries were not unfounded and speeds were slowed down on course accordingly. Luckily this was a well organised ride and as Linda and Maraday Mystaron's speeds were slowing due to Ron's cautious attitude by the last vet gate, the organisers, Linda and crew made the decision it would be safer to retire. Rachael had kept her speeds higher and completed the full 160km with a great qualifying average speed of over 14kph.

If anyone is thinking of going abroad for bigger distances, this is a great ride to choose. Very easy journey compared to other rides on the continent and stunning scenery to take in on your 160 kilometres!



CER 3\* riders coming through a crew point on the first loop at Lac De Madine.

## **Members' News**

### **Echo in Africa**

Lancs group EGB are supporting the Charity Echo in Africa charity which has been providing a screening programme for the occurrence of rheumatic heart disease in children from the townships of Cape Town. These children do not have access to the medical facilities which you or I would expect and this screening programme may be the only means of their illness being detected. Lancashire member Maxine Lang is planning to visit Cape Town in South Africa as part of the Echo in Africa humanitarian project where they aim to help children with potentially life-threatening heart conditions. Further details of this charity can be accessed on the British Society of Echocardiography website.



## **Local Area Rides 2017**

All provisional dates for rides in 2017 are now available on the EGB website: <http://endurancegb.co.uk/main/Rides/List-of-Rides>

**Sunday 23rd April 2017.- to be confirmed**

Ulnes Walton Wander; Lancashire Group

Entries to:- Sue Taylor-Green, Nursery Cottage, Ulnes Walton Lane, Leyland Lancashire. PR26 8LU 01772 436043

[suetaylorgreen@hotmail.com](mailto:suetaylorgreen@hotmail.com)

**Please contact Patricia Kelly 07734385108 or [patjkelly@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:patjkelly@hotmail.co.uk) for any additions or amendments.**

Please contact the Ride Organisers directly for all queries about their ride, including the Ride Distances on offer at the ride. It is simplest to email the Ride Organiser. Email addresses are listed below where possible. If you need to phone Ride Organisers, please do so during sociable hours. Between 9am and 9pm.

N.B. More rides to be added later, potential Ride Organisers please remember to complete Social/Charity Ride Proposal Form to book your date!

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DISCLAIMER ANY COMMENTS MADE IN LETTERS RECEIVED FOR INCLUSION IN THIS NEWSLETTER ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE VIEWS OF THE EDITOR OR MEMBERS OF THE EGB LANCASHIRE GROUP COMMITTEE

You are welcome to contact any of the committee but if your query is specific to one of the listed roles, then we suggest you contact the appropriate Committee Member, in the first instance.

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